

The Coyote and Lizard



by Lena Cox

Illustrated by Lizzy Lavell

Nay:ümshi:anük katwang 'im:ü'shak:aṭi:ng.
“Ṭis:ük miw:ü:kong kanüng 'ip:uṭe:yi” “kach:ü:tesh
katwa:ng.
Shak:aṭing: “kanüng 'ip:uṭe:yi” “kach:üsh:ü:sh.



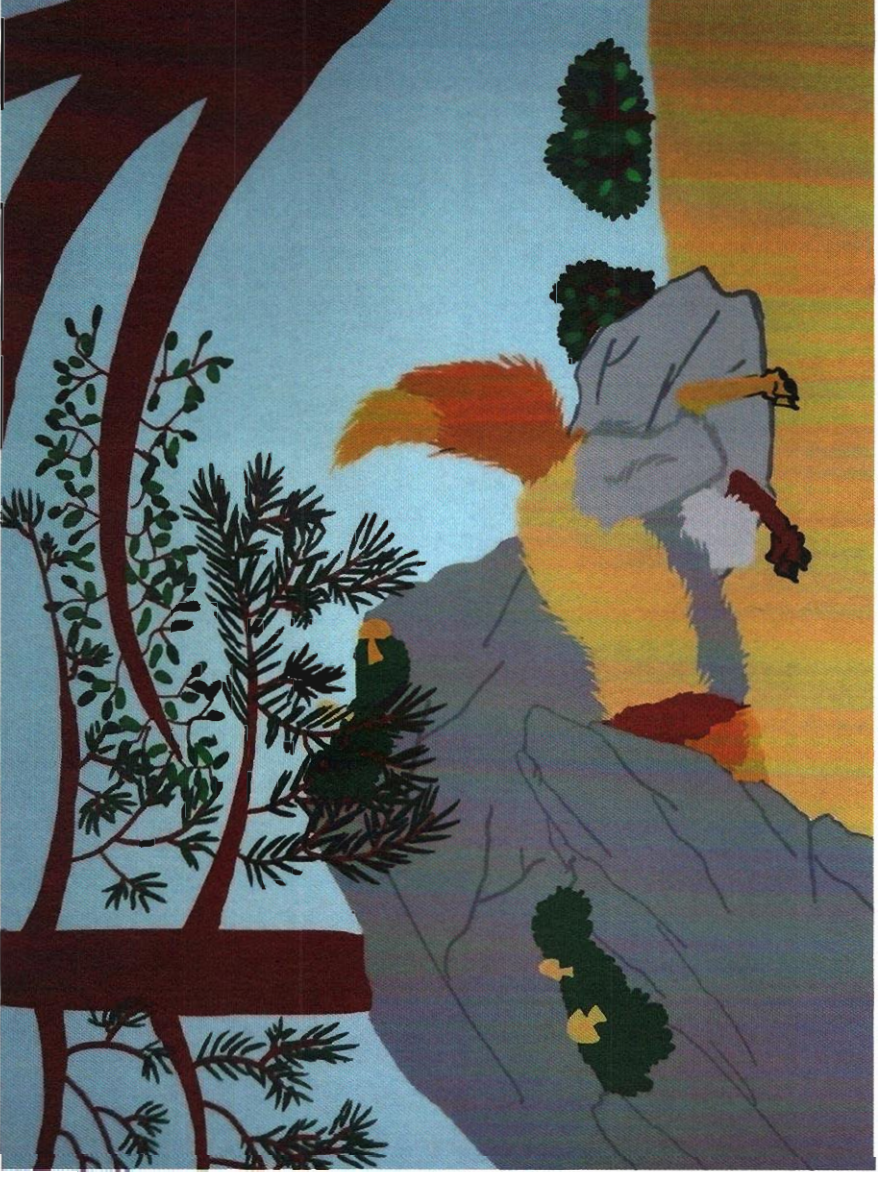
Hoyichnge'pak yo: katwang'onup:anüşh
shak:atı:y.



Shak:aṭing wüküş:anüş shawa:m.
'Ol:u:ta:nü:tesh shak:aṭi:y.



‘Im:ü’ wük:anü:sh, wükey hinüt:anü:sh,
wü:kü:tan shak:aṭi:y. ‘Ol:u:tesh ’icha’.



Wüküt:anüş hat:esh:üngshü cheluk:anü:sh.



'Itan'ok shak:aṭing hüwat:anü:sh.
'Itan'ok ṭis:ü':ünim shak:aṭing 'ip:ute:y.



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Translation

- Nay:ümshi:anük katwang 'im:ü'shak:aṭi:ng.
A long time ago Lizard and Coyote quarreled.
- "Ṭis:ük miw:ü:kong kanüng 'ip:uṭe:yi' "
kach:ü:tesh katwa:ng.
"Hands of the people will be like mine" said coyote.
- Shak:aṭing: "kanüng 'ip:uṭe:yi' " kach:üşh:ü:sh.
Lizard: "They will look like mine" he said.
- Hoyichnge'pak yo: katwang 'onup:anüşh shak:aṭi:y.
Then coyote got angry and chased lizard.

- Shak:aṭiŋ wüküsh:anüş shawa:m.
Lizard went into the rock.
- 'Ol:u:ta:nü:tesh shak:aṭi:y.
He tried to dig the lizard out.
- 'Im:ü' wük:anüş, wükey hinüt:anüş,
wü:kü:tan shak:aṭi:y.
*He built a fire, made a fire, trying to burn
lizard out.*
- 'Ol:u:tesh'icha'.
He dug again.

- Wüküt:anüş haṭ:esh:üngshü cheluk:anü:sh.
His paws got burned and he stopped digging.
- 'Itan'ok shak:aṭing hüwat:anü:sh.
Then the lizard ran out.
- 'Itan'ok ṭis:ü':ünim shak:aṭing 'ip:ute:y.
That is why we have hands like the lizard.

The Coyote and Lizard

- by Viola Wessell
- From Freeland's Central Sierra Myths
- Report #3 from the Survey of California and Other Indian Languages
- By Howard Berman, 1982
- Slide show created in 2016:
- Illustrated by Lizzy Lavell
- Edited by Candra Neff and Carlos Geisdorff.