

Berries and Bellies

(Told by Mercy Doxtator to Karin Michelson on June 21, 1994)

(1) Shekólih. (2) Ú-wa? tekníhatut tewáshΛ úska tshískale? awáhihte?.
Hello. Now Tuesday twenty one it's that time again strawberry.

(3) Tsi? kwí· nikakalótΛ ka?iká i-kélhe? a-kka-látu, tshiwahu-níse? s wí·
What kind of story it is this I want I would tell a story, a long time ago

lonu?wéskwanihe? Ukwehuwé, kwáh kwí· tsi? náhte? niyotyelá tho kwí·
they enjoy Native people, just that what it is doing there

wahotiyo?táhsa?, né· kati? wí· ka?iká teknukwé, nΛ kyale? wí· nya?káhewe? n
they went to work, well then it's this two women, so again it came time

a-yuhyákha? ká·, nΛ kwí· wa?kyahyákha? ki?wáh,
one should go and pick berries see, so then the two went to pick berries indeed,

kátsha? ok nú· o?sluní·taku. (4) Né·n, nΛ kwí· né· ka?iká tú-ske?
somewhere among the white man. It's that, so then it's this truly

kyahyákwas nΛ tho yahá-lawe? shakónhahse? ká·,
the two are picking berries then there he got over there he hires them see,

latkΛ?sé-ne? náhte? ni-yót tsi? yotiyó·té· káh. (5) Wahá·lu? wí·
he's come to see what how it is that they are working see. He said

thiká la?slu-ní·, “katkΛ?sé-ne?,” wahá·lu?, “náhte? ni-yót tsi?
that white man, “I've come to see,” he said, “what how it is that

tsyahyákwas,” wahá·lu? kwí·, “I came to see your berries.” (6) NΛ kwí·
you two are picking berries,” he said, “I came to see your berries.” So then

né· ka?iká tsyeyá·tat tsi? ka·yá· yako?nikuhlayΛ·tá·se? n o?sluni?ké-ne, wa?í·lu?
it's this she is one the one that she understands white man's way, she said

(1) Hello. (2) Today is Tuesday, the twenty-first of June, the time of the strawberry.

(3) This is the story I want to tell, a long time ago the Indians enjoyed going off to work at whatever was happening, well then there were these two ladies, and the time came again to go and pick berries, so then indeed the two went to pick berries somewhere around some white people. (4) So then they were really at it picking berries when the one who does the hiring [the boss] got there, he came to see how they were working. (5) So he said, that white man, “I've come to see,” he said, “how it is with your berry picking,” he said, “I came to see your berries.” (6) So then this one lady, the one who understood some English, she said,

yakΛ? thikÁ, tsyutathlo·líhe? kwí n onatΛ·ló, “Yáts tehanahalawÁlyehe? thikÁ
reportedly that, again she is telling her her friend, “Geez he is crazy that

la?slu·ní, í·lelhe? né· a·hatkátho tnikwΛ?té·né.” (7) Né· uhte wí· né·
white man, he wants it's he would see your and my bellies.” It's supposedly it's

wá·knelhe? wahÁ·lu? “I wanna see your bellies.” (8) Né· kati? wí· ka?ikÁ,
the two thought he said “I wanna see your bellies.” Well then it's this,

tho kwí niwakkaló·Λ ka?ikÁ wá·kelhe? a·kwaka·látus.
so that's the kind of story I have this I thought I would tell you all a story.

she's telling her friend, “Geez, that white man is crazy, he wants to see our bellies.” (7) I
guess what they thought he said was “I want to see your bellies.” (8) Well anyway that's the
story I have, that I thought I would tell you.