

A Scary Light

(Told by Norma Kennedy to Karin Michelson on November 17, 2010)

(1) NΛ kyale? wí i:kélhe? oyá núwa? nikakalótΛ usakwaka-látuᵛ.
So again I want another this time kind of story again I would tell you all a story.

(2) To-káske? ka?iká tho niyawá.u. (3) Né· s wí· tshiwahu-níse? yah kwí·
Truly this thus it has happened. So it's a long time ago not

te?yukwa-yá· electricity wí· aetwattsisto·tá·. (4) Né· s kwí· thiká
we do not have electricity for you and we to turn on lights. So it's that

coal oil lamp kwí· yakwátstahkwe? a-yakwattsisto·tá·. (5) Tahnú· kΛs kwí·
coal oil lamp we used to use for us to turn on lights. And usually

yah thya-ya-wá· tsi? tá·t núwa? tékni tewátlatste? tsi? niwΛ-tés thiká nok Λwa-tú·
it has to be that maybe two times during the week that it has to be

Λyakwahninú-na? coal oil. (6) Né· s kwí· thiká yakau?weskwanihahkwe?
we will go and buy coal oil. So it's that she used to enjoy

yuknulhá·, Muncey tyutΛhni-núhe? yaa-yá· a-yeyenahninú-na?
my aunt, Muncey at the store that she goes over there for her to go and buy oil.

(7) Tahnú· kΛs kwí· yo?kaláshΛ kΛs kwí· thiká yakau?wéskwanihe? Muncey
And usually night-time usually that she enjoys Muncey

yaa-yá·. (8) Né· kati? wí· ka?iká úska útlatste? wa?ukékwahte?
that she goes over there. Well then it's this one time she invited me

ki?wáh. (9) Wa?í·lu?, “ihselhe? kΛ aétene.” (10) “Yah thya-ya-wá·
right. She said, “you want question you and I would go.” “It has to be

tsi? wa?kyenahninú-na? coal oil.” (11) “Yah thya-ya-wá· tsi? Muncey
that I'm on my way to buy coal oil.” “It has to be that Muncey

(1) I want to tell you another story. (2) This really happened. (3) A long time ago we didn't have electricity for lights. (4) We used a coal oil lamp for lights. (5) And usually it had to be maybe two times a week we had to go and buy coal oil. (6) So my aunt used to like to go to the store in Muncey to buy coal oil (she had a boyfriend in Muncey). (7) And it was at night-time usually she liked to go to Muncey. (8) Well this one time she invited me, right. (9) She said, “do you want to come with me?” (10) “I have to go and buy coal oil.” (11) “I have to go to Muncey.”

yλhλ·k_é.” (12) Nλ kwí· wa?kí·lu?, “wé·ne ki?wáh.” (13) Nλ kwí·
I will go over there.” So then I said, “I guess so.” So then

wa?akyahtλ·tí· thiká, Muncey wa?áknehte? (14) Kátsha? ki? ok uhte wí·
we two set out that, Muncey we two went there. Somewhere supposedly

nú· tá·t núwa? yá·ya?k mile tsi? niyo·lé· thiká tyutλhni·núhe? (15) Tho kwí·
where maybe six mile until that at the store. There

ya?áknewe? thiká wa?eyenahni·nú· ki?wáh. (16) Nλ ki? ok wí· né·
we two got over there that she bought oil right. Right then it's

tutayakyahtλ·tí· thiká, tutayakyathahítane? (17) Né· ki?
we two left there for home that, we two came down the road again. It's actually

thiká Oneida Road kwí· kuwa·yáts thiká tsi? nú· niyukyathahítákhe?
that Oneida Road is its name that where we two are travelling in a road.

(18) Kwáh ki? thiká tshyusayáknewe? tyutλnayaλtákhwa?,
Just actually that when we two got over there at the church,

né· kwí· thiká tehoti?kha·lúte? kwí· luwatina?túkhwa?, né· wí· tho nú·
it's that they wear skirts what they call them, it's that's where

thutλnayaλtákhwa? (19) Ya·wét kwí· wa?akyanutahalo·ná·te? ostúha, tho?nλ
they use it for praying. Kind of like we two went downhill a bit, and then

sayakyanutá·lane? (20) Nλ kati? wí· thiká tó· ki? ok niyo·lé· thiká
again we two went uphill. So then it's that some distance that

nityuknenú tsi? wí· nú· tyutλnayaλtákhwa?, nλ a?é· niyo·lé·
we two have come from where church, then far in the distance

kahátá·ke ya?akyatkátho? thiká, kwáh kλ? nikatsísta? thiká
on the field we two saw it over there that, quite a light some size that

(12) So then I said, “I guess so.” (13) So then we set out, we went to Muncey. (14) I guess it was about six miles to the store. (15) So we got there and she bought some oil. (16) At once we left there to come home, we came down the road again. (17) It's called Oneida Road, the road we were travelling on. (18) [It was] right when we got to the church, the Anglicans, ‘they wear skirts’ is what they're called, that's their church. (19) We went kind of downhill a bit, and then we went up the hill again. (20) So then we had come so far from where the church is, then we looked way off in the field, we saw a light that was quite big,

wa?akyatkátho?, tahnú· wí· tsi? níkatsistiyó, teyothwe?nuní ki?wáh.
we two saw, and how it is a nice light, it is round right.

(21) Teyottsistakwe?nu-ní. (22) Né· thiká ya?teyakniká-nle? kAs thiká
It is a round light. It's that we two are looking that way habitually that

tsi? náhe? wa?ukyatuhohtuháti? ki?wáh. (23) Né·n khále? oná wa?tyakni-táne?,
while we two are moving along right. It's that and then we two stopped,

tho kwí· ya?teyakniká-nele?. (24) Né·n wa?tka-táne? se? wí· thiká o-tsíste?
there we two are looking that way. It's that it stopped too that light

tsi? yotukohtuháti?. (25) Né·n nA kyale? wí· sayakyatu-kó-te? thiká khále?
as it is moving along. It's that so again we two moved on again that and

ya?akyatkátho?. (26) NΛ ki? ok oni? né· sutu-kó-te? thiká o-tsíste?.
we two looked that way. Right then too it's it moved on again that light.

(27) NΛ kwí· kwahotoká·u wa?í-lu?, “tetsitni-tán.” (28) “Akato-káne?
So then just for real she said, “let's you and I stop again.” “It will be found out

ta·ka-táne? oni? kΛ nA? né·.” (29) NΛ kyale? wí· wa?tyakni-táne? thiká,
it would stop too question that one.” So again we two stopped that,

ya?akyatkátho?, nA ki? ok oni? né· wa?tka-táne? thiká o-tsíste?.
we two looked that way, at once too it's it stopped that light.

(30) NΛ kyale? wí· oni? wa?akyatu-kó-te?. (31) NΛ sók ale? utu-kó-te? oni?
So again too we two moved on. And again too it moved on too

nA? né·. (32) NΛ kwí· kwahiká tsi? wa?tyuknishlíhA? thiká, wa?ukyate?shA?
that one. So then just really that we two hurried that, we two got afraid

and it was a real nice light, it was round, right. (21) It was a round light. (22) We were looking over there while we kept moving along. (23) And then we stopped, we were looking over there. (24) So the light stopped moving along too. (25) So again we moved on and we looked over that way. (26) At once that light moved on too. (27) So then she said really, “let's us two stop again!” (28) “Just to see whether IT will stop too.” (29) So we stopped again, we looked over that way, right away the light stopped too. (30) So again we moved on. (31) And again IT moved on too. (32) So then we really hurried, we were afraid,

ki?wáh. (33) Náhte? né· nikatsistó·ta thikál, wé·ne tsi? i·wélhe?
right. What it's a kind of light that, evidently that it wants

a·yukníhsele. (34) Kwáh ki? tsi? niyo·lé· thikál tewahahá·sɬa? nú·
it would chase us two. Just actually as far as that crossroads where

tayáknewe?, kaló· ná·wati thikál lu·té· s kwí· o?slu·ní· né· laohútsi? thikál,
we two got there, this side that they say white man it's his land that,

tho ki? ok niyo·lé· thikál nuta·wé· thikál katsistotáti? (35) Ókhna?
that's actually only how far that it came that light extended along. And then

né· tusutkalhate·ní· súhkete?, ok ní· tayakyatu·kó·te?, né· s kyuhte wí·
it's it turned around again it went back, and as for us we two came on, it's supposedly

ísi? ki? ok oná niyo·lé· na ɬtsyáknewe? tsi? nú· yukwahtáti.
over there actually only now so far then we two will get back where is our home.

(36) Ne? thó·ne? kati? wí· ní· yeskɬhá Muncney tsyuknehtú·ne?
At that time well then us the last time Muncney we two have gone there again.

(37) Né· yo?kaláshɬ. (38) Kwɬ?té·ke kɬs nále? wa?aknihninú·na?
It's night-time. Daytime usually then again we two went to buy

thikál coal oil. (39) Yah ki? nuwɬtú kwa?ahsuté·ke tho nú·
that coal oil. Not actually never night-time that's where

thye?tsyukne·nú. (40) Né· ki? thikál tho nikaka·lés.
we two have not gone again. It's actually that that's how long the story is.

right. (33) What kind of light is it that it wants to chase us? (34) We got to as far as the crossroads, on this side they say the land belongs to a non-Indian, that's only how far that light came. (35) And then it turned around again and it went back, and the two of us, we kept coming, then it wasn't too far and we would get back home. (36) Well that's the last time we went to Muncney. (37) At night. (38) We went to buy coal oil during the daytime. (39) We never went there again at night-time. (40) That's how long the story is.