

In a shorter *Haida* myth the Geese tire of carrying their brother-in-law, Raven, and drop him over the sea; Raven sprinkles sand, lands on Rose Spit, recuperates and travels on (MAM 8:236).

14. Coyote Imitates Magpie (Bungling Host)

Coyote lives near Magpie

Coyote's powers become winter berries

Berries disappear

Magpie dives for fish

Coyote imitates Magpie, drowns

Coyote was living near Magpie who had many children. Coyote himself had five. In the winter they were starving. There was just enough camas left for the children. Coyote went out and consulted his powers. One of them said, "I'm hungry too. I'll be serviceberries, there will be a lot." Coyote went in and said, "Go get the camas. We ought to eat. Then the sack will be absolutely empty."

When he said this his family looked out and saw many serviceberries. Mole, Coyote's wife, shared the camas with Coyote and her own children, as well as with Magpie, his wife and their children. Then there was nothing left.

The next morning all went before breakfast to gather serviceberries. They saw many, but each time there was a good patch Coyote said, "No, don't pick them yet, there will be much better ones." Finally he said, "Now pick here." But there were no berries. Coyote had done this to fool them by means of his powers.

Then Mole and Mrs. Magpie became angry. Coyote only laughed at them. "You are crazy. You should know we never have berries in winter," he told them.

They went home. Magpie went off alone. At night he came back with something tied up in his blanket. Coyote said, "What have you there?" He did not answer. He told one of the children to get water. They cooked what was in the blanket and ate. They gave Coyote none. He said, "At least you could give us some broth to drink. How did you get it anyway?"

Magpie said, "I made a hole in the ice, then another not far away. I dived into one with a fishnet and came out the other with my net full of small fish."

Coyote said, "I will try it too." He made two holes, took a net and dived. He came up with a few very small fish in the net. He wanted more and dived again. He could not find the hole to come up out of. He drowned. The next day Mole looked for him. She saw where

he had dived. She saw the little catch he had made. Farther on she saw the other hole. "He must have dived and did not come up again," she said.

So the road ends.

The winter berries theme occurs in *Shuswap*, *Thompson* and *Nootka* mythology:

Coyote produces winter salmon and winterberries; Grizzly Bear Woman eats up her stores of provisions with him; Coyote makes winter again; Grizzly Woman starves (*Shuswap* MAM 4:631; *Thompson* MAM 12:312; MAFLS 6:28).

In the *Nootka* myth Tehmann's wife is able to provide an inexhaustible quantity of berries in winter for her husband's guests (IS 103).

The Bungling Host episode, the imitation of the dive for fish, has a widespread distribution, although not in connection with the winterberries episode as in the Coeur d'Alene myth.

Coyote unsuccessfully imitates Kingfisher in myths of the *Sanpoil* (JAF 46:177), *Thompson* (MAFLS 6:41; MAFLS 11:6; MAM 12:206, 301), *Sahaplin* (MAFLS 6:165), *Kutenai* (BBAE 59:9), *Shuswap* (MAM 11:628) and *Columbia River* tribes (Idaho Farmer, Sept. 18, 1930).

Coyote imitates Fishhawk in *Sahaplin* (MAFLS 11:165), *Nez Percé* (MAFLS 11:183) and *Wasco* (PAES 2:270) mythology.

Elsewhere in *Sahaplin* lore (MAFLS 11:167) Coyote imitates Beaver; in a *Nez Percé* myth (MAFLS 11:183), Otter; and in a *Shuswap* myth, Kingfisher, Fishhawk and Bald-headed Eagle (MAM 4:739).

A *Quinault* story relates that Bluejay's children are almost drowned when Bluejay has them imitate the children of Sawbill Duck, Land Otter and Kingfisher (MAM 4:86, 88, 89). In a *Chinook* myth Bluejay all but drowns his sister's children as a result of his command that they imitate Duck (BBAE 20:179).

In *Coast Salish* mythology Coyote imitates Fish Duck, Bluejay imitates Fish Duck, Bluejay's children imitate Fish Duck's children, Bluejay's children dive for trout for Bear (MAFLS 27:249, 344, 5, 349). Raven is almost fatally unsuccessful in imitating Water Ousel in a *Southern Puget Sound* myth (UWPA 3:39), and in a *Quilwute* myth (CUCA 12:39, 109) Raven and his wife fail in attempting to dive like Fish Duck and his wife (CUCA 12:39, 109).

Mink has to be rescued when he imitates his wife, Eagle, or Hawk (*Lower Fraser River* IS 44; *Comox* CUCA 2:71; *Kwakiwilt* CUCA 2:155). O'mal has the same experience when he imitates Kingfisher (*Nezettee* CUCA 2:239; IS 177).

A distribution list of Kingfisher's diving may be found in ARBAE 31:699.

References to additional Bungling Host episodes connected with water among the *Osgae*, *Shoshoni*, *Zuni*, *Wishosh* and *Yana* may be found in BBAE 59:294.

15. Coyote and Badger

Badger and Coyote families live together

Coyote kills Badger

Mrs. Badger packs up and leaves with her children

Youngest Coyote goes along carrying Coyote's favorite bucket

Coyote follows

Mrs. Badger throws back two nits which become two little girls

Coyote forgets his chase watching the girls play

Girls become stars

Badger and Coyote lived together. Coyote had five children. I don't know how many Badger had, but he had many. As Coyote was wandering aimlessly along suddenly he thought, "I am going to kill Badger because he is fat." He killed him. When Badger's wife learned of it she was sad and said, "We'll leave here."

They got everything ready, blankets and food. They put the bucket in a sack. They packed everything. Mrs. Badger told the youngest Coyote to carry the bucket. Thus she kidnapped the youngest Coyote. They had gone a long way before Coyote found it out.

"I'm going to track them." He said to Mole, his wife, "Why didn't you stop our youngest?" "How did I know it?" she asked. He said, "I am going to beat them if I ever catch up with them." He went. Far he went. As far as he could see they went ahead. He called out, "You are going to die. I am going to beat you! Turn back!"

They did not look back. He nearly caught up. He cried, "Throw down that bucket. When she said to you, 'Take it!' you knew it was the one I like best, that is the one she took from me. You are going to die."

He came close. The mother picked two nits from her hair. She threw them back. They became two little girls, tiny beings they were. They held each other's hands. They played and slapped each other. One licked her hands and slapped the other. Coyote laughed. "Go on, slap her back!" he urged.

He forgot his chase watching them and laughing at them. He laughed until his eyes became red. The children made a noise and went up to the sky where they are now stars.

The only close parallel found was a *Columbia River* myth:

Coyote kills his neighbor, Badger, for food; Mrs. Badger kills his wife and three sons; she takes her children and the youngest Coyote and lights a fire; its smoke carries them to the sky; they become stars; Coyote is left alone (Idaho Farmer, Sept. 18, 1930).

Myths of other tribes are analogous in so far as the actual deed of killing a neighbor, relative or close friend is concerned, but with this any comparison abruptly ends.

16. Calling the Deer

Coyote lies starving

Parts of deer appear. Coyote wishes for more

Coyote discovers Woodtick and taunts her

Coyote visits Woodtick

Woodtick sets places for two, but does not invite Coyote to eat

Woodtick and Coyote live together

Woodtick calls deer

Coyote kills Woodtick

Coyote calls deer

Deer come, but run away; all the meat runs away in the form of deer

Woodtick settles in another home and has all the deer

Coyote starves at Woodtick's old home

Coyote had a house. He was starving. He lay warming his back at the fire. "I wonder what I will have to eat." For many days he had not eaten. Suddenly he smelled something. "My blanket must be burning." He felt around for what was burning. He saw half a deer foot lying there by the fire. He wondered why it was only a half, why the whole thing was not there. He chewed on it and ate it all. He lay down again. The next morning as he lay there the same thing happened, but this time a whole foot was there. "Thank you!" said Coyote. He chewed it all up, even the bones.

The next day a whole shoulder lay there. He got water and cooked it, served it and ate it all. He even drank the broth. Nothing was left. "Thank you, I've had plenty," he said.

The next morning he heard something fall. There lay the half of a deer cut from neck to tail. This time he cooked half of the piece thinking to save the next for the morrow. The next day he decided to find out where the meat came from. He pulled a corner of his blanket over his eyes. The other half of the deer fell down. He looked and saw Woodtick. She said, "Don't look at me." Coyote said, "Oh, it's you who haven't even a neck."