

Appendix 5: A Gossip Session transcribed

In the following text, transcribed from a Who's Who gossip session, the participants discuss the loose and dangerous behavior of a certain old woman. During this session most of the men were reduced to tearful laughter. The text is W 47 (P 137-142).

- M: Hlikel ismilbe 7ec'el noxtok ti yahnil P*****.
She quickly killed off F****'s wife, too.
- R: Mi la icam xa ti yahnil P*****.
So is F****'s wife already dead?
- CA: icam la a7a
Yes, she's dead.
- R: Kere.
Boy!
- M: Mi la mu ha7uk yok'al ti icam Loxa Cuc
Wasn't that at the same time Loxa Cuc died?
- CA: Mi mu7nuk ko7ol i7oc ta c'en xci7uk li Loxa Cuce ce7e.
Weren't she and Loxa Cuc buried at the same time?
- R: Muk' bu cka7i, ha7o batemon 7ox ta 7olon 7osil tah
I didn't hear about it; I was down in low country when

k'al icam Loxa Cuce.
Loxa Cuc died.
- CA: Mi la mu teuk xa ika7i tal ta 7olon 7osil 7uk 7un
Wasn't it also there in low country that I heard about it?
- J: K'usi zpas, mi cak' camel
What does she do? Is she a witch?
- CA: Yu7un ha7 tah sna7 xconvan ta balamil 7une.
It's just that she knows how to sell peoples' souls to
the Earth (Lord).
- M: ...Yu7un la ha7 sti7ohbe 7ec'el tah yahnil ta 7alel 7une,
In fact, it was she who was supposed to have witched away his wife,

yu7un icam xa tah 7une,
for she is in fact dead.

yu7un ha7 zk'elbe 7elav,
She just enjoyed her demise,

ha7 ti mu7yuk x7ik'e cava7i stuk 7une
Since she herself wasn't married

ha7 no7ox i7ak'bat yol 7une
She was just made pregnant.

CA: yu7un ha7 muk' x7ik'e
It was because she wasn't married (by him).

M: Yec no7ox i7ak'bat yol cava7i 7une
She was just given a child for nothing, you see.

Muk' bu i7ik'e 7une
He didn't marry her.

Yec'o ha7 nan ko7ol 7o iya7i 7un
That's why she was so displeased.

CA: Ha7 skrem ti mol C*** O**** ta nabencauk tah yahmul
It is the son of old C*** O**** from Nabencauk

tah me7el 7une
who was the old woman's lover.

Solel kremkrem tahmek ya7el li kreme.
The boy was very young indeed.

R: Krem to7ox pero vo7ne xa 7un.
He used to be young, but that was long ago.

CA: Pero 7ali me7el 7une, yu7un xa 7ox me7el 7un
But the old lady was already fairly old then.

Muk'tik xa 7onox skremotik ya7el 7un.
Her sons were already grown, in any case.

J: Hiii.
Oh.

CA: Va7i 7un, tah 7ali skrem tah mol C*** O**** ha7 krem to7ox
So, that son of old C*** O**** was still a boy then.

Isk'upin krem hkaxlan xkaltik tah me7el P*** 7une.
Old lady P*** desired a young ladino, as we say.

I7ayan hun xc'amal 7un.
A child was born to her (as a result).

Muk' xa xc'amal
The child is now grown.

Hutuk xa nan mu ko7oluk syihil xci7uk li7 7une.
He's almost as old, probably, as this guy here...

- M: 7oy xa yahnil tah xc'amal P*** a7a.
Yes, F****'s son has a wife already.
- CA: Va7i 7un, isa7 yahnil li7 ta Hobel 7une.
So anyway, he (F****) found a wife here in San Cristóbal.
- J: A Bweno
Oh.
- CA: Pero yu7un leklek li 7anz iyik' 7ec'el ya7el 7une.
But she was a good woman that he took away with him
(back to live in Nabencauk).
- Hna7tik mi yec ti yu7un ha7 iyak'be camel mi ixcon
Who knows if it's true that that old lady P*** gave
ta balamil k'u ca7al tah me7el P*** 7une,
her sickness or sold her soul to the Earth Lord, or
whatever.
- Pero xinulan.
But she was a ladina.
- Xinulan tah yahnile.
His wife was a ladina.
- R: isa7 yanz tah P*** yu7un krem to7ox.
Back before he was married, F**** got himself a mistress.
- Pero tah hmeme7tik 7une, me7el 7un.
But that old lady was already old.
- J: Ha7 me7el xa 7un.
Ah, so she was already old.
- R: Ispas sba ta z'iz'irin tah P*** 7une ti vo7ne 7une.
Yes, F**** became a young cock back then.
- Lek la yih 7inyeksyon yu7un tahmek li P*** 7une.
He was supposed to have had a good thick injection.
- Iyal to la 7un, li porkirya le7e, 7animal nox yih
She even said so: 'That disgusting guy --- his damn
sil 7at 7i 7animal nat
penis is terribly thick, and terribly long.
- Pero me7elon xa.
But I'm already an old woman.

7Ep xa koltak.
I already have many children.

Pero baz'i xita7et xa. Ikuc ku7un tahmek.
But I just arch my back up... I survived it well enough.

Baz'i xilahotik ya7el tahmek.
It seems as though one would die from it.

Baz'i lek szininet iyak' tahmek, xi la 7un
He just goes in snugly, indeed! ' she is supposed to
have said.

All: Ha ha ha ha!

CA: Ilah to svok'an baketik xi la.
It completely smashed one's bones, she said.

R: Pero ta yut cobtik la ta xak'beik 7ec'el tahmek
But they say that they used to fuck each other in the
cornfields.

Te ta ti7ti7 nabtik 7un.
There by the very edge of the lake.

M: Ta yut cobtik la a7a
That's right --- in the cornfields.

7A sk'el z'i7 la tah yil P*** .
That dumb F*** went to look for dogs.

R: Li mol P*** yu7un sba sk'el xcob ta ti7 nab.
Old F*** went off, supposedly, to look over his
cornfields near the lake.

CA: Yu7un clah la ta z'i7 yahan.
Because the corn on the stalks was being eaten by dogs.

M: Pero ta me7 z'i7 clah 7un.
But it was female dogs that were eating it! (Ha ha ha).

R: Pero k'al ta xak'beik 7une, ha7 la yikoh li cobtik 7une
But while they were fucking, they grabbed the corn plants.

Ha7 yikoh ta xic' 7inyeksyon 7un.
They grabbed the plants while getting injections.

Bweno, komo 7oy hcanvunetik 7une...
Well, since there were school-children nearby...

K'alal klok'ik ta rekreo li hcanvunetik 7une,
When the students got out for recess...

Ha7o nan k'alal xcanoh vun li hci7iltik le7 7une...
Perhaps it was when our companion here (indicates other participant) was himself in school.

M: He huta, yu7 me ha7 sk'eloh iyak'beik 7un tahe...
Hell, yes, they watched them fucking...

CA: 7An mi mu yecuk ti iyak'beik 7uli7 sbek' yate ce7e...
Oh yeah, isn't it true that they used a slingshot to shoot him right in the balls?

R: Hiii7, pero mala to 7un...
Yes, but wait a minute...

All: Ha ha ha ha ha ha.

R: Va7i 7un, li hcanvunetik 7une ta xbatik 7un
Listen, the school kids would go out...

Ta sa7ik mut, ta xlok'ik hlikel ta rekreo 7un
They would hunt birds, go out for a while on recess.

Ta xbatik ta yut cobtik 7un, ha7 ti bu xva7etik 7une...
They would go into the cornfields, or wherever they might wander about.

Hiii, k'alal iyilike, isk'elik ta hilail cobtik 7un,
Oooh, when they saw, when they looked down the rows of corn...

Te yolel ta xak' 7inyeksyon li P*** 7une...
There F*** was in the midst of giving injections.

Slok'oh la li svex 7une...
He had taken his pants off, they say.

Xvinah li sbek' yat ta spat 7une, 7iyak'be la 7ec'el 7un
His balls were visible from behind, since he was fucking with his back to them.

CA: Kabron, pero k'u zsa7 ti buy xhiphon sbek'
The bastard, but what is he up to there swinging

yate xiik la 7un.
his balls about, they said.

All: Ha ha ha ha ha ha.

D: Pero baz'i xmut'lih xa hna7 7un...
But I'm sure they were already starting to jerk!

CA: 7ora nan isboz' lok'el ta 7anil 7un
I guess he just pulled it out in a hurry.

- CN: Muk' xa hal xixtalan li mol 7uk 7un.
The old guy didn't keep playing very long.
- CA: Hal la te cotel xiik 7un.
They say he just sat there for a long time.
- R: Pero mu la bu istabe li sbek' yat 7une,
But they supposedly didn't actually hit his balls.
- Ta xcak la ik'ot.
Instead they hit him on the ass.
- 7Ay xi la li P***.
'Ouch!' said P****.
- 7Ali me7ele, 7anil la iva7i.
The old lady stood right up.
- K'usi apas xi la.
'What happened to you?' she said.
- Mu hna7 xi la, ya7uk xa la sk'el.
'I don't know,' he said, and went to look around.
- CA: Ibat xa7ox li h7ak' -7uli7 7une.
But the slingshot-shooters had already gone off.
- R: Li hcanvune, ibat la ta 7anil 7un.
The schoolchild went off in a hurry.
- All: Ha ha ha ha ha ha ha.
- R: Li hcanvune, 7i7oc xa 7ox ta 7eskwela ta xcan xa
The students had already gotten back inside the school
vun.
and gotten back to work.
- Mu me hna7 muc'u ti hkobel yak'oh 7uli7 7une...
I just don't know who the fucker was who shot the slingshot.
- Pero ka7yoh to7ox, pero mu xa hna7 muc'u 7un.
I heard once, but I can't think now who it was...
- CN: Kuxul to nan li h7a7yele, mi icone van ta balamil.
I suppose the guy is still alive, or was he perhaps
sold to the Earth Lord?
- R: Mi7n ta sna7 7un?
Do you think she knew who it was?
- CN: Mu nan bu ivinah 7onox.
Perhaps it was never discovered.

- R: Pero ta z'akal to ilo7ilahik li hcanvun 7une.
But later on the students talked about it...
- CN: Penteho tahmek li kiz'ine xi li mol Pru*** 7uk 7une.
'My younger brother is very stupid,' says old Pru***.
Muk' ta sk'el 7osil kabron xi 7un.
'He doesn't watch over the land, the bastard,' he says.
- CA: Pero muk' xa skrem ta P'ih 7uk li mol Pru*** 7uke.
But old Pru*** himself has a grown son in P'ih.
- CN: Mol nan a7a
I guess he's grown alright.
Pero yu7un muk' bu xlah ta 7uli7 nan sbek' yat nan
But I guess he figures that he's never been shot.
ca7i 7uk 7un
in the balls with a slingshot
yu7un yic'oh kwenta 7un
He has paid attention to what's going on
yec'o penteho li kiz'ine xi li hkobel 7uk 7une
and that's why he calls his younger brother stupid.
- M: Pero 7o la xic' inyeksyon ta yan 7o 7un
But (the old lady) has also gotten injections from others.
- R: Ha7 tah yak'el k'al ta x7ilolah a7a.
Yeah, she gets it when she is curing.
- CA: Ha7 ka7yoh a7a
Yes, I've heard about that
K'al sut tal ta sna li hcamel ya7ele bu cbat ta 7ilole
When she returns home from the patient's house where
she has gone as a curer
Ta xic' 7inyeksyon ta be
She gets injections on the path.
- R: Komo ta xyakub 7une
Since she gets drunk.
7Ali muc'u ta xtal 7ak'vanuk 7une, ta xak' komel
Whoever comes to bring her home gives her injections
7inyeksyon noxtok 7un.
too when he leaves.

- CN: Pero muk' bu xlah ta 7uli7 sbek' yat.
But he doesn't get shot in the balls with a slingshot.
- CA: Komo 7ak'ubaltik cava7i 7une
Since it is nighttime you understand.
- 7o la ta be nox cak' 7inyeksyon
Sometimes they give the injections on the path.
- Mi mo7ohe, 7o la ta baz'i yut xa sna
If not, then sometimes they even do it inside her house.
- ...Cak'beik mas li poxe yo7o ta xlom 7o ta lum.
They give her more liquor so that she will collapse on
the ground.
- 7ora mi ilom ta lum 7une
As soon as she has fallen to the ground
- Lek xa cak'ik 7inyeksyon li hkobeletik 7une
Then the fuckers give her a good injection.
- All: Ha ha ha ha ha ha ha
- CN: Hkobel.
Fuck, man...

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