

**Text 53. The First Sailboat**

(Told by Essie Parrish, September 1958)

**maʔú ʔa· dic'i·duwáʔtiʔdamu ʔem** <sup>-</sup> [*repeated*]

This that I am going to tell

**ʔacaʔ yác<sup>h</sup>ma** <sup>-</sup> yalá·ma? <sup>^</sup> baco· daʔt'aba <sup>-</sup> baq'o t'ác'qaw <sup>ˇ</sup>.

is what the people thought when they first saw a boat.

**ʔu·l duweni** <sup>-</sup>

In the old days,

**ʔacaʔ qahle** <sup>-</sup> p<sup>h</sup>ilolo? wa·yi ʔdom maʔu <sup>-</sup>

before the white people came up here,

**q<sup>h</sup>amós' tol** <sup>-</sup> ʔašo tó· <sup>-</sup> baco· sidé·du <sup>^</sup>.

there was a boat sailing on the ocean from the south.

**mulídom** <sup>-</sup> mi ʔwá·yi <sup>-</sup> heʔé· baco· caʔ t<sup>h</sup>in in <sup>-</sup>

Because before that they had never seen a boat,

**“ ʔama hc<sup>h</sup>o·tí ʔde hla·li yal** <sup>-</sup> ” nihci? <sup>^</sup>.

they said, “Our world must be coming to an end.

“ baq’o t<sup>h</sup>in cic’wá?ti ya hni ˇ

Couldn’t we do something?

he?é· tow ?t<sup>h</sup>in ma?u ˉ qali tów hla·li he?é· tow ?t<sup>h</sup>in ^

s’ihta báht<sup>h</sup>e ˉ ?ahq<sup>h</sup>a tol cude·de· ˉ ” nihci’ba ˇ.

This big bird floating on the ocean is from somewhere, probably from up high.

?ul ˉ “ ma?áhcoma ya c<sup>h</sup>imita?te? ^.

Let us plan a feast.

q’o?o mánete· ya ” nihci? ^.

Let us have a dance.”

mul p<sup>h</sup>ide? sidé·c’em ˉ p<sup>h</sup>ide? baq’o cí·c’in?k<sup>h</sup>e ˇ.

They followed its course with their eyes to see what it would do.

?ul mens’iba ˉ

Having done so,

bayíhqaw ^ ya?k<sup>h</sup>e ?á·peto nihci’in ˉ

they promised Our Father [a feast]

tiyá·col ?ama hcóc’k<sup>h</sup>e nihci’in ˉ.

saying that destruction was upon them.

**mulído· ˉ mens'iba ʔul ˉ**

When they had done so,

**mul p<sup>h</sup>ideʔ men soh “ weʔé· ” cuhulálhq<sup>h</sup>aʔ ^ men sidenʔba ʔama kíhla·duʔ ^.**

they watched [the ship] sail way up north and disappear.

**mulídom mu ʔcayʔ yaʔ baq'o cic'í·du t<sup>h</sup>in ˉ cuhulálhq<sup>h</sup>aʔ side·du mul tíyaʔ ˉ**

They thought that [the ship] had not done anything but sail northwards

**maʔáhcoma šoc<sup>h</sup>qayíʔ yal milú· t'ac'qaw ˉ.**

because of the feast they had promised.

**mul baq'o heʔén s'iw ʔt<sup>h</sup>in ˉ**

They were saying that nothing had happened to them –

**soh weʔé· cuhulá cude·du tiya·col ˉ s'ihta báht<sup>h</sup>e cayʔ yaʔ baq'o cic'í·du t<sup>h</sup>in mul ^ miyiʔ ^**

the big bird person had sailed northward without doing anything –

**tíyaʔ mul maʔáhcoma ˉ bayíhqayal milú· t'ac'qa· tiyá·col baq'o cic'í·du t<sup>h</sup>in mu ʔo ˉ.**

because of the promise of a feast; because of that they thought it had not done anything.

**mens'iba mul maʔáhcoma s'iba q'oʔo báht<sup>h</sup>e manew ^.**

Consequently they held a feast and a big dance.

**mulídom ?ul mul <sup>-</sup> q<sup>h</sup>amá·to· cila· <sup>-</sup> q<sup>h</sup>amá·to· ?ul p<sup>h</sup>alá?cay? p<sup>h</sup>iloló?li mul <sup>-</sup>**

**baco· dá?t'aba mul tíya? ?ul <sup>-</sup>**

A long time afterwards, when white men had come up and they saw their boats,

**s'ihta báht<sup>h</sup>e t'ac'qawal mul t'ó?ma·we· dú·ci? ^.**

they then found out that what they had thought was a big bird was otherwise.

**tíya? mul ^ s'ihta t<sup>h</sup>ín ca? baco· tíya? da?t'aw ˇ.**

It wasn't a bird they had seen; they had spied a sailboat.

**mí· tow em mul ?ul ya dú·ci? mul mu <sup>-</sup> ma·ca? s'ihta báht<sup>h</sup>e t<sup>h</sup>ín da?t'aw ˇ.**

From then on we knew that they hadn't seen a big bird.

**ma?u ?é· me?p<sup>h</sup>i ˇ.**

This is the end.