

## Star of the Fisher. Ojiiganang.

*By Waasaagoneshkang; from "Ojibwa Texts"*

**Aaniish oodetoowag iigiw anishinaabeg; geget gichi-oodenaawan.**

Now, in a town did the people live; in a really large town they dwelt.

**Aaniish ezhi-bibooninig.**

Now, it happened to be in the winter-time.

**Mii sa babiboonishiwaad wiikaa go maaminonendam bezhig a'aw inini.**

And so, while they were in winter camp, a certain man got to turning matters over in his mind.

**Gaawiin niibinzinini; abaapish wejijisenig i'iw apii naaniibinig, mii sa gaawiin niibinzinini.**

It was not getting summer; when the time was at hand for the summer to be, why, there was no summer.

**Mii sa ezhi-gwiinawi-biitoowaad i'iw ji-niibininig.**

And so with an uncertain feeling they waited for the coming of summer.

**"Amanjigish ezhiwebadogwen?" ikidowag iigiw anishinaabeg.**

"Wonder what could have happened!" said the people.

**Aaniish mii sa zhigwa gii-gikendamowaad biichi-bibooninig.**

Now, it so happened that in time they came to realize how far the winter had gone.

**"Amanjigish zagaswe'idiyang," gii-ikido a bezhig.**

"It may be well for us to hold a smoker," said a certain one.

**Mii sa gaa-izhi-maajitood gii-zagaswe'iwed a'aw inini.**

Thereupon the man made ready for holding the smoker.

**Mii sa zhigwa gii-zagaswe'idiwaad.**

And so in a while they were gathered together for a smoke.

**Aaniish gakina ona'aangabitaagowaan.**

Now, all were in the relation of sons-in-law to them.

**Aaniish ogikenimaawaan bezhig iiniw oningwaniwaan gegoo wanendanzinig.**

Now, they knew that the knowledge of one of their sons-in-law was not wanting in anything.

**Mii sa zhigwa bi-mooshkinebiwaad i'imaaw wiigiwaaming zagaswe'idiwaad.**

And so then did they come filling up the place in the wigwam, smoking together in assembly.

**Mii sa gaa-giigidowaad ogow anooj igo ininiwag i'imaaw nena'aangabiwaad.**

Thereupon these men held forth in talk upon various things, there where they were sons-in-law.

**O'ow idash ogii-inaan a'aw Ojiig: "Eye', ningikenimaa sa niin a'aw wed-izhichigewanid.**

And this to them said the Fisher: "Yea, I myself know who it is causing this.

**Gaawiin niwanenimaasii a'aw ezhichiged.**

I am not at a loss to know the one that is doing this.

**Bezhig sa go a'aw ezhichiged; ogichiwinaan i'iw niibin;**

There is, to be sure, a certain one doing it; he is holding back the summer;

**gaawiin wii-bagidinanziin omaa ji-bi-izhaamagak i'iw niibin," ogii-inaa a'aw Ojiig.**

he is not willing to let the summer come hither to this place," to them said the Fisher.

**"Gaawiin booch daa-dagwishinoomagasinoon i'iw niibin;**

"There will be, perforce, no coming of the summer;

**mii go iw gwayak wiindamoonagok," ogii-igowaan iiniw Ojiigan.**

and that is a truth which I now impart to you," they were told by the Fisher.

**Aaniish geget ogikenimaawaan geget debwenid i'iw ekidonid.**

Naturally, of course, they knew that he correctly spoke the truth in what he said.

**Mii dash gaa-izhi-ganoonaawaad: "Aaniish ge-izhichigeyangoban i'iw ji-niibingiban?" ogii-inaawaan.**

Thereupon they spoke to him, saying: "How shall we bring it about for the summer to come?" they asked of him.

**"Eye', ningikendaan i'iw ezhichigeyangoban."**

"Yea, I know what we might do."

**"Aaw," ogii-igoon. "Mii sa go iw ge-izhiwebiziyang aaniin ge-ikidoyan.**

"Very well," he was told. "Therefore will we do whatsoever you shall say.

**Aaniish gaawiin bijiinag daa-niibinzinoon misawaa ani-baabiitooyang i'iw niibin.**

For it will not be summer soon, however long we may continue to wait for the coming of the summer.

**Ayaa gosha a'aw gebaakwa'aad i'iw niibinise'."**

There is really one that has shut up the birds of summer."

**"Zhigwa," ogii-inaawaan, "ambe sa, gonigekaa [goni gegaa?] ge-da[a]-inendanzigwen ji-[n]andone'angoban?"**

"Well, now," they said to him, "pray, who may he be that will be willing to go seek for the being?"

**"Eye', mii sa eta i'iw ge-gashkitooyangoban i'iw ji-niibingiban;**

"Yea, this is the only way we shall succeed in having the summer come;

**gaawiin aapiji niibiwa gidaa-nibaasiimin i'iw apii eyaag i'iw isa niibing.**

not so very many times should we sleep (to get to) where the summer is.

**O'o minik gidaa-nibaamin, midaaching gidaa-nibaamin;**

This is the number of times we should sleep, ten times we should sleep;

**mii iw epiichaag i'ima ayaag i'iw niibin.**  
that is how far away it is to where the summer is.

**Ambe sa, ayaangwaamiziyok!**  
Pray, be careful to do what you can!

**aaniish mii sa go iw waabang ji-maajaayang.**  
for it is on the morrow that we shall depart.

**Aaniish, niin ninga-dibendaan," ogii-igoowaan iiniw Ojiigan.**  
Well, I shall have charge of the undertaking," they were told by the Fisher.

**Mii sa zhigwa wii-mayaawosed a'aw Ojiig, aaniish mii sa zhigwa minik i'ima  
ne'aangabiwaad wii-maajaawaad.**  
So then it was that the Fisher desired to lead the expedition, for it chanced that as many as  
were sons-in-law there wished to go.

**Aaniish gakina ogii-nakwetaagoo'.**  
So by them all he met with approval.

**Aaniish gakina mii sa zhigwa gii-nakondiwaad iigiw ne'aangabiwaad.**  
Now, all who therefore then came to agreement among themselves were they that were  
sons-inlaw.

**Gaye wiin Adik na'aangabigoban i'ima anishinaabe ayaanid;**  
Even so was Caribou then son-in-law there where the people were;

**gaye wiin Waagosh na'aangabigoban i'iw anishinaabe' oodetoonid;**  
even so was Fox then son-in-law where the people lived in a town;

**gaye wiin Amik na'aangabigoban i'ima anishinaabe' oodetoonid;**  
even so was Beaver then son-in-law at the place where the people dwelt in a town;

**gaye wiin Wazhashk na'aangabigoban i'ima anishinaabe' oodetoonid;**  
even so was Muskrat then a son-in-law at the place where the people lived in a town;

**gaye wiin Nigig na'aangabigoban i'ima anishinaabe' oodetoonid;**  
even so was Otter then a son-in-law at the place where the people dwelt in a town;

**mii sa zhigwa, aaniish gakina awiya na'aangabigoban minik awiya beboonishid ogow  
manidooyenshag.**  
and so on, for every creature of all these small animal-folk then spending the winter there  
was a son-in-law at the time.

**"Aaniish mii sa waabang ji-maajaayang," ogii-inaa' a'aw Ojiig.**  
"Now, it is on the morrow that we depart," to them said the Fisher.

**O'ow idash ogii-inaan: "Ambe sa naa, ayaangwaamiziyok!" ogii-inaa' i'iw minik waa-  
wijiwigod.**

And this he said to them: "Pray, do you be zealous!" he said to as many as were in his company.

**"Geget aaniish mii sa ge-izhiwebisiyang," ogii-igoo'.**

"Truly, now, that is the way we shall be," he was told.

**Mii sa gii-maajaawaad.**

And so then they departed.

**"Aaniish geget zanagad waa-ani-izhaayang mii imaa, mii dash wenji-zhaagweniminagog.**

"Now, truly difficult is it over there to where we are going, and on that account I feel uncertain about your support.

**Giishpin (wa)wiingeziyeg, mii eta ji-dagwishinang mii iwidi waa-izhaayang," ogii-inaa'.**

If only you be good at doing things, then shall we arrive at the place for which we are bound," he said to them.

**Mii sa zhiywa gii-maajaawaad.**

And so now were they off.

**Zhayiigwa dibikishkaawag, aaniish mii sa ezhi-gabeshiwaad.**

They went till night overtook them, so thereupon they went into camp.

**Miinawaa wayaabaninig ani-maajaawag.**

When the morrow was come again, they continued on their way.

**Abaapish naaning nebaawaad, mii sa ezhi-bakadewaad; gaawiin gegoo omiijisiinaawaan i'ima nibaawaad.**

By the time they had camped five times, then did they grow hungry; nothing did they have to eat at the places where they slept.

**Geget wii-wiisiniwag.**

Truly did they crave to eat.

**Zhiywa odigowaan i'iniw odoogimaamiwaan.**

Then they were told by their leader:

**"Eye', ningikenimaa aanawi a'aw niibiaweyaad mii iw wiisiniwin.**

"Yea, I know a certain one, without mentioning the name, who is abundantly supplied with the food (we want).

**Ambe sa noo, waabang mawadisaadaa aanind gego wiin indawaa gakina," odinaa' i'iw wijiwaagana'.**

Therefore on the morrow let some of us visit the being, but do not by any means (let us) all (go)," he said to his companions.

**Geget bezhig ozhaagwenimaawaan, iniw Nigigwan.**

Indeed, concerning a certain one they felt some doubts, (and) that was Otter.

**"Ambe sa noo, indawaa gego giin," odinaawaan; "mii go ji-baapiyamban.**

"By the way, perhaps you had better not go, " they said to him; "for you might laugh.

**Mii dash igo giishpin baapi'ad gaawiin gidashamigosiinaan.**

It is likely that if you laugh at the being, we shall not be given food.

**Wawiiyazh igo ninga-izhaaya [giga-izhi-ayaa?] apii wii-ashaminang.**

And in a comic way will I [you?] act when the being is about to give us food.

**Mii dash wenji-zhaagwenimigooyan, Nigig.**

And so on that account it is feared that you may not contain yourself, Otter.

**Ambe sa noo, mii giin o'omaa ayaan," odinaawaan.**

We beg of you, therefore, do you remain here," they said to him.

**Gaawiin dash inendanzii a'aw Nigig.**

But unwilling to do that was Otter.

**"Maanoo sa go gaye niin ninga-wiijiwe," ogii-inaa.**

"In spite of your wish, I too will go along," he said to them.

**"Ayaangwaamizin idash wiin ge-wi-baapisiwan mii go iw ji-nigaatooyan i'iw gimisad.**

"Do you take pains, then, that you do not laugh, lest by doing so you cause distress to your belly.

**Mindimooye a'aw waa-mawadisang.**

An old woman it is whom we are going to visit.

**Mii iw idash ge-izhi-ayaad apii gii-biindigeyang i'iw endaad.**

Now, this is the way she will act when we have entered into where she dwells.

**'Wegonen na ge-giige'agwaa ogoo' biiwideg?' daa-ikido.**

'Pray, what shall we give these visitors (to eat)?' she will say.

**Aaniish i'iw idash ge-izhi-ayaad mii go iw endaso-ziinitood ji-boogidid.**

Now, this is the way she will behave, for, as often as she exerts a strain (upon her body), she will break wind.

**Mii dash i'iw ge-onji-baapi'aasiweg.**

And now on account of that are you (all) not to laugh at her.

**Giishpin baapi'eg aaniish mii sa go iw ge-izhi-aanazhiitang; gaawiin giga-ashamigosiinaan."**

In case you laugh at her, why, she then will cease (from what she is doing); we shall not be given food.

**Zhigwa ani-maajaawag; zhigwa geget ode-baabandaanaawa i'iw endaanid.**

In a while they were on their way; presently, indeed, they came within sight of where she lived.

**Aaniish niigaaniiwan i'iniw omayaa'osemiwaan.**

Now, in front went he who was their leader.

**Mii sa zhigwa gii-biindigawaawaad.**

So then at last they went into where she was.

**Geget inaabid wa'a Nigig owaabamaan mindimooyeyan namadabinid.**  
Sure enough, when Otter looked, he beheld an old woman seated there.

**Agaawaa go biindiganaa (i)shkwaandeming.**  
Barely in the doorway was he permitted to enter.

**Aaniish zhigwa geget gii-ikidowan: "Wegonen na ge-giige'egwa ogoo' nimbiwidemag?" ikidowan.**  
So in a while truly did she speak, saying: "Pray, what shall I give these visitors of mine (to eat)?" she said.

**Inaabiwaad wenji-dago mooshkinesininiwan iniw makakoshkwemagoon;**  
When they looked, (they saw) that the place was thoroughly full of birch-bark boxes;

**mii nangwana makowiininoon ne'enimonid.**  
behold, it was bear-tallow that she had for food in them.

**Zhayigwa gwekitaawan, zhayigwa owiikobidoonini i'iw bezhig makakoshkwemag, ezhi-boogidinid.**  
Presently, turning about in her seat, she then drew one of the birch-bark boxes towards her, when she broke wind.

**Mii sa mamiidaawendang wii-baapid a'aw Nigig.**  
Thereupon was Otter possessed of an uncontrolled desire to laugh.

**Aaniish zhigwa miinawaa owiikobidoonini i'iw makakoshkwemag ezhi-gichi-boogidinid.**  
So, when pulling the birch-bark box again towards her, she broke wind with a loud report.

**Mii sa indigo gigii-nagajiinaa a'aw Nigig ezhi-basinij(n)ii'odizod baapid.**  
Thereupon, as if he were being tickled, Otter clapped his hands in laughter.

**"Awenen maajii ge-gas(h)kitoosigoban i'iw ji-baapisig?"**  
"Who in the world could keep from laughing (at that)?"

**Mii sa ezhi-gichi-baapi'aad.**  
And so he then laughed aloud at her.

**Mii sa ezhi-aanajiitaminid [ezhi-a-noojiitaminid?] aanawi ashamigowaaban.**  
At that she ceased from her work in vainly trying to feed them.

**Mii sa indawaa ezhi-zaaga'amowaad; mii sa zhigwa aanimi'ind a'aw Nigig.**  
And so in consequence out of doors they went; it was then that Otter was given a scolding.

**Gegaa go aanind obabakite'ogoo' i'iw owiijiwaagana', aapiji minjinawe'aad.**  
He was on the point of receiving a flogging by his companions, so deep was the disappointment he caused them.

**"Ambe sa noo, gego dash giin, Nigig!" gii-inaa.**  
"Oh, don't you go, Otter!" he was told.

**"O(n)zaam gibaapishk," gii-inaa' a'aw Nigig.**

"You are too much given to laughing," they said to Otter.

**Mii sa geget gaa-izhi-naganind.**

Thereupon truly was he left behind.

**Bakaan gii-izhi'owag i'iw miinawaa wii-mawadisaawaad.**

In a different way they dressed themselves when they planned to make another visit with her.

**Mii dash gaa-inaad a'aw Nigig zhigwa imaa gii-asanjigwaanind.**

And this to them then said Otter from yonder place where he was left behind.

**Gii-izhi-noosawiganooaad: "Ambe sa noo, eko-dooskwaneyaan minik biidawishiyok a'aw (m)akowiinin," odinaa' i'iw owijiiwaagana'.**

He spoke to them as they were leaving, saying: "I beg of you, as far as my arm is to the elbow is the amount of bear-tallow you shall fetch to me," he said to his companions.

**"Eye', giga-biidaagoo," odinaa'.**

"Yes, we will fetch it to you," he was told.

**Mii sa ezhi-maajaawaad.**

Thereupon they departed.

**Zhigwa sa obiindigawaawa(an) miinawaa.**

In a while they entered again into where she was.

**Aaniish mii geyaabi ezhi-ayaanid boogidinid.**

Well, she acted in the same way as before, she broke wind.

**Mii sa go apane boogidinid i'iw wii-giigegowaad.**

It was all the while that she broke wind when preparing food for them.

**Geget gaawiin awiyya baapisii.**

To be sure, nobody laughed.

**Mii sa zhigwa ashamigowaad.**

And so presently they were fed.

**Mii sa zhigwa ishkwa-wiisiniwaad, zhigwa odooninamini i'iw ge-bi-bimoondamowaad.**

And then later, when they had finished eating, she made ready some food which they could carry away with them on their backs.

**Mii sa zhigwa gii-debibidoowaad i'iw ge-miijiwaad gaa-ashamigowaad iniw**

**Miskwaasabiin. (1)**

Therefore then were they successful in obtaining what they were to eat after they had been fed by Red-Net.

(1) A term for the vulva.

**Mii sa (a)pii gaa-debisid a'aw Nigig.**

It was then that pleased was Otter.

**Aaniish geget biidaawaa i'iw minik i'iniw makowiininoon; eko-dooskoned minik biidaawaa.**

Now, sure enough, they fetched to him that amount of the bear-tallow; as far as his arm measured to the elbow was how much they fetched to him.

**Aaniish, mii sa zhigwa miinawaa gii-ani-maajaawaad.**

Well, thereupon then again they continued on their way.

**Zhayiigwa miinawaa nibaawag.**

Then again they slept.

**Geget omayagendaanaawa(a) dabasaagonagaanig.**

Truly were they amazed at the way the snow was sinking.

**Aaniish mii iw niizhwaaching gii-nibaawaad.**

So now for the seventh time they slept.

**Obaapish miinawaa naandegekadewaad [noonde-bakadewaad?].**

By this time were they again growing hungry by reason of their supply of food running short.

**"Geget ningikendaan mii imaa ge-ondinamangoban i'iw ge-miijiyang."**

"Verily, do I know of a place from whence we may obtain some food to eat," (said the Fisher).

**"Aw, izhaadaa!" odigoo'.**

"Very well, let us go over there!" he was told.

**Mii sa geget zhigwa gii-ani-maajaawaad.**

Thereupon truly on their way they went.

**Zhigwa geget omizha'adoonaawaa omiikanaani ezhi-bima'adoowaad.**

Presently, indeed, they fell into the path of another, (in that path) they then followed.

**Eshkam igo babesho (n)andodaamoniniwan i'iniw oningwanisookanaanini.**

As farther on (they continued), more frequent (grew the number of paths) running into (the one they were on), (paths) that were used when coming home with game.

**Minjim igo debinaagwadinig mii iw endaanid geget babesho (n)andodaamominiwan i'iniw oningwanisookanaanini.**

As soon as into view appeared the home of him dwelling there, with much greater frequency came other paths into (the one they were on), that were used in fetching home game.

**Aashawiitagoko [aazha eta go iko?] miinawaa gaa-bimi-izhidaabaanaanid makwan.**

Only a little while before some one had dragged a bear along.

**Zhigwa biindigawaawaan.**

In a while they went into where he was.

**Wenda go mooshkineni endaanid i'iniw ininiwan.**

Full as can be was the dwelling of the man.

**Omayaginiwaawaan ezhinaagozinid.**

They marvelled at the strange appearance of him.

**Geget agaasidoonewan, namajaya'ii izhi-daas(h)kidoonewan.**

Truly small was his mouth, up and down was the way his mouth was opened.

**Mii dash imaa ezhi-mayaginawaawaad, geget agaawaa gas(h)kichiigwayawewan, miskwizenibaan naabikawaanid.**

And so in another respect did they regard him with wonder, really did he scarcely have a neck, a red ribbon did he wear for a necklace.

**Zhigwa oganoonigowaan: "Wegonena ge-giige'agwaa?"**

Presently they were spoken to by him saying: "Pray, what shall I give them (to eat)?"

**Mii dash i'iw enwenid, o'oo inwewan: "Wegonen ge-giige'agwaa?" ikidonid, "Isp!" inwewan. (1)**

And then (they heard him) utter with his voice, this he uttered when he said: "What shall I give them to eat? Isp!" he uttered.

(1) Uttered by drawing in the breath.

**Mii sa zhayigwa awi-ashamigowaan.**

And already then was there a beginning of their being fed.

**Mii sa go apane enwenid gegoo wii-ikidonid, i'iw "Isp!" inwenid.**

And so all the while (that was) his exclamation whenever he had something to say, that "Isp!" was what he uttered.

**Mii nangwana i'iniw ayaawinid Mishi-bajaagonan; aaniish ogimaawiwaniw wedisaawaad.**

Now, the one that was there was Big-Penis; (2) so it was a chief that they had visited.

(2) A name referring to the giant Mesabe or Wiindigoo.

**Mii sa zhigwa miinawaa gii-ashamigowaad, mii sa miinawaa ezhi-giiewanewaad endoodagowaad iiniw Michi-bajaagonan.**

And so later they were fed again, whereupon again they carried away what had been given them by Big-Penis.

**Aaniish odinaa': "Mii sa iw ji-dagwishinang i'iwid[i] waa-izhaayang."**

So (the Fisher) said to them: "Now shall we reach the place for which we are bound."

**Zhayigwa miinawaa nibaawag.**

In time they slept again.

**"Mii sa awas-waabang ji-dagwishinang i'iwidi waa-izhaayang."**

It is on the day after to-morrow that we shall get to the place for which we are bound, " (the Fisher said).

**Mii iw zhigwa gaawin gizhizha gooniwakamigaasiinini.**

Now, by this time there was scarcely any snow on the ground.

**Zhigwa miinawaa ani-maajaawag.**

Presently they continued on their way.

**Mii dash geget giizhigadinig bimosewaad, gaawiin owaabamaasiwaawaan iiniw goonan; eshkam gaye gizhideni.**

And then truly during the day, while travelling across the country, they did not see any (more) snow; and it was also growing warmer.

**"Aaniish, mii sa waabang ji-dagwishinang e-izhaawang."**

"Now, therefore, on the morrow shall we arrive at where we are going," (said the Fisher).

**Zhayiigwa nibaawag miinawaa.**

Then they slept again.

**Miinawaa wayaabaninig ani-maajaawaad.**

When the morrow came again, then on their way they went.

**Mii sa gaawiin dash goonikaasinini.**

And so there was now no (more) snow.

**Zhayiigwa onaagoshinini.**

In time it was evening.

**"Mii sa imaa gwayak ayaad a'aw gaa-bi-[n]andawaabamang," odinaa' a'aw Ojiig.**

"It is straight over yonder way where dwells he whom we have come to seek," to them said the Fisher.

**"Ambe sa noo," odinaa' "nas[h]ke inaabiyok, zaaga'iganing daawag iigiw anishinaabeg.**

I beg of you," he said to them, "do you but only look, by a lake dwell the people.

**Aapiji dash naawoodena mii imaa endaad wa'aw debendang i'iw oodena.**

And in the very centre of the town is where he dwells who rules the town.

**Mii dash a'aw gechiwinang i'iw niibin," odinaa' i'iw owiijiwaagana'.**

It is he who holds the summer in his keeping, he said to his companions.

**Zhigwa oganoonaan iiniw Adikwan: "Ambe sa noo, bijiinag igo bi-nisidawinaagwak ji-bi-waabang" - owaabandaan obaashiiwaninik - "mii dash iwidi ji-wi-aazhawa'oyan.**

Presently he spoke to Caribou, saying: "I beg of you, as soon as the dawn of day begins to break," - he looked over toward the narrows of the lake, — "it is over there that (I would have) you cross.

**Giin dash, Waagosh, giga-miginaa.**

And you, Fox, you are to bark at him.

**Mii sa go iw minik ezhi-gikino'amawinaan," ogii-inaan.**

And so that is as much as I am going to instruct you," he said to him.

**"Giin idash, Wazhashk, giga-babaa-bagwandaanan jiimaan, mii iw ge-inanokiiyan noongom dibikak.**

"And you, Muskrat, you shall go among the canoes, gnawing holes in them, which is the work for you to do to-night.

**Giin idash, Amik, abwiin giga-babaa-biigwandaanan, mii sa gaye giin ge-inanokiiyan noongom dibikak."**

And you, Beaver, you shall go about gnawing the paddles, and so that is what you shall do to-night."

**Amik zhayigwa gii-giizhaakomigoon iiniw omayaa'osemiwaan.**

Beaver then had received an order from their leader.

**Mii sa geget ge-izhiwebiziyang, niin idash ninga-mawinadaan i'iw wiigiwaam," gii-ikido.**

"And that is truly what we shall do, while I myself will go against the wigwam," he said.

**Zhigwa sa dibikadini, mii sa gii-maajaanid owiijiwaagana'.**

In a while was the night coming on, whereupon then departed his comrades.

**Mii sa zhayigwa obiitooon ji-waabaninig.**

And so then he waited for the coming of the morning.

**Aaniish ogii-inaan iiniw Waagoshan ji-bimi-miginaanid.**

Now, he had told Fox to go barking at them as they went.

**"Mii go o'omaa bimi-aasamewaaminig [bimi-aasamewaaninig?] ge-na-onji-miginad [ge-ani-onji-miginad?], Waagosh," odinaan.**

"It is along this very shore that you shall bark at them as they go, Fox," he said to him.

**Aaniish mii sa zhigwa wayaabaninig zhayigwa geget onoondawaan bimi-miginid.**

Well, it was now growing day, when, sure enough, he heard (Fox) going along barking.

**Aaniish zhayigwa amajisewa' i'iw anishinaabe'.**

So presently up the people quickly woke on hearing the noise.

**"Nas(h)ke giniin! animosh bimi-migid i'iwedi gii-bimi-aasamewaanig!"**

"Harken to the sound! a dog comes barking along by yonder shore!"

**"Wegonen?" ikidowag iigiw anishinaabeg.**

"What (is it)?" said the people.

**"Mii maawiin adikwan meginaawaad," ikidowag iigiw anishinaabeg.**

"It may be at a caribou that it is barking," said the people.

**"Mii maawiin ji-bakobiinzhawaad iwidi gii-wabaashiiwaninig.**

"It may be that (the dog) is driving it into the water over there at the narrows.

**Zhigwa geget bakobiigwaashkoni a'aw!"**

Already now, in fact, is it leaping into the water!"

**Zhigwa waabamaawaad iigiw anishinaabeg, "E'e'e', nashke giniin! adik bemaadagaad!"**

When the people saw it, "Hey, look yonder! a caribou goes swimming along!

**Zhigwa geget obakobiinzhawaan. A'aaw!" ikidowag iigiw anishinaabeg.**

Now, indeed, (the dog) is driving it into (the lake). Come on!" said the people.

**Mii sa geget zhigwa booziba'idiwaad, gakina booziba'idiwag.**

And so truly then they scrambled wildly into their canoes, all rushed madly to get into their canoes.

**Mii sa zhigwa gakina gaa-booziba'idinid omawinadoon i'iw oodena a'aw Mishi-Ojig.**

And so, when all had scrambled into their canoes, then against the town did the big Fisher make an attack.

**Zhigwa biindigesed owaabaaan namadabinid wiitaawisan.**

When he rushed into (a wigwam), he saw his cousin seated there.

**Goni giniin asawewan namekwaan aabajitoonid.**

He beheld him feathering his arrows with sturgeon-glue.

**"Aa' niitaawis!" odinaan.**

"Well, my cousin!" he said to him.

**"Mii sa ya'oo bi-naazikawag wa'oo niibinise.**

"Therefore now have I come to where this bird of summer is.

**Aa," odinaan, "aanishaa sa go naa gibi-mawadisin," odinaan.**

Why," he said to him, "for no particular object do I come to visit you," he said to him.

**"Oonh," odigoon.**

"Really!" he was told.

**"Daga shkoomaa, niitaawis!" odinaan; "mii na giin iko endoodaman i'iw esaweyanin?"**

"By the way, O my cousin!" he said to him, "is that the way you generally do when feathering your arrows?"

**"Datata!" odigoon.**

"Oh, nonsense!" he was told.

**"Gaawiin," odinaan.**

"Nay, (I am serious,)" he said to him.

**"Oo sa niin ako indoodam esaweyaanin.**

"Now, this is the way I generally do when feathering my arrows.

**Daga shkoomaa," odinaan.**

Just you let me show you," he said to him.

**Ezhi-mamood i'iw zhezhoobii'igenid i'ima obikwakoniing.**

Then he picked up the (stick) that he used when rubbing (the glue) upon the arrows.

**Aaniish besho ogii-onabiitawaan; ezhi-zhizhoooonewaad i'iw namekwaan, mii sa ezhi-bwaanawitoonid, aanawi bakwajibidoonid.**

Now, close beside him was he seated; when (the Fisher) rubbed the sturgeon-glue over his (cousin's) mouth, then was (the cousin) unable to get his mouth open, however much he tried.

**Bazingojise.**

(The Fisher) leaped to his feet.

**Aaniish mii go wawiinge ezhi-giiwitaagaamesininig iiniw maka(ko)shkwemagoon.**

Now, all the space the whole way round was a mass of birch-bark boxes.

**Ezhi-bazhiba'ang bezhig, pane go gaa-ombisenid niibinise'.**

When he poked a hole into one, out burst forth some birds of summer.

**Mii sa ezhi-danakamigizid aani-biigosh[k]ang iiniw makakoshkwemagoon, anooj isa ani-moomooshkinewa' zhiishiiba' anooj isa go awiya.**

And when he set to work poking holes into box after box of birch-bark, (he found them) one after another filled with all kinds of ducks and all kinds of other creatures.

**Ningoding igo bezhig zagime' gaa-[o]mbwesenid.**

And by and by out of a certain (box) burst forth the mosquitoes.

**Aaniish mii wiin agowedi endanakamigiziwaad e-wii-nandwa'anaawaad iiniw adikwan.**

Now, as for (the people) yonder, they were busily engaged trying to keep on the trail of Caribou.

**Mii sa ezhi-gwiinawi-izhichiged wa'aw gaa-gibokiwaasigaadenig i'iw odoon.**

And so at a loss to know what to do was he whose mouth had been closed with glue.

**Wiikaa bijiinag omikaan migoos dakwaakwisininig;**

After a long while had passed, he found an awl with a short handle;

**ezhi-badaka'ang iwidi odashkwedoonaaganinig, ezhi-biibaagid o'ow idash ikido: "Oo, Mis[h]ojiig niibinise' obi-naanaan!" izhi-biibaagid.**

forcing it through a corner of his mouth, he then called aloud, and this he said: "Oh, the big Fisher has come after the birds of summer!" thus was what he cried aloud.

**Zhayigwa onoondawaawaan iigiw anishinaabeg.**

Presently him the people heard.

**"Aaniin medwe-ikidod?"**

"What is the sound of what he says?"

**Bi-inaabiwaad, pane go indigo gii-giikanaabatani.**

On looking hitherward, everywhere did there seem to hang a smoky haze.

**"Nashke giiniin!" ikidowag.**

"Listen and hear!" they said.

**"Niibinise' ogii-bi-naanaan Mishawojiig!" madwe-izhi-biibaagi gosha.**

"The birds of summer has the big Fisher come and got!" was what, indeed, he was heard saying in a loud voice.

**Mii sa geget ezhi-washkakwazhiwewaad.**

At that they truly whirled their canoes about.

**Mii go imaa aanind bookwabwii'ewaad washkakwazhiwewaad; aanind gaye noondebiigisiwag; aanind aano-gii-bi-giwe'owag.**

Whereupon some broke their paddles when whirling about; and the canoes of some began to leak rapidly; some failed in trying to get back home by canoe.

**Mii dash imaa bi-bookwabwii'ewaad; aniind gaye ani-noonde-gozaabiiwag.**

And so out there they broke their paddles; and as they went, some sank to the bottom before they were able to get back to land.

**Zhigwa sa gakina ogii-niigozhaanan Mishi-Ojiig i'iw endaanid wiitaawisan.**

In a while the big Fisher had cut up the entire dwelling of his cousin.

**Zhigwa manimitigwaabiiwan, aaniish owii-bimogoon.**

Then (his cousin) grabbed for a bow, for by him was he now about to be shot.

**Aaniish badakizowan omitigomini, ezhi-akwaandawesed.**

Now, (his cousin) had a tree standing there, then up the tree he hastened.

**Mii dash i'iwidi wensaabamaad, ashoowinaad wii-bimogod.**

And so from up there he looked down at him, he kept watch of (his cousin), who intended to shoot at him.

**Aaniish, zhayigwa owii-bimogoon; zhayigwa bi-ina'ewan ezhi-gwiinibaagobagizod.**

Well, now was he on the point of being shot at; at the moment that (his cousin) aimed with the bow was when he dodged round (to the other side of the tree).

**Mii dash o'owidi giizhigong ezhi-dabasiid.**

And then off this way (1) into the sky he whirled.

(1) Toward the north.

**Mii dash ezhi-mizhodaminid wanakwaya'ii i'iw ozow mii sa gaa-izhi-bookwaanowenaagod.**

Thereupon (his cousin) shot him at the end of his tail, whereupon the tail was broken. (2)

(2) Which accounts for the position of the stars in the handle of the Dipper.

**Aaniish mii sa iwidi gaa-onji-ganoonaad i'iw sa wiiiiiwaagana': "Ambe sa noo, ayaangwaamiziyok," odinaa' i'iw wiiiiiwaagana'.**

So it was from yonder place (in the sky) that he spoke to his comrades, saying: "I beg of you, do all that is within you," he said to his comrades.

**"Gaawiin niin nindaa-gashkitoosiin ji-bi-izhaayaan i'iwidi miinawaa gii-ayaayeg.**

"I may not be able to come to yonder place where you dwell.

**Mii sa niin imaa apane ji-ayaayaan amanj minik ge-akiwanogwen ji-waabamaad noozhishenyag," ogii-inaa'.**

It is here (3) that I shall always be, however long the world may last, so that my grandchildren may behold me," he said to them.

(3) In the northern sky.

**Aaniish mii sa zhigwa gii-ganoonaad miinawaa: "Apii dagwishineg i'iwidi onji-maajaayang mii iw ji-onaakonameg ge-apiichaag i'iw ji-biboong.**

So it was in a while that he addressed them again, saying: "When you have arrived at yonder place from whence you came, then shall you decree how long the winter should be.

**Ayaangwaamiziyok sa ge-wii-minochigeyeg," ogii-inaa'.**

Do you take pains to see that you bring things favorably to pass," he said to them.

**Mii sa geget zhigwa gii-ani-giiwewaad.**

Thereupon truly on their homeward way they went.

**Gaawiin ganage ningoji ogii-ani-adindanziinaawaa i'iw ani-ako-niibininig.**

At no place anywhere did they catch up to the boundaries (1) of the summer.

(1) Conceived of as moving like the shadow of a cloud.

**Zhigwa dagwishinoog i'iwidi gaa-bi-onji-maajaawaad.**

At last they reached the place from whence they had gone away.

**Zhayiigwa ikidowag maawanji'idiwaad: "Aaniin gaa-izhiwebiziyang i'iw sa gaa-igooyang?"**

In course of time they said, on coming together in assembly: "How shall we bring to pass that which we had been told?

**Mii sa zhigwa ji-onaakonamang i'iw sa gaa-igooyang."**

The time is now come for us to decree that which we had been commanded."

**Zhigwa sa geget gii-maawandoobiwag, zhyiigwa onaakonigewaad.**

Then truly, coming together, they sat down, then did they decree.

**Aaniish ogii-igowaan: "Wiinik igo iigiw giizhisooq."**

Now they were told: "Do you give name to the moons."

**Mii dash gaa-ikidod a'aw Adik: "Niin ninga-agimaag endazhiwaad iigiw giizhisooq," gii-ikido.**

And this was what Caribou said: "I myself will count the number of moons," he said.

**"Aaw," gii-inaa.**

"Very well," he was told.

**Mii dash geget ezhi-giigidod: "Endaso-biiwayeyaan da-dazhiwag giizhisooq mii dash apii ge-izhi-niibing," gii-ikido.**

Thereupon truly did he speak: "As many as the hairs on my body, so may the number of moons be before it shall then be summer," he said.

**Mii dash aazha ganoonind: "Mii maawiin i'iw ji-mischi-niiwana'agooyamban.**

And so, when he had finished, then was he addressed: "It might then happen that you would be an easy prey for one to lay you low with a blow. (2)

(2) Referring to the time when the snow is deep and the crust hardened, when game is easily approached and killed.

**Daa-agaanziinona [daa-onzaamiino?] a'aw goon dazhiwaad giizisooq.**

There would be too much snow if such were the number of moons.

**Gaawiin ganage gidaa-zaagagonesanzii."**

Not even would you be visible from under the snow."

**"Aaniish indawaa gaawiin i'iw daa-dazhisiiwag iigiw giizisoog."**

"Then accordingly there shall not be so many moons."

**"Ozaam isa gaa-baatayiinowag," gii-inaa.**

"They would really be too many," he was told.

**Mii dash zhigwa, "Niin daga ninga-onagimaag ge-dazhiwaad iigiw giizhisooq," gii-ikido a'aw Agoongos.**

So then presently, "Pray, let me count the number of (winter) moons there shall be," (so) said Chipmunk.

**"Dasing beshaawiganeyaan mii iw ge-dazhiwaad iigie giizisoog.**

"As many as the number of stripes upon my back, so shall the number of moons (in winter) be.

**Nashke, ningodwaaching ambeshaawiganeyaan [ani-bashaawiganeyaan?]," gii-ikido.**

Behold, six is the number of stripes upon my back," (so) he said.

**"Mii sa geget maawiin ji-na'i-dazhiwaaban iigiw giizisoog," gii-ikidowag.**

"Now, that truly is just about the proper number for the (winter) moons to be," (thus) they said.

**"Aaw, mii sa geget idash ge-dazhiwaad iigiw giizisoog."**

"Very well, that truly is what the number of moons shall be."

**Mii aw gaa-debwed.**

Accordingly then did they act upon his word.

**"Aaniish mii iw ji-na'i-dazhiwaad iigiw giizisoog," gii-ikidowag.**

"Now, that will be just the right number of moons," (so) they said.

**Mii dash zhigwa giizhaakonigewaad.**

And so they then fulfilled the decree.

**Mii sa minik, binewijiid gii-agoode.**

And that is all, the buttocks of the ruffed grouse now hang aloft.