

## Ant'imahasxw Wila Wis K'alidakhl (Origin of Blue Jay)

K'alidakhl siwadihl Gitxsanhl ts'uuts' tun, gukws dakhlihl hli gest.  
*This is what the Gitxsan called the bird, hair tied back.*

Sim Gitxsan ant sit'aahl k'alidakhl.  
*Real Gitxsan started this name for bluejay.*

Xsibaxhl mi'in ahl sii sa'anjokdiit ii sim luu'am'amhl gagoothl sii naksit hlis sim t'is  
 hahla'alstdiit hlist sim hugwagam hlisindiit sii'anjokdiit.  
*Smoke came from the new home and they were so happy the newly weds had worked so hard and  
 completely finished their new home.*

'Nakwhl sak ahl maadim, ii xsgoksxwhl wineex.  
*It had been a long cold winter and food was scarce.*

ii ap am wil galxsi' haat akxwdiit. Hlaa aat'ixshl gwooyim ii hats'im ho dax daxgyathl  
 gagootdiit. t  
*And they made it through. Spring was coming and they were refreshed.*

ii hats'im hoo siisaxwdiit dim sii sagootxwdiit dim ii hats'im hoo siisaxwdiit dim wila  
 wildiit.  
*And they were eager to make new plans and they were eager of what they would do.*

T'is dim hahla'alstdiit. Dim gan nee dim ho hathaaxwdiit ji hlaa hoo maadim.  
*They would work hard. So they would not suffer when it was winter.*

Gwats luu naadimda'msxw 'nidiit hlaa yukwhl hoo sagagootxwdiit dim wila wildiit.  
*They held each other while they made plans of what they would do.*

ii yukwhl naadildalkdiit, iit nax'nidiit wil kw'ihl sdamk wil kw'ihl xhlisihl ligit naa  
 gadaaxdiit.  
*They were talking and they heard a noise like someone coughing outside.*

ii 'nithl dii ayookdiit, an jiim ts'ilayxwhl ligit naa dim am kw'ihl sdamgansdin dimii kw'ihl  
 xhlisdin gadaaxhl anjokdiit.  
*It was the law, when you went to visit someone, just make noise and cough outside the house.*

Dim gwinnax'nitxw 'niin.  
*Make yourself heard.*

ii ji ansigwidiit kw'ihl hen ii hats'im hoo luuyaltxwin wil saa'witxwin.  
*And if you are ignored you returned to where you came from.*

ii xsaxwhl gyatgi naadiihl hlamsim hanak't gwildim goodit dim ts'ilim lukwt go'odiit.  
*The man went out and there was his mother-in-law waiting to move in with them.*

Kw'ihl yukwdit 'wii gwe'ehl wil luudox̄hl amixugitt.  
*She was holding a big sack with her clothes.*

Ts'inin, diya 'nit, ts'a neediit sim ha'nook̄hl goott laa 'wihl hlamst.  
*He said come in, even though his heart wasn't willing.*

Amgoodit wil needii dim hoo helt dim siwineexdiit.  
 He realized that they would not be storing lots of food.

ii sim needii luuts'o'o hli algyax̄t.  
*She talked incessantly.*

Neediit gabidint wil yukwt um̄kxwhl hlamsim gyathl het.  
*She didn't realize that her son in law was irritable with her.*

Amhl dii wila wilt gimaadim, helthl dii wineext.  
*She did fine last winter, she had lots of food.*

Needii kw'ihl sk'ok̄sxwhl wila wilt dii anjijok̄t.  
*There wasn't a shortage where she lived.*

Needii kw'ihl hlabixswt wil needii gwi ji jabit.  
*She wasn't tired because she did nothing.*

"O", diya, mooji ligit kw'ihl digilxwhl het.  
*O she said with a slight groan.*

K'oo'mox̄xwihl goott nee dim diit kw'ihl simhedindiit kw'ihl het.  
*She was hoping they wouldn't take her seriously.*

Ahl amuwast dim wilt kw'ihl giilhindiit 'nit.  
*She could make her bed in the corner.*

ii logom manit dimt kw'ihl gindiit 'nit.  
*You can feed me leftovers.*

Lukw'il hlḡu siilinaasxwum gyat tun iit sim siip'inhl ama'masithl nakst.  
*The man was a great hunter and he loved his beautiful wife.*

Xsidogothl wil sim am'amhl smax̄ ii 'nithl si'angwit ahl nakst.  
*He selected the best meat that he cooked for his wife.*

ii hla gaak̄whl smax̄hl gi'namdiit loot, ii sim luu sk'eex̄xwt ii luusak̄hl  
 amuwaast wil jok̄t wil sii duu'w wil mihl lakw.  
*And tough meat sinew meat was given to her and it was dark and cold in the corner, it was far from the  
 fireplace.*

ii sim hagwin t'aahl hlguuhlxwum hanaḵ't hlisdo'oxs wil mihl lakw yukwt guphl wil sim am'amhl ḵ'ots smax.

*And her daughter sat close to the burning fire and ate the best cuts of meat.*

ii t'aahl anhlut'ixsxwum nakst, sim gyamkt, ii sim ama'masihl gwisgwoosxwum gwilahl hooyit.

*And there sat the precious wife, nice and warm, and wearing a beautiful blue blanket.*

Ji needii kw'ihl 'wihl ḵ'ay'masim hanaḵ' tun, yugwima dimt kw'ihl didi'yhl hlgu siilinaasxwum gyat tun 'nit.

*If the young wife wasn't around, perhaps the fine hunter would pay attention to her.*

ii kw'ihl t'aahl hlgu logom'wiinaḵ' amuuwast sim kw'ihl ky'alt.

*And the old lady sat in the corner, shivering.*

Gaswilt ge'ehnl sim sipxwithl smax yukwhl hat'agam sagootxwt dim wila wilt.

*While chewing the tough meat, making an evil plan of what she would do.*

ii k'i'yhl sa gi ii daa'wihl ḵ'ay'masim gyat guxwguwasit;

*And one day the young man was gone hunting:*

iit jagwihl hlgu logom'wiinaḵ'gi lip hlguuhlxwum hanaḵ't.

*the old lady killed her own daughter.*

ii sit'aa'mat guxws ama japxwt dim gan 'wihl tk'ihlxwidi'y 'nit.

*And she began preparing a youthful self.*

iit 'wahl t'uuts'a lakw go'ohl hlwil mihl lakw gi iit k'utk'u dist'uuts'inhl ts'a'at loot.

*She found charred wood by the fireplace and blackened her eyes with it.*

iit guuhl aksa maa'y iit min'manhl dido'ot ganhl gadaaxhl tsim'aaqt.

*She took berry juice and rubbed it on her cheeks and mouth.*

iit sagayt mindamganhl hli gest iit sagayt ts'iipt ahl lax'ohl t'imgest, tk'ahl hooyit.

*And she pulled her hair back and tied it on top of her head. She used a leather tie.*

ii sim luu'amhlgoott ahl japt, iit 'niimagahl ama'masim gwisgwoosxwum gwilagi lax no'ohlt ii t'aahl gibee'esxwt.

*And she was so happy with her work, she put on the beautiful blue blanket on her shoulders and sat and waited.*

iit nax'ni wil hla aat'ixshl guxw siilinaasxwit gi gadaaxhl anjoḵdiit.

*She heard the fine hunter outside of the shelter.*

ii ts'int iit 'widin gya'ahl go'ohl amuuwast wil hixs t'aahl hlgu 'wiinaḵ'gi,

*The hunter entered and glanced at the corner where the woman sat,*

O, am, diya, "daa'wihlidahl hlgu 'wiinak'gi", diyahl goott.  
*Oh, good, she is gone the hunter thought.*

ii sit'aa'maat gwildim goodint dim gupdiit ji hlaa yuxwsa.  
*He started preparing the evening meal.*

ii 'widin yeet wil dit'aahl nakst iit sim luu gya'ahl ts'a'ahl kw'ihl si'ihl si'ama'masxwit  
 logom'wiinak.  
*He walked over where his wife sat and looked into the face of the old lady who attempted to make herself pretty.*

ii simt luu'amhl goothl hlgu logom'wiinak' iit mahlihl daa'wihl nakst k'ay'masim gyat gi  
 ii hlaa 'nit dim ant hooxhl gwisgwoosxwum gwila.  
*The old lady was so happy saying the wife was of the young hunter was gone and now she would wear the blue blanket.*

Neediit simhedinhhl gyat gi 'wihl hehl nax'niyit. Daa'wihl ama'masim nakst.  
*The man did not believe what he heard. His beautiful wife was gone.*

iit guuhl haxlaaxw iit k'utk'u hilanhhl hlgu 'wiinak'gi gadaax wil mihl lakw  
 gaswilt yatst ahl haxlaaxw.  
*He took his club and chased after the old lady around the fire place while hitting her with the club.*

Mahla k'i'yt yatst ii aat'ixs wil ts'uusx hlgu 'wiinak'gi, gaswil aayaawaatxwt,  
 gaswil tk'alyeehl dalhl het.  
*Each time she was hit she became smaller and screaming, and it became louder.*

iit balgi haldim bajihl lip 'nit wil gak'aaxt ii 'nit wil xsigipaykwhl  
 k'alidakhl aloohl xsiyuwihl mi'in.  
*And suddenly she lifted herself with wings and a bluejay flew out of the smoke hole.*

'Nit hli ihlagansxwt gan wilhl daa'wihlt go'ohl sbagaytgan ii 'nit wil kw'ihl gapgaabilsxwt  
 dim gubit ii gaswil luubagayt kw'ihl algyaxt.  
*For her punishment she was sent to the forest to scavenge for food and make a lot of idle chatter.*

ii wagayt k'ay gigyuu'winii, ii ji t'is ji kw'ihl algyagan ii needii gwi ji kw'ihl liseewin,  
 hishalaagyaxxwhl Gitxsan iit siwatdiit 'niin as k'alidakhl.  
*Today, if you talk too much and say nothing the Gitxsan laugh and call you k'alidakhl.*