Raven Tales

Traditional Quileute Stories of Báyak, the Trickster
Co-Published by

Illustrated by Carol McAlarne & Nola Johnston

Compiled by Vickie Jensen and Jay Powell for the Quilcene Tribe

Told by Fred Wooten, Sr.

Traditional Quilcene Stories of Bayak, The Trickster

Raven Tales:
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Quileute Monsters

The Words and the Drawings
The stories in this book are written so as to keep the rhythm and drama our old people used when telling stories to children and grandchildren. They’d repeat the important parts. They’d imitate the noises that animals would make. Some tales included songs. Storytelling was never dull!

The drawings in this book show animals walking and behaving like humans, just as they did at the Time of Beginnings. They’re wearing the carved masks and button blanket regalia of the modern Northwest Coast Culture Area. The masks reflect the sense of transformation at a potlatch ceremony when dancers put on their regalia and become Raven or Eagle or Wolf.
Learning from T'xkéster Stories
Learn from Wise Old Raven, just as Quihewi Children did long, long ago.

We hope you'll enjoy our Raven Stories. Listen to them over and over again.

encountered them in the woods.

shouldn't go into the woods alone. A few stories tell about kindly giants or monsters who could actually lend you their power if you

Not all of our traditional stories are about Raven. Some are about monsters. These tales are told to us as scary reminders that children
Raven stories were told by Indian groups along the Pacific Coast from Washington to Alaska. The Gwanelete (Gwanelete) Indians, who were the southernmost tribes whose mythology included a Raven figure, lived in the area.

Cultural Area:
Northwest Coast

Reservations
Quileute

Cultural Area
Northwest Coast

Raven and Dish River
at La Push
Quilute Life on the Northwest Coast

Homelike family would send along food for the journey. When they left, the Quilute family would send along food for the journey. When they left, they would go

Valued on the Northwest Coast at any time, and important visitors could always expect to be well fed. Often when they left to go

polishes were extravagant, and dishes were usually made of food, money, or other valuables. They would, in the last family owned.

Chiefs were held for witnessing these events with gifts of food, money, or other valuables. and important people also joined in family histories and watched dances while native cedar masks and elaborately carved

death, coming-of-age, or initiations. Polishes sometimes lasted for days, during which time there was great feasting. Dining chairs

Native ceremonial life was particularly remarkable. Chiefs hosted great feasts, called polishes, to mark important events like a birth.

Everything every person needed for life on the Northwest Coast for housing, clothing, basketmaking, masks, storage boxes, canoes, and household objects. The sea and the cedar tree provided almost everything. The sea and the cedar tree provided almost everything. The sea and the cedar tree provided almost everything.

Lying on the edge of the coastal forest also meant that the people could harvest the great red cedar trees which they used

as a rich soil, so they didn't have to spend all their energy just growing food. Instead, they had time to become skilled artists, carvers, and

culture area is easily described by two words—sea and cedar. The Subalpine Coast of the Pacific coast enjoyed nature that people to have

The Northwest Coast is a land of diverse resources. Fish, rain forests, and fish.琉璃

Kwakwala (now Kwakwala), Haida, Tsimshian, and Tlingit, K'wakwala, now Kwakwala), Haida, Tsimshian, and Tlingit, Kwakwala, now Kwakwala), Haida, Tsimshian, and Tlingit. Our neighbors include the Makah, the Nooks, now called Nuu-chah-nulth, and the Coast Salish groups. Further north are the

all part of the Northwest Coast Culture area, where stations along the Pacific coast from Northern California down to Skagway, Alaska. There lived several great cultures, more spread out than the others, and lived in great cedar-planked longhouses near the ocean. We're like other native people on the Northwest Coast, our Quilute ancestors didn't migrate, live in large groups, or live in large groups. live in large groups.
Words into our modern day lives.

and many others who documented our language and culture are all part of our efforts to keep our heritage strong and to blend the old

Williamson in To The Country Roads, our everyday speech. There are also languages of the old farmers, and others traditional foods. This book of okay stories
collector in and Quileute Woods into everyday speech. Some Quileute continue to fish for a living, only now we use high-tech boats

today very few people can still speak our Quileute language, but we have set up education programs to encourage all ages and

instead of cedar canoes to go after salmon, halibut, and crab. Most other villages work in offices or for local businesses.

James Island.

sources of food mainly in the early days. But back then villages at La Push were lucky—they could return to the safety of nearby

are adjacent to the area of nearby

woods. These streams were stock ponds, used to keep all the salmon from escaping. These streams

in warmer months. Families would still put into 20 or 30 salmon, much of which supplied their lard just as when the fishermen

Word, and the old, and then drop them into the box. The water would boil immediately—

to the cherry, and then lemon, and lemon drop them into the box. The water would boil immediately.

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Williamson in To The Country Roads, our everyday speech. There are also languages of the old farmers, and others traditional foods. This book of okay stories
say ch-e-e-钟 (as in road)
say kw-anh-钟
say pl-kum-钟
say p-a-n-钟
say p-a-l-钟

This guide should help you pronounce the Quileute words in these stories. Just remember that an accented mark over a vowel means that another in our language.

While all those extra markings may look really strange, they're actually very helpful because they distinguish one kind of sound from another. What we do in Quileute is different from English. As a result, there are eight different "k" sounds in Quileute. We write them like 'k', 'K', 'k', 'K', 'x', 'X', 'x', and 'X'. And while the native languages of the Northwest Coast are heard in real English come from all over the world to study them because they're so
Raven and Bear

Bayak and Ákil
Raven was surprised, Bear was going to make oil for dipping the fish.

and surely roasting his feet by the fire, he sat down by the fire and his feet up on the stick.

Then Akill got his box, his chair. He sat down by the fire, put his feet up on the stick.

and he put the straight stick across these pronged sticks.

He drove them right into the ground, one on each side of the fire.

And he drove the pronged sticks

He came back with two sticks with prongs and a straight one.

Bear went outside to get something.

Akill started bearing the dish, something to put in front of Raven.

Raven watched him, every move he made.

For Akill, the Raven.

Bear went upstairs to get a bunch of dished fish to prepare.

He told his Mrs. Bear to fix a big dish.

Bear planned a nice feed for his guests a real feast.

One time Raven went up to visit his old friend Akill, the bear.

The Raven is called D yak and the bear's name is Akill, in Qilute.

how Raven got his black, curbed-up feet.

I'm going to tell you the story of Raven and Bear.
Finally Akill got through with roasting his feet for oil, and

...Three times over he burned his feet by the fire

...so he could get the grease off his feet

...and his feet, and everything

...was because bear had so much grease in his body,

...The reason bear was getting grease off his feet

...amazed at what Akill was doing.

...Bear watched.

...with his dried fish and even some to take home.

...Bear said, "Ah-uh-uh-uh, we'll have a lot of oil for Raven to eat

...and the pan is half full already."

..."Oh, yes" she said, "It's dripping like everything

...Akill asked Mrs. Bear, "Is the oil coming down?"
"I'll watch him, he's sure going to do what I did."

OLD BEAR said to HIMSELF.

Pretty soon Raven put two plucked sticks up and a straight one crosswise.

So Akiel watched.

He knew Baypak always likes to copy what others do.

He knew Baypak was going to do the same thing he had done.

Akiel sized watching Baypak, because he knew OLD Raven.

"We're going to need Mr. Bear."

And he told his wife to build a fire.

Baypak got what little fish he had, just a few.

So later Akiel came down river to visit Raven.

OLD BEAR says, "Sure, I'll come.

"I'm going to invite you to come down to my place. I got some dried fish, too."

Then Baypak said to Akiel,

"You bet, I'll tell Mrs. Baypak what I ate."

OLD Raven agreed. He said,

how good OLD BEAR feels you and everything.

"You take this home to your wife, so you can tell her.

And after Baypak got through, OLD BEAR told him,
to start roasting them,
and pull his feet on the crosspiece by the fire
get a box and set down,
And sure enough, Breyf set down.
And that's why today, Raven's feet are curled up and black.

And it never works.

You ALWAYS try to copy what the others do.

MRS. BAYAK said, "That's when I told you, old man."

His feet began to curl up and drip up and creek and everything.

"Ah-huh-shih, ho-ho-ho-ho!"

OLD BAYAK cried out, "Ah-huh-shih, ho-ho-ho-ho!"

"No, no, there's no oil coming at all," she told him.

"So she put more wood on the fire, so "I'll heat up my feet"

"and the oil will start dripping!"

"So BAYAK said, "Put more fire on."

Your feet are just freezing blacker and blacker."

She said, "No-o-o, old man, there's not a drop."

Soon he asked MRS. RAVEN, "Look, oil coming down?"
So there was plenty, more than enough to feed Old Raven.
And he lived and came up with two more skelphead.

Mrs. Bushyduck said, "Now it's my turn."
She slid down in the saltwater and came up with two big skelphead fish.
And she did.
K'ld told his wife, "You go on there into the water a ways and start diving."

"K'ld told his wife, "You find out how he gets his fish."
And Raven went on to follow Bushyduck.
So I can do the same thing."

But Bayark was curious and said to himself, "I'll sneak out and see how they catch fish."
And he told Raven, "Stay in here. We'll come back in a little while and bring the food."

"K'ld told Mrs. Bushyduck, "Let's go out and get him some fish."

So he gets called on to him, and Bayark went inside.
We'll prepare food for him."
"Right away," K'ld says, "Call him in, that's your grandchilder.
They went back in and said, "There's a man sliding down outside there with a big nose."

When they saw a man with a great big curved nose.
I see who was making that funny noise.

The girls from Bushyduck's house went outside to see who was out there.
That's the way they got their attention.

"He said, "KeepEE-keeEE-keeEE."
So be slanted making noise.

Finally, Raven got tired of watching to be noticed and invited in.
He sat outside for quite awhile.
He got up, here, pulled he stayed outside K'ld's house.

One time Bayark went over to visit K'ld, the Bushyduck.
All the remainning was the bones.

She did. She went out to the canoe, but the place was empty.

He told Mrs. Bayrak, "Go out and get that place that's in the canoe.

When he finally reached his home,

He ate all the fish that were for Mrs. Bayrak.

But while Raven was traveling home, he got hungry again and started eating.

Mrs. "I'd give him the rest of the fish to take to his wife. Mrs. Bayrak.

When he finished and got ready to go back home,

And he got K'etu full.

Bayrak started eating and crying.

A dish with two big sleekheads.

When she got it cooked, she put it in front of him,

Mrs. K'etu came and prepared the food for him.

He rushed back to the house to make-believe he was still there all the time.

Bayrak was hiding in the bush, watching.
Mrs. Bâyak brought the empty plate into the house. She was suspicious. She wondered what had happened.

"I wonder why Fishduck gave me that empty plate to take home?" Mrs. Bâyak didn't say anything.

But Old Raven was wily, so he said,

Some time later, K'ld, the Fishduck, came to visit Raven.

Bâyak told his wife, "Get some food for our visitor." But Mrs. Raven knew they had no fish. "How are we going to get some?" she whispered to her husband. He said, "I know how, I know how. I'm smart. Don't worry. We'll get fish for him.

So they went down to the beach, to the water.

K'ld had a hunch that Bâyak was going to try his way of fishing. So he decided to hide and watch.
Bâyák pushed her some more, but she couldn't stay down in the saltwater.

She just floated.

She tried again, but she couldn't dive down.

She could see there were fish down there.

All she could do was put her head under the water.

But she couldn't go down.

Bâyák started to push her, push her.

She tried to dive down deep.

"Just go out there, Bâyák told her, "I'll come alone and help you.""

"I don't see how I can do it."

"I can't do that."

But Mrs. Bâyák said, "Don't do that."

"You go out there, start diving, and you'll catch fish."

Old Raven told his wife,
Old Raven was going to fly there.
He laughed because he knew
He laughed about Bayak trying to fish by diving.
All the way he laughed and laughed.
Rid prepared himself to go back home.

They had nothing to feed their guest.
So they didn't catch anything.
Finally, Bayak had to give up.

He was laughing and laughing.
Rid, the Pheasuck, was watching.

But he only splashed the water by kicking it.
Again he tried to dive into the ocean.
Nothing happened. He just bounced right up.
He took a little jump and hit the water.

Finally, Bayak lost his patience. "Let me try," he said.
Raven and Mole

Bakax and Patxawol
There was so much it would last for three or four days.

full of this K'yal to take home.

When they got through eating, Mr. and Mrs. Mole gave them a basket

and Mr. Tender, very tender.

It's a favorite food of Bayback because it's nice and sweet and soft.

So Mr. and Mrs. Parsawol prepared the visitors a big dish of K'yal.

He can go under the ground and die up like K'yal.

The reason Mole can get them is because he's an underground person.

You can still see a field of carrots growing south of Forks.

K'yal is like a small onion. It grows underground in prairies.

This time they gave the visitors what is called carrots or K'yal in our language.

When they got here, Mr. and Mrs. Mole prepared food for them.

One time Bayback went to visit Mole. He took along his wife, Mrs. Bayback.

Mole is called Parsawol in Quilute.

When all these animals were human beings.

This story is about Mole and Bayback, the Raven, a long time ago.
here and there.
Hop around.

He did that to fool Mrs. Bayak.
He wanted to make tracks like the currents; like there had been a lot of currents.

Then he jumped out of the canoe and started hopping around on the shore.

He ate so much canned he swelled up.
He got awfully full.

Oh-in-hi, he used both hands. He wanted to finish it in a hurry.

Mrs. Raven said, hidden in the bush for a long time,

"Old Raven shouted, "Don't you come back until I call you!"
And she hid run and hide.
"You run for the bushes and hide. I'll stay right here."

Finally, as they hit the shore, Bayak told his wife:

"Keep paddling, keep paddling, he shouted at his wife.

They still kept paddling around, just keep paddling and head for shore."

"Don't turn your head around! Just keep paddling and head for shore."

"The enemy's after us—three, four, five, six. He told Mrs. Bayak."

"Keep paddling, keep paddling, he shouted at his wife.

He started shooting arrows.

Mrs. Raven was paddling in the front of the canoe with her back to Bayak.

White Bayak was paddling down the river, Bayak got hungry again.

While paddling down the river, Bayak got hungry again.
So Mrs. Raven had to go home hungry.

And finally they left.

"I tried to do my best just to keep them away, but they are all...."

"The enemies are all. There's nothing left."

"They look everywhere," Bayak said.

"Where did all the "ala go?" she asked.

"They beat me up so my head aches. Even my stomach aches."

"Look at them. There was a lot of enemies."

"There's no comparison to my guards."

Bayak said, "Ha-ha, you know nobody's necks look like mine."

She said, "Mr. Those necks look just like yours, old man."

She saw all of the "ala gone and got suspicious of her selfish husband."

When Mrs. Bayak returned, she looked in the canoe.

"Where?" They asked."

"Finally, Bayak told his wife that it was safe to come out of the bushes."

"They left," he said.
Báyak and Pákʷad

Raven and Skatefish
He was sure he could hit Old Sketchish.

"Old Raven, he massaged the spear to give it power. He was eager to show off."

"OK, go ahead and try."

So they both took their spears and started circling around each other.

"Oy, you think you can hit me, Raven? You won't know it!"

"Ha! Ha! You don't know me. I can fool any enemy!"

Then he launched Sketchish, saying, "You're so tall and wide, nobody could miss you."

"And I'm so fast, nobody can hit me."

"I'm really good with my spear."

"When Payak saw Payak, the Sketchish, he boasted as he always does."

I'm going to tell you a story about Payak, the Raven, and Payak, the Sketchish. In those days, everybody carried their spear for hunting or to protect themselves in case back when they used to be people a long time ago.
Now it's my turn to throw the spear.

You missed me, Old Man Pak.

He was thin as a willow berry leaf so the spear passed by.

He numbed the silex's, showing only the thinnest part of his body.

But Skalish was watching for Raven's throw.

He drew the spear.

Old Bayfork didn't hesitate.

Pak crouched and got ready.
So Bayack, the braider, got beer again.


He hit Bayack high on the leg.

Shkeshish wailed until Raven came back down, and then he threw his spear.

He was so sure of himself.

"He jumped up, saying, "Kee-ke-ke-kee-kee, you missed me!"

Old Raven thought the spear was coming.

But Pakwak made a false lhow. He just pretended he was going to throw the spear.

He was getting ready to jump when Old Shkeshish drew the spear.

Pakwak started to hop around.

And I'm just as thick as a log.

"I'm pretty smart, " you can't hit me," he bragged.

Bayack wondered, He'd watched how Shkeshish had moved.
Bayak and Pixtadax

Raven and Eagle
That's how she cooked the haliu for dinner.

She put the hot rock into the box and the water started boiling right away.

Then she picked up a hot rock from the fire, using her special wooden tongues, water in a steam box.

Baypak watched as Mrs. Eagle cooked. First she put some of the dried fish and some.

Raven noticed that Pixiedax had a lot of dried haliu. Lots of fish.

Right away, Eagle told his wife to fix a big meal for the visitor, Baypak.

One time Baypak went up the river to the home of Pixiedax.

I'm gonna tell you the story of Baypak, the Raven, and Pixiedax, the Eagle. Pixiedax means "light fall" in our language.
But Old Raven was sure this time.

"They might be fooling you, as usual," she warned him.

Mrs. Dayak insisted on him. She insisted on another of Old Raven's plans.

He felt so many because he was a special bird.

When he got home, he told his wife, "Mrs. Eagle's got a lot of baubles.

He hurried home, back down the river.

Dayak couldn't wait to try Pixiedax's way of fishing.


I'll ill take both hands because you'll have two big baubles.

"Then you can pull it up." When it gets jerked, then you got two on the line!

"When the line starts jerking, don't pull it up right away, "Eagle smiled and said. "Be sure and do it tighter.

"Dayak said to Eagle, "I think I'll try that."

"That's the way I get all my baubles."

"He's the secret ball I use on my hook. My children.

"He looks like he's been chewed up many times."

"Ha-ha" Eagle said. "Do you see my boy over there?"

"He decided to thank Dayak, to teach him a lesson.

Pixiedax knew Old Raven was always trying to copy others.

"You've got lots of fish. How did you get all those baubles?"

Before he left, Raven asked Eagle.

When they had eaten and were filled up, Pixiedax gave Dayak the lovelves to take home.
"Look at the line, Jack!"
"See, I told you there was a lot of ballast down there."
"See!" Bayek told his wife.
"It wasn't long until the horse started jerking.
Bayek let the line go way, way down.
Then he lowered him into the water for ballast.
Raven pull hooks on his son and led him to the fishing line.

But Raven wouldn't listen.

Mrs. Raven begged, "Pixieduck might be fooling you, old man!" she said.

That way he'd be sure to catch two big halibut.
Old Raven remembered when Eagle told him, not to pull up the line until it was moving.
Then he was going to be able to rest the fish.

When they got to the halibut grounds, Bayek told his boy to get ready.

Finally they all got in the canoe and started paddling.

And he scolded his boy calling him "to get them strong and ready."
In the morning, Bayek got ready to go. He woke his son up.

Again his wife said to him, "They might be fooling you, old man."
So tomorrow we'll go out early in the morning.

But Bayek insisted, "There's the only way we're going to have a lot of ballast.

"Don't you do it", Mrs. Bayek told him, "Don't you try that."

He told her the reason that Pixieduck caught so much ballast was because he used his own for ballast.
And they went home. They lost everything.

Somebody always fools you.

Mrs. Bevaka started to cry. "I told you, old man, I told you.

Finally he got it to the surface. And there was his boy—drowned.

"It's heavy," he said. "It's awful heavy. Those fish must be really big!

pulling

pulling

He started pulling.

and we'll have half the fish. Two fat fish on the line.

Bevaka said to his wife, "Now I'm going to pull it up.

Finally the line quit jerking.

"Don't pull it up until it stops moving."

—then he reminded her of what Pixtedax told him.
The old-time Quileute told of several different kinds of monsters—some were scary and did horrible things, some were tricky but often gave special powers to any human who met them. There were a lot of these monsters. Here are some of them, along with how to say them in the Quileute language:

- Ti-steel
- Cha-ya-parh
- Pah-say-sad
- Pah-say-sad
- Pah-say-sad
- Pah-say-sad
- Chase
- Poh-ohk-she-nah
- Klil-ohb
- Ta-rik-yed
- Dus-ske-yah

Quileute Monsters (optional section)
Other problem came up on the water.

The wind would drop dead. Khalil was another Quakey Giant lived in the forest. He moved help out a sudden storm came up or if any

 Anyone who saw Quakey Giant could not help himself with any of his giant's things because very strong. But anyone who looked at his

Tinkle said was a giant man, as big as half a tall fir tree. He lived in the woods and looked just like a normal man—only very large.

Daskyra would get them.

Parents would warn their children to be good or

cook the children and eat them.

was taking them. Once she got back to her house, she d

saw eyes with sticky pitch so they couldn't see where she

she covered her hair. Sometimes she'd cover their

shined them up and put them in the big woven basket

children out wandering alone or misbehaving. She would

help for hair and lived deep in the woods. If she caught

This horrible female monster had long strands of shiny
There were female giants, too. This woman lived in the sea, and anyone who saw her swimming knew that there was going to be tough water ahead. Anyone who looked at her face died on the spot.

This giant got his name because he always said, "Teas, las, las!" He lived in the woods near streams. He caught fish which his friends

which were three feet long and very sharp. Teas was so fast no one could outrun him, so it was best to be alert in the woods and see

Treas, first.
They lived into immense rocks and picked them up on the ocean with powerful claws. Occasionally, they dropped them along streams, beaches or rails where

earth as a great foundation. When he roared, gigantic chunks of ice broke off his Blue Glacier with a crash. "If Quline was killed!" cried his winds, the Thunderbird crash. When he unwind, water fell on

Tisial. His Quline name was Tisial. When Thunderbird dropped his wings, the Thunderbird roared. When he unwind, water fell on the Blue Glacier of Mt.

ike many other Northwestern coast native peoples, Quline's knew of Thunderbird who lived in a great lean on the Blue Glacier of Mt.

Tisial

that man into a champion elk hunter.

Chyayakapt, the helpful monster of the deep woods who hunted these tiny elk. If a Quline could spot him, Chyayakapt would make

Sometimes a hunter in the woods might get lucky enough to spot a tiny elk as small as a rabbit. If he did, he would look around for

Chyayakapt

expert basket maker.

This helpful monster woman lived around the village in thick bushes. She would teach any woman who caught sight of her to be an

Bakamikht. She could spin off anyone who saw her, making them thin and weak and

had better laugh on she would kill him. "Bakamikht was more kind," she lived in the garbage of the village and became the

These two mysterious women lived near Quline's villages. Babayasip was a dwarf who played tricks on people. Anyone who saw her
20 school books with accompanying language lapses. Worked together with village elders to produce the Quilcene dictionary, Quilcene: An Introduction to the Indians of Lummi, and nearly designd, Vickie photographed village life at LaPush, Day Observed, and recorded the Quilcene language and lifeways. Vickie and Jay

Vickie Jensen and Jay Powell have worked with the Quillewans for over four decades. As a photographer, writer and cultural

language and cultural traditions such as these Bayak stories.

Pen, Sarah Hines, Johnny Jackson, Oliver Jackson, Lena and Herb Fisher, Pansy Hudson and others, helped to preserve the Quilcene

Fred Woolworth, Sr., was one of the last Quillewans who told the stories of Bayak. "Old Man Woody," as he was affectionately known,

Project Collaborators