

## COYOTE EYE-JUGGLER

Long time ago Indian people told these stories to one another, I'm going to tell one now.

Long time ago my father and mother used to tell me stories.

That coyote was travelling, while he was travelling he stood under a willow tree, he heard noises like someone having fun. They were small gray sparrows, they were not waterbirds.

Them sparrows were taking out their eyes and tossing them in the air, their eyes would go into the air and return back to their own eye sockets.

They would talk to their eyes and tells it to come back to its owners.

Coyote stood under the willow tree and watched the sparrows having fun. Coyote liked what they were doing.

Coyote came to them and stood there watching them.

"What are you doing?" he said to them.

They answered Coyote and said, "We just take out our eyes and toss them in the air, then our eyes return to its own place when we lift up our heads."

Coyote said, "I want to try that myself," he said.

"Yes," they said to Coyote.

The sparrows were watching him, they stood all around him.

Then Coyote tried to take out his eyes but they would not come out.

Coyote was happy with what he did.

Then again he removed his eyes and he toss them up a little ways.

It took a little while before his eyes came back to him.

Again, Coyote tried again, he was having fun doing that.

Then Coyote toss his eyes way up high, he waited for his eyes to come back but it didn't.

His eyes got stuck way up high in the willow tree.

It is said today Coyotes eyes are still in the willow tree.

Coyote was blind not having eyes.

The little sparrows then were laughing at Coyote.

They left him there.

Then Coyote went from there.

Coyote being blind was just wandering around.

From somewhere two girls came and found Coyote.

At first before they found Coyote, they said, "Look, a good looking young man with bangs, his eyes tied over."

He was coming towards them then.

Then the two girls went with him and they stayed with Coyote.

They came to a shady place under a willow tree, the three arrived there.

And there under the willow tree Coyote laid down on the lap of one girl, his head on her lap, then he had his feet on the other girl's lap.

Then that one girl was picking out his head lice. They were picking out the lice he did not have any red nits.

Then Coyote said he didn't have any lice shaking his head from side to side, he wanted to impress the girls by saying that, also he liked their attention.

The girls then said, "From where is that bad smell coming from?"

Then they put him to sleep. Coyote then went into a deep hard sleep.

Coyote was sleeping in that same position on the girl's lap. Then the girls said, "Why is that wrap around his eyes?" They wanted to see his eyes they said.

Then they started to remove his eye wrap.

When they did that they could see fly maggots moving in his eye sockets.

The smell coming from his eye sockets were very nauseating.

Then they said, "What shall we do to Coyote?"

One girl said, "Go and get a dry willow tree log," she said to the other girl.

Then Coyote being in a deep sleep was not aware that a log was place under his head.

They also placed another log under his feet.

Itsappeh or Coyote was not aware of what was happening.

Then the two girls then left Coyote and walked away.

They did not like the way his eyes were stinking.

Later on Coyote woke up and told one girl to keep picking his nits from his head, he thought the girl was still there.

He raised his head up and thought he bumped the girl's leg but instead he bumped the log hard.

Then Coyote woke up, the girls were gone.

Coyote with his outstretched hands was running here and there for the girls.

And then, Coyote could not find them.

Coyote then being blind was following their scent, he kept following their scent, the direction they were going.

Then the girls were coming to a deep canyon. They could not cross the canyon and stopped there.

The girls then saw Coyote, he was catching up to them real fast.

Coyote was running by then.

One of the girls had a necklace that made loud noises.

Her friend said to the girl with the necklace to take it off and get ready to toss it into the canyon.

She said that to her friend.

Then Coyote was getting real close to them. They did not know what to do right then.

Then one girl said, "Throw the necklace down into the canyon and blow at it to help it along."

Coyote heard the ringing of that necklace and went flying off into the air into the canyon.

While falling he was hollering and singing like saying, "Poor me, what's happening?"

Coyote landed and made the yellow dust fly.

Coyote landed and broke his legs.

It might be said his leg bones were broken and exposing his marrow.

The two girls afterward were looking down into the canyon and saw that coyote had broken his legs.

Then with his forefinger was taking marrow and licking it there.

The girls said, "Look at Coyote, he is eating and licking his own marrow, that's what they said to him."

"You're eating your own flesh and licking it today thinking that it's alright."

"There's no way we could help," they said.

That was the last time they saw Coyote.

That is all.