




The Rock Story
xł'út/xłxłút

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ḥaw'iyənčútn	Creator
ṛqəlqín	Eagle
ntitiyáx	Salmon
štəm'tám'l'	Grizzly Bear
ʔəmʔúmt	Earth
k'wac'k'wac't	Strong
páḥpaḥt	Wise
tx ^w uxtəntəm	Take care of
xλ'út/xλxλút	Rock/Rocks
lámlamt	Thank you




After haw'iyənčútn had made the heavens and the ʔəmʔúmt and everything below the əmʔúmt and in the water. haw'iyənčútn looked around to decide to whom he would give the secrets of the ʔəmʔúmt. haw'iyənčútn needed someone k^wack^wac't, páxpaħt, and tx^wuxtəntəm to entrust the secrets of the ʔəmʔúmt for safe keeping.



Three came forward who thought they were k^wack^wac^t enough, páxpaḥt, enough, and tx^wuxtəntəm enough to guard and protect the secrets of the ʔəmʔúmt. pə́lqín said, “I am k^wac^tk^wac^t. I can fly high. I can see for long distances. I can care about the people. I can guard the secrets of the ʔəmʔúmt.” ntitiyáx said, “I am k^wac^tk^wac^t. I can swim for long distances. I care about the people. I can guard the secrets of the ʔəmʔúmt.” štəm'tám'l' said, “I am also k^wac^tk^wac^t. I have knowledge and I care about the people. I can guard the secrets of the ʔəmʔúmt.”



haw'iyənčútn said, "I have heard you three. Thank you for your interest. I must think for awhile before I decide to whom I will give the secrets of the ʔəmʔúmt." haw'iyənčútn knew that he would need someone who was there at the very beginning of time and someone who would still be there at the very end of time.



haw'iyənčútn in wisdom, strength, and caring for the people decided to give the secrets of the ʔəmʔúmt to the xł'xłút. The xł'xłút were there at the beginning, are with us now and will be there at the end of time. Have you ever noticed how little children pick up xł'út, hold them, and put them in their pockets? The next time you pick up a xł'út, feel its strength. The xł'xłút was there at the beginning of time and was given the secrets of the ʔəmʔúmt. When we walk on Mother Earth, we are walking on the guardians of the secrets of the ʔəmʔúmt. All xł'xłút have strength, wisdom, and care for the people. And then I came back.

This story was given to the Language Program by an elder from Nespalem, WA. Her name was Mary Gua (Entiat). She encouraged us to retell the story. You may change the animal names, you may add or delete as you retell the story to make it your own. All that we ask is that you remember the original storyteller, Mary Gua. As per Collen Cawston. lámlamt.

Translations done by Sharon Covington Feb 2020, approved by Pauline Stensgar and Ernest Brooks, CCT nxaʔamxčín nwwáwəlxtn.
Be sure to tell this story came from late elder Mary Gua.



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