

Booyéem Mowí K'ut'í Méyt'omatoy

JACKRABBIT GAVE ANTLERS TO DEER

Hac'e Tokk'ook'óm mihé piyitihé payyotít'omatoy Hiiweyím.

Burrowing Owl made his children dance Hiwe.

Han payyoc'é Olém ét'omatoy.

Coyote saw them dance.

Han bedok'oywoopáyt'omatoy.

He ran up to them.

Hac'e Tokk'ook'óm tukená imítt'omatoy.

Then Burrowing Owl went into the hole.

Hac'e meemént'omatoy Olém.

Coyote did not catch him.

Han binenéen ét'omatoy Palaalí, Booyée, K'ut'í.

Coyote looked around and saw Cottontail, Jackrabbit, and Deer.

Han Palaalí k'adok'óyt'omatoy Olém.

Coyote pursued Cottontail.

Hac'e Palaalím bedok'oyín tuké imítt'omatoy.

Cottontail ran into a hole.

Hac'e Booyéem mowpét'omatoy, mihm K'ut'é mowpemá beydím.

Jackrabbit had antlers, the antlers that Deer has now.

Hac'e Olém mihé k'adok'óyt'omatoy.

Coyote pursued him.

Hac'e Booyéem dii osaspayhahát'omatoy, mowí wosón.

Jackrabbit ran his head against the brush all the time, being hampered by the antlers.

Hac'e Olém meesán wadáat'omatoy.

Coyote nearly succeeded in catching him.

Hac'e K'ut'ín Olén ham peením wodoytotót'omatoy.

Deer and Coyote fought.

Hac'e Olém wadaatít'omatoy Booyée.

Coyote let Jackrabbit live.

Hac'e Booyéem mowí osipín, "Mi omít, t!!" hát'omatoy.

Jackrabbit took the antlers off and said, "You put them on, brother!"

Hac'e K'ut'ím omítt'omatoy, k'aapém miyé beydím.

Deer put them on, and he has them now.

Miim miyéem.

That's that.

HELPFUL VOCABULARY

Booyée	‘Jackrabbit’
Olé	‘Coyote’
K’ut’	‘Deer’
Tokk’óok’	‘Burrowing Owl’
Paláal	‘Cottontail’
Mow	‘Antler(s)’
Tuké	‘Hole(s)’
-t’omatoy	This word-ending means that the event took place long ago and that the storyteller did not personally witness the event.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Why did Olé and K’ut’ fight? After all, Olé wasn’t actually chasing K’ut’...

Why did Booyée give his antlers to K’ut’? Was there more than one reason?

Did Olé let Booyée live out of the goodness of his heart? Or do you think K’ut’ beat Olé up?

BRAIN TEASER

The word *wadaa-* means ‘to live’ and the word *wadaati-* means ‘to cause or allow (someone else) to live’. The word *payyo-* means ‘to dance’. What do you think the word *payyoti-* means?

ABOUT THIS STORY...

This story was told by William Joseph, a.k.a. Bill Joe, to Hans J. Uldall in the 1930’s and adapted by the SSBMI Language Department. Bill Joe was a Nisenan man from Amador County and the uncle of Acorn Jack, a.k.a. Jack Nichols; Acorn Jack was the first husband of SSBMI Matriarch Annie Hill Murray Paris and the father of her daughter Carrie Charlton.

The SSBMI Language Department adapted this story as the first book in the SSBMI Nisenan Storytelling Collection. You can learn more about the book at: <https://bit.ly/ssbmijackrabbit>

If you have questions about the story, please contact language@ssband.org.