

A Pig in the Window

(Told by Verland Cornelius to Karin Michelson and Norma Kennedy
on September 13, 2007)

(1) James Dakstete wí lonuhso-táhkwe? ísi? nukwá· old house, tho nú·
James Doxtator he had a house yonder old house, that's where

niyakotanihá·ne? aknulháh, lonatanihá·ne?. (2) Tekanáktanet é·nik sá·
she used to rent my mother, they used to rent. It is doubled upstairs also

yu·ní. (3) Kwahiká tsi? yukwá·tát, shekú né· yah te?yako·yá· curtains.
it is made. Just really how we are poor, even it's not she doesn't have curtains.

(4) Newspaper kás né· yakola?natáktu tsha?tewahsaná niyo·lé, a?é· kwí·
Newspaper habitually it's she has stuck it on half it extends, great

nikawise·sú·se?. (5) Ehtá·ke ok nukwá· kanyu·tú· newspaper, kanyó· ok
how long is the glass. Below only where it is hanging newspaper, so that

táká? utayutke?totá úhka?. (6) Né· thiká tát ehtá·ke yukwanú·le?,
so as not one would look in anyone. It's that if downstairs we are sleeping,

tahnú· mattress kwí· tayuhkwé·natste?. (7) Tahnú· s yah tehá·tlu? lake?níha,
and mattress she got it down. And not he is not home my father,

Kirbyha kás wahuwákwahte? ta·hanuhwétha?. (8) Luwa?káha
Kirby dear habitually she invited him he should sleep over. Her younger brother

ki?wáh. (9) Tahanuhwétha? ehtá·ke yukwanú·le?. (10) Tho?ná
right. He came to sleep over downstairs we are sleeping. And then

rocking chair tká·nyote? é·nik. (11) Yukwathu·té· thiká “wisht,” úhka? ok
rocking chair it is standing upstairs. We hear that “wisht,” someone

teyakotkalá·lu? é·nik, tahnú· yah úhka? tho té·tyá·hse?.
someone is rocking upstairs, and not anyone there one is not around.

(1) So James Doxtator used to have a house over there, an old house, that's where my mother rented, they [my parents] rented. (2) There was an upstairs too. (3) We were really poor, she didn't even have curtains. (4) She stuck newspaper halfway up [the windows], and the windows were really tall. (5) The newspaper was hanging only on the bottom, so that no one could look in. (6) If we slept downstairs, then she would get the mattress down. (7) And my father wasn't home, she would invite Kirby to come to sleep there. (8) Her younger brother, right. (9) He came over to sleep and we slept downstairs. (10) And then there was a rocking chair upstairs. (11) We hear this “wisht” [whistling noise], someone is rocking upstairs, and no one is there.

- (12) Tá·thuni? anitskwahlákhwa? yé·sele? (13) Né·s kwí·
 Or chair someone is dragging it. So it's
- yukwatklholú, yukwatetshá·u. (14) Né·n khále? oná
 we have covered up with a blanket, we have become scared. It's that and then
- a?é· nukwá· kΛs kwí· kok né· nityotshuhtaká·late? kÁ, ehtá·ke sÁh.
 over there habitually a little it's the window is raised y'know, downstairs also.
- (15) Tahnú· newspaper yako?lholú, né·n sÁha? ok kΛ? ok kwí·
 And newspaper she has covered it, it's that nevertheless just small
- nikatsísta? tho wa?katsistá·lane?, “tóh.” (16) NΛ kwí· núwa?
 is the size of a light there a light landed, “toh.” So then this time
- a·hsattsisto·tÁ, wa?wΛ·té·ne? kwí· kwáh tsi? nikanúh·sa?
 should you put on a light, it got bright just as is the size of a house;
- tá·t a·hsattsisto·tÁ. (17) Ok ne? thikÁ, yah nΛ? né. (18) Kwáh
 if you should put on a light. And as for that, not that one. Just
- né· nók tsi? tho wa?katsistá·lane? ..., yah kwí· tha·wé·nene?, kwah nók tsi?
 it's only there a light landed ..., not it didn't show, just
- tho katsistá·hele?. (19) Tho kati? ná·wati nále? kyale? wí· tho
 there a light is sitting. There then that side then again again there
- tayakonakalutyé·hslu? aknulhá· tsi? yakotwisakalatatú, yo?talíhΛ
 she pounded all over with a stick my mother at she has raised the window it is hot
- ki?wáh. (20) Yusu?swáhtahkwe? né· thikÁ, nΛ kyale? wí· wahÁ·lu?
 right. Over there a light went out again it's that, so again he said
- Kirbyha, “sÁha? yoyánle? é·nik nukwá· yaétowe?”
 Kirby dear, “more it is good upstairs you and we should go over there.”

(12) Or someone is dragging the chair. (13) We have the blanket over our heads, we're scared. (14) And then over there, the windows were open just a little, it's the downstairs ones too. (15) And she had covered them with newspaper, nevertheless a small light landed there, “toh.” (16) So then you turn on a light, it illuminates the whole house; if you turn on a light. (17) But not that one. (18) The light just landed there...(unfinished), it didn't get all bright, the light was just sitting there. (19) There on that side then my mother started banging around with a stick, where she had raised up the window, it was hot, right. (20) The light went out again, then Kirby said, “it's better that we go upstairs.”

(21) NΛ kyale? wí é-nik nukwá nyusahníhawe? mattress. (22) Tahnú-
 So again upstairs the two took it again mattress. And

shekú kΛs né ohne-kánus a-yétane? yah te?yakowi-sáyΛ?.
 even habitually it's drinking water for her to fill it not she doesn't have a glass.

(23) Ketchup kΛs yakΛ? yakokalhatení, né thiká wa?ehnekátane?
 Ketchup habitually reportedly she has emptied it, it's that she put water in

tát i-kélhe? a-khnekí-la, ketchup bottle. (24) Ne-né thiká yeha-wí
 if I want I would drink, ketchup bottle. It's that that she is carrying it

é-nik ya?utetshe?to-tá. (25) Tho kwí é-nik nukwá yetsyákwehse?.
 upstairs over there she stood a jar. There upstairs we are over there again.

(26) Né ale? né tho na?a-wá-ne?, úhka? ok ale? anitskwahlákhwa?
 It's again it's thus it happened, someone again a chair

yé-sle? ehtá-ke. (27) Dragging a chair around, úhka? ok
 someone is dragging it downstairs. Dragging a chair around, someone

yé-sle? kÁh. (28) Just like this, yolakalélu?. (29) Tho kwí
 someone is dragging it see. Just like this, there was a noise. There

wa?akwahsuti-yá-ke?, tho kwí yukwatetshá-u, khále? oná wahá-lu?, “a?nyóh
 we crossed over the night, there we are scared, and then he said, “seems like

wahu-níse? a-yólhΛne?, niyóhtlut.” (30) Né-n, sayólhΛne? sayó-kalawe?,
 a long time it would be daylight, it is scary.” It's that, the next day it got dark again,

nΛ tsyuknulha?tsíwa? aknulhá, sahahtΛ-tí. né-n Kirby.
 then we two are alone again my mother, he went home it's that Kirby.

(31) Tsyuknulha?tsíwa? nΛ?ú-wa?. (32) Nók tsi? elhúwa? kwí tutayó-kalawe?.
 We two are alone again this time. But right then it got dark again.

(21) So then the two of them took the mattress upstairs again. (22) And she didn't even have glasses to put water in. (23) She would empty a ketchup [bottle], she put water in that if I wanted to drink, a ketchup bottle. (24) She carried that and put it down upstairs. (25) And we are upstairs again. (26) And that's what happened again, someone was dragging a chair downstairs. (27) Dragging a chair around, someone was dragging it. (28) Just like this (Verland makes a knocking-dragging sound on the table), it made a noise. (29) So we spent the night like that, we were scared, and then he [Kirby] said, “seems like it's taking a long time for it to become daylight, it's so scary.” (30) So the next night, I'm alone again with my mother, Kirby went home. (31) The two of us were alone again now. (32) But it was right after it got dark again.

(33) Tho kwí· yaknitskwáhele?, shekú né·n é·lhal yah te?yuknináskwayΛ?.
There we two are sitting, even it's that dog not we two don't have an animal.

(34) Tayola·kálele? tsi? tyohsuhtaká·lute?, “tóh.” (35) Tho ya?utkátho?,
It made a noise at an opening in the wall, “toh.” There she looked that way,

kóskos núwa? okúhsa? tho tyoke?tote?kó· thiká a?é· wí· é·nik
pig this time face there it is looking in big that great above

newspaper kwí· yako?lholú, ákste kwí· ná·waj. (36) Nále?
newspaper she has covered it, outside that side. Then again

wa?akoná·khwa? ki?wáh. (37) Wa?í·lu?, “la?nikuhláksa?, nihaya?tó·ta núwa?
she got mad right. She said, “his mind is bad, what kind of body this time

thotké·tote?.” (38) Wa?elihwanela?ákhu? kwí· na? né· (39) Tho?ná tho
he is looking in.” She swore repeatedly that one. And then there

tahasteliste?kó· lake?níha. (40) Na kwí· né· tahatáwyahte?, onísta? tsi?
he laughed big my father. So then it's he came in, oh boy how

na?akoná·khwa?. (41) “Nisa?tahetka?tó·ta, ni·yót tho tisa·té,
she got mad. “You are such a darn ugly kind, look'it there you are holding it up,

tho ya?tekaye·lí· tyótkut ka? yukyatyanlúhsluhe? kanúsku.”
there it is enough always right here we two are being haunted in the house.”

(42) “Ni·yót núwa? tho tisa·té· kóskos okúhsa?.” (43) Wah·lu?,
“Look'it this time there you are holding it up pig face.” He said,

“yah ka te?satshanuní kóskos okúhsa? áhseke? ayólhane?.”
“not question you are not happy pig face you will eat tomorrow.”

(44) “Head cheese áhsatu·ní· ayólhane?.” (45) Né· tho theyewá·u.
“Head cheese you will make tomorrow.” It's that's just what happened.

(33) We were sitting there, we didn't even have a dog. (34) There was a noise at the window, “toh.” (35) She looked over that way, this time it was a pig face showing through great big way above where she had covered it with newspaper, [showing in from] the outside. (36) Did she ever get mad then. (37) She said, “the devil! what's looking in the window now.” (38) Did she ever swear, her. (39) And then my father started to laugh really hard. (40) So then he came in, oh boy did she get mad. (41) “What a terrible person you are, just look'it that thing you are holding up, it's enough that we are always being haunted here in the house.” (42) “Now look'it, this time you're holding up a pig face.” (43) He said, “you're not happy? you can eat the pig face tomorrow.” (44) “You can make head cheese tomorrow.” (45) That's just what happened.