

Ilau Na Xkwech

by Miriam Hauser

Newiki xinktekenink hapi nkahe ok nux ok nemistet ok somi nulelntàmuhëna. Kweti kishku luwanink te ok xeli kun. Luwe nux, "Kench ntentehwehena shitta xu ntankelahena. Nichan ksi kemaxkamen taxan." Ntelekw nkahe, "Piske ok nkwitayalaok maxkok. Kpetun alapa a." Luwe nemis, "Pwetunte konaet enta opanket ku ntëlehëlexehemena." Nteluwe, "Ku nntalamii." Na nntalemskan. Chitkwe ne teken ok alashi kawiyok wemi awen. Enta pentamena nahkoi keku newishasi eli tita hate maxkw. Xaheli maxkok yu she tekenink. Takiti mpemeska ok nntalemi tahkochin. Yuki hitkuk ahi xinkwi yok. Nkata kishkshan tankhitukw. Enta maxkamena tankhitkuk nkiskho ok mpatamwelxa. Ne taxan kwsükòn shek xuniti mpa nëwikwahëmink. Ne wikewam somi te. Ntentehwehena ok ne tentay kshete. Nteluwe, "Takuu nemena nek maxkok." Luwe nkahe, "Wa nichan somi ilau."

The Brave Girl

I dwell in a large forest with my mother and my father and my little sister and we are very happy. One day in winter, it is cold and there is a lot of snow on the ground. My father says, "We must make a fire or we will die. My daughter, please find firewood." My mother tells me, "It is dark and I am afraid of bears. You should wait for tomorrow." My sister says, "If she waits, maybe when morning comes we won't be alive." I say, I am not afraid. Then I leave. It is quiet, the forest, and it seems everyone sleeps. When I hear anything, I am afraid because I think there is a bear. There are a great many bears in this forest. A little while I walk and I begin to be cold. These trees are very big. I want to cut a small tree. When I find a small tree, I cut the tree and I pray for him. The wood it is heavy but soon I come to my house. The house is very cold. We make a fire and the fire is hot. I say, "I did not see those bears." My mother says, "This daughter is very brave."