

The Bat  
by Edward Riggs

1. no'ka tótseha éhmóheehtséhoono hováhne  
Once long ago they met, animals.  
Once long ago the animals met.
2. naa mato hapo'e móhmóheehtséhevōhe vé'késeho tséohkèhetaa'eame'hávōse  
And also likewise they met, birds those who fly.  
And also likewise birds, those who fly, met.
3. naa móséškanetsénoonáhe móséstō'sevéseéetse'òhtséhēhe  
And bat was also going to go to  
And a bat was also going to go to
4. tséhmóheehtséstovetse  
where there was a meeting.  
the meeting.
5. éstatséhe'òhtséhoo'o hováhne tséhmóheehtsetsése  
He went to animals where they were meeting.  
He went to where the animals were meeting.
6. hováhne éstséhetaesesto néśáahováhévēhe névé'késéheve  
Animals told him, "You are not an animal. You are a bird."  
The animals told him, "You are not an animal. You are a bird."
7. tatséhe'òhtséstse vé'késeho tséhmóheehtsévōse  
Go over to birds where they are meeting!"  
Go to where the birds are meeting!"
8. éxhestóhehoo'o móséškanetsénoonáhe  
\*he was told, bat.  
the bat was told.
9. naa épéhéva'e éxhetóhoono  
And, "That's good," he told them.  
"Well, that's good," he told them.
10. náhtaévatséhe'òhtse vé'késeho tséhmóheehtsévōse éxhéhoo'o  
"I'll go to birds where they are meeting," he said,  
"I'll go to where the birds are meeting," said

móséškanetsénoonáhe  
bat.  
the bat.

11. éstatséhe'òhtséhoo'o móséškanetsénoonáhe tséhmóheeohtsetsése  
\*He went to, bat, where they were meeting,  
The bat went to where the birds were meeting.

vé'késeho  
birds.

12. naa hánaháóhe tséstáho'eòhtsése énéxhósepéohehoo'o  
And over there when he arrived he was again rejected.  
And when he arrived there he was rejected again.

13. tatséhe'òhtséstse hováhne tséhmóheeohtsévòse  
"Go over to animals where they are meeting!  
"Go to where the animals are meeting!

14. nésáavé'késéhévéhe néhováheve éxhestóhehoo'o  
You are not a bird. You are an animal," he was told.  
You are not a bird. You are an animal," he was told.

15. éhne'evaaseohtséhoo'o  
He came away.  
He left.

16. naa náme'tatóněšévémáse  
And "What should I do?  
"Well, what in the world should I do?

17. tósa'e náho'xéstáhēmáse éxhešetanóhoo'o  
Where do I belong?" he thought.  
Where do I belong?" he wondered.

18. tá'sé=hótáhtse náhováheve  
"I thought I was an animal,  
"I thought I was an animal,

19. naa vé'késo náhetane  
and 'bird' I am called.  
but I am called a bird.

20. naa tséhešésáavé'késéhévèhéto  
And since I am not a bird,  
But since I am not a bird,

21. tósa'e náho'xéstáhēmáse  
where do I belong?

where in the world do I belong?

22. násáaxaehéne'enōhe  
I just do not know."  
I just don't know."
23. tsé'tóhe hóhta'áhēō'o éhešenèhetóšěše  
This story thusly lies (is told that way).  
That's how this story is told.
24. tósa'e ésáaho'xéseotséheséstse móséškanetsénoonáhe  
Someplace he does not belong, bat.  
The bat doesn't belong anywhere.
25. mó'òhkéheéseveahtoešenáhēhe éšeēva  
That must be why he hides in daytime.  
That must be why he hides in the daytime.
26. tósa'e heva ma'tāā'e heva véhpotsēva éohkeahtoešenaséstse  
Someplace maybe in forest or leaves he is said to hide.  
Someplace, maybe in the forest or in leaves, he is said to hide.
27. tósa'e móho'nóhkeéeamēhnéstse táhta  
Someplace he doesn't go around in open.  
He doesn't go around anywhere in the open.
28. naa hena'háanehe énehe'éstóšěše  
And that's all. It is thusly told.  
And that's how the story is told.

Freer Translations:

8. ... the bat was told.  
11. The bat went to where the birds were meeting.

Text Information:

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