The Old Couple and the Ghost

Told by Dickie Moss, June 8, 2003

wohei  hi’in  nihii  beh’eihehi’  wohei  hibetebihow  [he’ih]niisneniino’.
wohei  that  well  old man  wohei  his wife  they lived alone

he’iibih’iyoo.
it was nighttime

woow  he’ih’iiseeneisibino’,  niiseeneisibi3i’.
already they had already gone to bed  how they went to bed

nih’eyeihoonokohutooni’.
they were almost asleep

he3ebii  he’ih’ii-  he’ihbeebeeno’;  he3ebyih’o’owoono’.
dogs  they were barking  they were chasing something over there

[noh]  nih’iiice’tokohu3i’.
and  they would run back again

no’uuhu’  tecenoone’  [he’ih]woowoteisibetii3i’.
to here  door  they knocked into it

koox  ne’ehce’yih’o’owoos3i’.
again then they chased it away again

ne’iini  yeheii  noh  ne’cihce’tokohu3i’  hi’in  woowoteisibetii3i’  tecenoone’,
then  gee  and  they fled back again  that  they knocked into it  the door

‘oh nehe’  betebihehi’  "3iwoo  neyeihe’iononinee  toonhe’iteihi3i
and this  old lady  let’s see  go try to find out about him  whoever it is

wohoe’cih’eentoo  ce’e3i’.
it might still be here  outside

“hiineniinin,”  nih’iit.
you’re a man  she said

“beh’ee,”;  he’ne’kohei’it,
“old man!”;  then he got up
3ebnoehit.
he went outside there

nuhu’ tece’ he’ih3ebiinoonootnoo’ein.
this night he looked around out there

3ebwo’wusee.
he went farther along

‘oh hoowoe’in tohcihto3iheit
hibetebihow.
but he didn’t know it that she was following right behind him his wife

nih’iiceceeeniini noonootnoo’ein, he’ihciinoohoo3ei
he was looking all around far and near he didn’t see anything

‘oh nuhu’ he3ebii heetniibebbee3i’, ne’niice’tokohu3i’.
but these dogs they will bark then they fled again

he’ihciinoohoot toonii.. 
he didn’t see anything whatever...

woow heetniineseet, ‘oh ne’cihtii’eneit hikooobe’,
already he will turn back around and then she touched him on his back

"keihiiciinoohoo3ei?"
do you see anything?

"yhoohohoooe" [he’ih] honinoo’oo.
yikes! he fell over

neneiheit; neneiheit.
she frightened him she frightened him

hoowoe’in tohneenini3 hibetebihow.
he didn’t know that it was her his wife

toonhei’ce’beexheene’inoo’oot, noh hini’it kookoonooku,
whenever he again came to a little and right there he opened his eyes

   cihnoxowno’oe’einin   hibetebihow.
   her face was right close to him his wife

behixooke’ei konou’u’eit.
her whole face her face was all wrinkled
hei’noohowoot "ne’ee’ee’ee."
when he saw her yikes
ce’neetiniheit.
she made him faint/die from fright again
nee’ee3iniheit hibetebihow.
that’s how she scared him his wife

**Translation**

Wohei there was this old man, wohei he and his wife lived alone. It was night time. By now they had already gone to bed, as they normally did. It was almost the time when everyone [around the area] was asleep. But their dogs started barking. They were pursuing something over there. And then they came fleeing back again. They came right up to the door and they crashed into it. Then once again they pursued it, and gee! then they came fleeing back here again and they crashed into the door.

And the old woman [said], “hey, you should go try and find out what that is! Someone might still be here outside [the house]. You’re a man!” she said.

“Bahhh!” Then he got up. He went outside there. The night was dark; he was looking all around for anything. He walked farther along. But he didn’t know that his wife was following right behind him. He was looking all around, far and wide, and he didn’t see a thing. But the dogs started barking again, and they took off again. He didn’t see anything.

By now, he was ready to turn around and go back, but then [his wife] touched him on his back. “Do you see anything?” “Yowee!” [he yelled]. He keeled over [unconscious]. She has frightened him. She has frightened him. He didn’t know that it was his old lady.

When he finally started to come to again a little, then he opened his eyes, and right there smack dab in front of him he saw his wife’s face. Her whole face was full of wrinkles. When he saw her, “Yikes!” [he cried out]. She scared him senseless again.

That’s how his wife scared him senseless.