

THE SKINNY JAGUAR

Free Translation

When the people were sleeping, a jaguar went into the longhouse. The jaguar went inside and picked up a child. It picked up the child, and took the child away. It went and ate the child. The child disappeared.

On another night as they were sleeping it went in after them again. It went inside and killed someone again.

When dawn came, they were afraid. They stuck poles in the ground, and lashed the poles together [to make a stockade].

They took snuff again and slept, and it went in again to them. It bit the elbow of one of them who was sleeping and snoring. He pushed it away with his arm. It went back out.

They were afraid because of the jaguar. On another night, when they were about to sleep, the chief Nanaore, who knew a lot [that is, he was a powerful shaman], shot it with a gun. It was not fat. He shot it.

"The jaguar has been coming around all the time. I will shoot it. Don't be afraid of what will happen if the jaguar is killed," he said.⁷⁴ "I want to see it."

He took apart the thatch. He cut open the thatch. He waited for it at the hole. He sat there, up high. As he sat there, it came back, and he shot it. The jaguar that had been coming around all the time was not fat. He shot it. They yelled, because they had finally killed the jaguar. Its eyes were sunken. It had protruding teeth, as it came to them at night. It finally died. Did they eat it?

Then they started going out hunting again, the ones who the jaguar had made afraid. The jaguar had made them afraid.

They dragged the jaguar. The downstream jaguar was not fat. It was going around at night.

We eat the creatures of the rain, the rain of the thunder, the *aba* fish of the thunder. We eat the creatures of the thunder. People didn't used to spear *aba* fish before. The thunder throws the *aba* fish in the water. We eat the creatures of the water of the thunder. They are the creatures of the loud thunder. They are not the creatures of the *maka* monster. They are the creatures of the *maka* monster. The creatures of the *maka* monster go into the water because of the thunder. The *maka* monster lives with the *aba* fish.

We will eat white-lipped peccaries again. The white-lipped peccary is a person, also the tapir. The tapir is the spirit of people. I myself have seen the tapir [that is, I have seen a tapir that was the spirit of a person].

A spirit made the white-lipped peccaries run, my father used to say. It whipped the peccaries with a long peeled stick, he used to say. The spirit waved the stick at the stirred up peccaries that were fearsome, my father used to say. Bowata [Yowao's wife] has the name of their place, Awa Iti. He said they live at Awa Iti.

They were fatty when we shot them. Bibiri shot a white-lipped peccary the other day. Kofeno, too, with only one shotgun. Bibiri shot one first, and then gave the shotgun to Kofeno.

⁷⁴ The sentence means literally, "Don't protect the jaguar," that is, don't let it go on living. They believed that anyone who killed the jaguar would go crazy, but Nanaore had the courage to kill it because he was a powerful shaman.

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Kofeno went and shot another peccary, at the Faha Biri, at Boa Vista.

Interlinear Presentation

1 *Me amo na , me amo na me ni ya yome*
 me amo na+F , me amo na+F me ni ya yomee
 3PL.S sleep AUX 3PL.S sleep AUX 3PL to ADJU jaguar
 pron vi aux pron vi aux pron prt prt nm

tokiyomamakematamonaka

to- ka -yoma -makI -himata -mona -ka
 away go/come through following FP.N+M REP+M DECL+M
 vi

'When the people were sleeping, a jaguar went into the longhouse.'

2 *Yome tokiyomamake , inamate*
 yomee to- ka -yoma -makI inamate
 jaguar away go/come through following child
 nm vi nm

itimatamonaka

iti -himata -mona -ka
 pick up FP.N+M REP+M DECL+M
 vt

'The jaguar went inside and picked up a child.'

3 *Inamate iti inamate towakamematamonane*
 inamate iti+M inamate to- ka- ka -ma -himata -mona -ne
 child pick up child away COMIT go/come back FP.N+M REP+M BKG+M
 nm vt nm vt

'It picked up the child, and took the child away.'

4 *Faya inamate tokobame , inamate fawa nematamona*
 faya inamate to- kaba -ma+M , inamate fawa na -himata -mona
 so child away eat back child disappear AUX FP.N+M REP+M
 conj nm vt nm vi aux

amaka fahi
 ama -ka fahi
 SEC DECL+M then
 sec dem

'It went and ate the child. The child disappeared.'

5 *Yama soki one ya , yama soki one ya ,*
 yama soki.NFIN one ya , yama soki.NFIN one ya
 thing be dark other+F ADJU thing be dark other+F ADJU
 nf vi adj prt nf vi adj prt

me amo na mera
 me amo na+F mera
 3PL.S sleep AUX 3PL.O
 pron vi aux pron

tonakiyomamakitasematamonane

to- na- ka -yoma -makI -tasa -himata -mona -ne
 away CAUS go/come through following again FP.N+M REP+M BKG+M
 vt

'On another night as they were sleeping it went in after them again.'

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6 *Tokiyomamake* , *ene*
 to- ka -yoma -makI , ehene
 away go/come through following victim of+M
 vi pn

ititasematamonaka *fahi* .
 iti -tasa -himata -mona -ka fahi
 exist again FP.N+M REP+M DECL+M then
 vi dem

'It went inside and killed someone again.'

7 *Faya me kawaha me* , *me kawaha me* ,
 faya me ka- waha+F me , me ka- waha+F me ,
 so 3PL.S COMIT dawn 3PL.S 3PL.S COMIT dawn 3PL.S
 conj pron vi pron pron vi pron

kakakome toemetemoneni .
 ka- ka- komeha to- ha -hemete -mone -ni
 DUP COMIT be fearsome CH AUX FP.N+F REP+F BKG+F
 vi aux

'When dawn came, they were afraid.'

8 *Awa me wasa na awa me karaba*
 awa me wasa na+F awa me ka- raba+F
 tree 3PL.S stick in ground AUX tree 3PL.S COMIT lash together
 nf pron vt aux nf pron vt

me , awa me karabemetemoneni .
 me , awa me ka- raba -hemete -mone -ni
 3PL.S tree 3PL.S COMIT lash together FP.N+F REP+F BKG+F
 pron nf pron vt

'They stuck poles in the ground, and lashed the poles together.'

9 *Faya me , sina me hisi tasa me amo na me*
 faya me , sina me hisi na -tasa+F me amo na+F me
 so 3PL snuff 3PL.S sniff AUX again 3PL.S sleep AUX 3PL
 conj pron nf pron vt aux pron vi aux pron

ni ya , tokiyomamaketasematamonaka .
 ni ya to- ka -yoma -makI -tasa -himata -mona -ka
 to ADJU away go/come through following again FP.N+M REP+M DECL+M
 prt prt vi

'They took snuff again and slept, and it went in again to them.'

10 *Tokiyomamaketase* , *amo ne ho ne*
 to- ka -yoma -makI -tasa+M , amo na+M hoo na+M
 away go/come through following again sleep AUX snore AUX
 vi vi aux vi aux

yokori wai hinematamonaka ahi .
 yokohori wai hi- na -himata -mona -ka ahi
 elbow bite OC AUX FP.N+M REP+M DECL+M then
 pn vt aux dem

'It went inside again. It bit the elbow of one of them who was sleeping and snoring.'

11 *Taro hiwitimatamonane* .
 taro hi- to- na -witI -himata -mona -ne
 hit OC away AUX out FP.N+M REP+M BKG+M
 vt aux

'He pushed it away with his arm.'

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- 12 *Faya tokiyomamatase matamonaka* *fahi*
 faya to- ka -yoma -ma -tasa -himata -mona -ka fahi
 so away go/come through back again FP.N+M REP+M DECL+M then
 conj vi dem
 'It went back out.'
- 13 *Tokiyomamatase* , *me kakakome*
 to- ka -yoma -ma -tasa+M , me ka- ka- komeha
 away go/come through back again 3PL.S DUP COMIT be fearsome
 vi pron vi
toemetemoneke *yome ehene*
 to- ha -hemete -mone -ke yomee ehene
 CH AUX FP.N+F REP+F DECL+F jaguar because of+M
 aux nm post
 'It went back out. They were afraid because of the jaguar.'
- 14 *Yama soki one ya* , *yama soki one ya* ,
 yama soki.NFIN one ya , yama soki.NFIN one ya ,
 thing be dark other+F ADJU thing be dark other+F ADJU
 nf vi adj prt nf vi adj prt
me amo nabone me ni , *towisawa* , *Nanaore*
 me amo na -habone me ni , towisawa , Nanaore
 3PL.S sleep AUX INT+F 3PL to chief (man's name)
 pron vi aux pron prt nm npropm
Nanaore tao hikanematamonaka , *Nanaore*
 Nanaore tao hi- ka- na -himata -mona -ka , Nanaore
 (man's name) shoot OC COMIT AUX FP.N+M REP+M DECL+M (man's name)
 npropm vt aux npropm
yama watohari
 yama wato -haari
 thing know IP.E+M
 nf vt
 'On another night, when they were about to sleep, the chief Nanaore, who knew a lot, shot it with a gun.'
- 15 *Imarari imare tao*
 ima -ra -haari ima -ra+M tao
 be fat NEG IP.E+M be fat NEG shoot
 vi vi vt
hikanematamonane
 hi- ka na -himata -mona -ne
 OC go/come AUX FP.N+M REP+M BKG+M
 aux
 'It was not fat. He shot it.'
- 16 *Yama yama era yobi kani nofa ama*
 yama yama era yobi kani na nofa+F ama
 thing thing 1IN.O go back and forth COMIT AUX recently SEC
 nf nf pron vi aux prt sec
 ""The jaguar has been coming around all the time.""
- 17 *Yama tao kibana amani*
 yama tao ka- na+F -bana ama -ni
 thing shoot COMIT AUX FUT SEC BKG+F
 nf result aux sec
 ""I will shoot it.""

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18 *Yama te kayawarima na ati nematamonane*
 yama tee ka- yawa -rima na ati na -himata -mona -ne
 thing 2PL.S COMIT be upset NEG.IMP+F AUX say AUX FP.N+M REP+M BKG+M
 nf pron vt aux vt aux

'"Don't be afraid of what will happen if the jaguar is killed," he said.'

19 *Yama aawa nibana amani ati nematamonane*
 yama a- awa na+F -bana ama -ni ati na -himata -mona -ne
 thing DUP see AUX FUT SEC BKG+F say AUX FP.N+M REP+M BKG+M
 nf result aux sec vt aux

'"I want to see it."

20 *Faya yobe , yobe katise yobe bobi kase*
 faya yobe , yobe ka- tisa+M yobe bobi ka- na -kosa+M
 so thatch thatch COMIT undo thatch slit COMIT AUX middle
 conj nm nm vt nm vt aux

yobe , yama hoti ya yama karayawematamonane
 yobe , yama hoti ya yama karayawaha -himata -mona -ne
 thatch thing hole+F ADJU thing wait for FP.N+M REP+M BKG+M
 nm nf pn prt nf vt

'He took apart the thatch. He cut open the thatch. He waited for it at the hole.'

21 *Itarimatamonaka*
 ita -rI -himata -mona -ka
 sit raised surface FP.N+M REP+M DECL+M
 vi

'He sat there, up high.'

22 *Itari , ni ya kamematamona amane ,*
 ita -rI+M , ni ya ka -ma -himata -mona ama -ne ,
 sit raised surface to ADJU go/come back FP.N+M REP+M SEC BKG+M
 vi prt prt vi sec

tao hikanebanoho
 tao hi- ka- na -hiba -hino -ho
 shoot OC COMIT AUX FUT+M IP.N+M DUP
 vt aux

'As he sat there, it came back, and he shot it.'

23 *Yama imaremetemone amake , mera*
 yama ima -ra -hemete -mone ama -ke , mera
 thing be fat NEG FP.N+F REP+F SEC DECL+F 3PL.O
 nf vi sec pron

yoyobi kana toaro
 yo- yobi ka- na to- ha -haaro
 DUP go back and forth COMIT AUX CH AUX IP.E+F
 vi aux aux

'The jaguar that had been coming around all the time was not fat.'

24 *Tao hikane me ye kawemetemone me*
 tao hi- ka- na+M me ye ka- na -waha -hemete -mone me
 shoot OC COMIT AUX 3PL.S yell COMIT AUX change FP.N+F REP+F 3PL.S
 vt aux pron vi aux pron

amani yome me nabiwa mati
 ama -ni yomee me na- ahaba -waha+F mati
 SEC BKG+F jaguar 3PL.S CAUS die change 3PL.S
 sec nm pron vt pron

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'He shot it. They yelled, because they had finally killed the jaguar.'

25 *Noko kowiwi*
 noko kowi -wi
 eye+M be deep DUP
 pn vi

'Its eyes were sunken.'

26 *Ino ta tokanematamona ahi , mera*
 ino taa to- ka- -na -himata -mona ahi , mera
 tooth protrude CH COMIT DUP FP.N+M REP+M then 3PL.O
 nm vi aux dem pron

yoyobi kanaba toari
 yo- yobi ka- na nahaba to- ha -haari
 DUP go back and forth COMIT AUX at night CH AUX IP.E+M
 vi aux aux

'It had protruding teeth, as it came to them at night.'

27 *Abawematamonaka waha*
 ahaba -waha -himata -mona -ka waha
 die change FP.N+M REP+M DECL+M now
 vi prt

'It finally died.'

28 *Me hikabamatate ?*
 me hi- kaba.NOM+M -mata -te
 3PL.S OC eat short time ?
 pron vt

'Did they eat it?'

29 *Faya me totokawa toemetemoneke fahi*
 faya me to- to- ka -waha to- ha -hemete -mone -ke fahi
 so 3PL.S DUP away go/come change CH AUX FP.N+F REP+F DECL+F then
 conj pron vi aux dem

yama me yete nabone mati , yome me
 yama me yete na -habone mati yomee me
 thing 3PL.S hunt AUX INT+F 3PL.S jaguar 3PL.O
 nf pron vt aux pron nm pron

kakanakome hia mati
 ka- ka- na- komeha hi- to- ha+F mati
 DUP COMIT CAUS be fearsome OC CH AUX 3PL.O
 vt aux pron

'Then they started going out hunting again, the ones who the jaguar had made afraid.'

30 *Yome me hikanakome me , yome me yome*
 yomee me hi- ka- na- komeha me , yomee me yomee
 jaguar 3PL.O OC COMIT CAUS be fearsome 3PL.O jaguar 3PL jaguar
 nm pron vt pron nm pron nm

me horo nemetemone ahi
 me horo na -hemete -mone ahi
 3PL.S drag AUX FP.N+F REP+F then
 pron vt aux dem

'The jaguar had made them afraid. They dragged the jaguar.'

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31 *Yome bato imaremetemone wawa naba*
 yomee bato ima -ra -hemete -mone wa- waa na nahaba
 jaguar downstream be fat NEG FP.N+F REP+F DUP stand AUX at night
 nm nf vi vi aux

toineni

to- ha -ne -ni
 CH AUX CONT+F BKG+F
 aux

'The downstream jaguar was not fat. It was going around at night.'

32 *Fa kakeha abe e kabineke haro*
 faha ka -kI+F abe ee kaba -ne -ke haaro
 water go/come coming creature+F 1IN.S eat CONT+F DECL+F that one+F
 nf vi pn pron vt dem
 , *fa kakeharo bai me fehe bai*
 faha ka -kI -haaro , bahi me fehe , bahi
 water go/come coming IP.E+F thunder 3PL.POSS water+F thunder
 nf vi nm pron pn nm

me ka aba mati
 me ka aba mati
 3PL POSS fish sp 3PL
 pron prt nm pron

'We eat the creatures of the rain, the rain of the thunder, the *aba* fish of the thunder.'

33 *Bai me abe e kabineke haro*
 bahi me abe ee kaba -ne -ke haaro
 thunder 3PL.POSS creature+F 1IN.S eat CONT+F DECL+F that one+F
 nm pron pn pron vt dem
aba me me titisa hihararo
 aba me me ti- tisa hi- to- ha -ra -haaro
 fish 3PL.O 3PL.S DUP shoot with arrow OC CH AUX NEG IP.E+F
 nm pron pron vt aux

'We eat the creatures of the thunder. People didn't used to spear *aba* fish before.'

34 *Aba me yama naboka amake*
 aba me yama na- boka+F ama -ke
 fish sp 3PL.O thing CAUS enter water SEC DECL+F
 nm pron nf vt sec

'The thunder throws the *aba* fish in the water.'

35 *Bai me fe abe e kabineke*
 bahi me fehe abe ee kaba -ne -ke
 thunder 3PL.POSS water+F creature+F 1IN.S eat CONT+F DECL+F
 nm pron pn pn pron vt

'We eat the creatures of the water of the thunder.'

36 *Bai ati kite ebene amaka*
 bahi ati kita+M ebene ama -ka
 thunder voice be strong creature+M be DECL+M
 nm pn vi pn vc

'They are the creatures of the loud thunder.'

37 *Maka maka ebene amakara*
 maka maka ebene ama -ka -ra+M
 monster monster creature+M be DECL+M NEG
 nm nm pn vc

'They are not the creatures of the *maka* monster.'

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38 *Maka* *maka* *ebene* *amane* .
 maka maka ebene ama -ne
 monster monster creature+M be BKG+M
 nm nm pn vc

'They are the creatures of the *maka* monster.'

39 *Maka* *ebene* *amaka* .
 maka ebene ama -ka
 monster creature+M be DECL+M
 nm pn vc

'They are the creatures of the *maka* monster.'

40 *Maka* *ebene* *bokaka* , *bai* *me*
 maka ebene boka -ka , bahi me
 monster creature+M enter water DECL+M thunder 3PL.POSS
 nm pn vi nm pron

ihi

ihi

because of+F

post

'The creatures of the *maka* monster go into the water because of the thunder.'

41 *Yama* *aba* *me* *kakawina* *yokana* *amani* .
 yama aba me ka- ka- wina yokana ama -ni
 thing fish sp 3PL.POSS DUP COMIT live true be BKG+F
 nf nm pron pn adj vc

'The *maka* monster lives with the *aba* fish.'

42 *Hiyama* , *hiyama* *ota*
 hiyama , hiyama otaa
 white-lipped peccary white-lipped peccary 1EX.S
 nm nm pron

kabatasibanake

kaba -tasa+F -bana -ke *hari*
 eat again FUT DECL+F haari
 vt dem

'We will eat white-lipped peccaries again.'

43 *E* *e* *amake* *hiyama* .
 ee ee ama -ke hiyama
 1IN 1IN.COMPL be DECL+F white-lipped peccary
 pron pron vc nm

'The white-lipped peccary is a person.'

44 *E* *amani* *hiyama* , *awi* .
 ee ama -ni hiyama , awi
 1IN.COMPL be BKG+F white-lipped peccary tapir
 pron vc nm nm

'The white-lipped peccary is a person, also the tapir.'

45 *Awi* *e* *e* *korimari* *yokana* *amake* *faro* *awi* .
 awi ee ee korimari yokana ama -ke faaro awi
 tapir 1IN 1IN.POSS spirit true be DECL+F that+F tapir
 nm pron pron pn adj vc dem nm

'The tapir is the spirit of people.'

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46 *Awi owa oke ha owa ta*
 awi o- awa o- ke haa owa taa
 tapir 1SG.S see 1SG.S DECL+F DEM 1SG contrast
 nm vt prt dem pron prt

'I myself have seen the tapir.'

47 *Hiyama me inamati mowa hinemetemone*
 hiyama me inamati mowa hi- na -hemete -mone
 white-lipped peccary 3PL.O spirit fight OC AUX FP.N+F REP+F
 nm pron nm vt aux

okobi me na hiamaro me amani
 o- ka abi me ati na hi- to- ha -hamaro me ama -ni
 1SG.POSS POSS father 3PL.O say AUX OC CH AUX FP.E+F 3PL.O SEC BKG+F
 nm pron vt aux pron sec

'A spirit made the white-lipped peccaries run, my father used to say.'

48 *Awa kori yaboha tama neno hiyama me*
 awa kori yabo+F tama na -hino hiyama me
 tree naked+F be long hold onto AUX IP.N+M white-lipped peccary 3PL.O
 nf pn vt vt aux nm pron

kosi nematamona na hiemarika ahi
 kosi na -himata -mona ati na hi- to- ha -himari -ka ahi
 flail AUX FP.N+M REP+M say AUX OC CH AUX FP.E+M DECL+M then
 vt aux aux aux dem

'It whipped the peccaries with a long peeled stick, he used to say.'

49 *Hiyama yawa me toa me komeha me*
 hiyama yawa me to- ha+F me komeha+F me
 white-lipped peccary enemies 3PL.S CH be 3PL.S be fearsome 3PL.O
 nm nf pron vc pron vi pron

inamati rewe nematamona okobi aati
 inamati rewe na -himata -mona o- ka abi a- ati
 spirit wave AUX FP.N+M REP+M 1SG.POSS POSS father DUP say
 nm vt aux nm vt

toemari
 to- ha -himari
 CH AUX FP.E+M
 aux

'The spirit waved the stick at the stirred up peccaries that were fearsome, my father used to say.'

50 *Me tabori inimaro Bowata weye*
 me tabori ini -maro Bowata weye
 3PL.POSS place+F name+F FP.E+F (woman's name) carry
 pron pn pn npropf vt

nineti Awa Iti
 na -ne -tee.NOM Awa Iti
 AUX CONT+F HAB (woman's name)
 aux npropf

'Bowata has the name of their place, Awa Iti.'

51 *Awa Iti abemetemone hinamaroke*
 Awa Iti abe -mete -mone ati hi- na -hamaro -ke
 (name of place) inhabitant+F FP.N+F REP+F say OC AUX FP.E+F DECL+F
 npropf pn vt

'He said they live at Awa Iti.'

