## L TRADITIONS OF THE LEGWIEDASXS

## 1. Ëx "Eqâ'lagemē" (Most-Beautiful-One)

This is our legend which I am telling of Most-Beautiful-One, the one whom you who live in the north call Qta'neqe'alan. These are the words that we heard from our ancestors the Unrivalled-Ones. It is said that Most-Beautiful-One came to make love to the four princesses of (Eagle-) Down-Dancer, who was living at Princlats. And Most-Beautiful-One was coming south from the north; and as soon as he came to Princlats he saw the Devil-Fish sitting on the ground on the trail; and Most-Beautiful-One borrowed the old-man mask of the Devil-Fish took his old-man mask and gave it to him, and Most-Beautiful-One carried it when he went on. He went on the trail of the princesses of Down-Dancer, for Most-Beautiful-One knew about them

As soon as he approached them, he put on the old-man mask of the Devil-Fish; and as soon as he had done so, he sat on the ground at the place where the four princesses of Down-Dancer were accustomed to walk every evening. He had not been sitting there long when Most-Beautiful. One heard their songs. They were feeling glad. And it was not long before the oldest one came in sight, and behind her were her three younger sisters. But the last one, the youngest

Ga'menu'ş" nû'yamg'ada gwa'gwe'xs'āla lax Ex"eqâ'lagema'e, yixës gwò-yō'x'da'xös Qlā'nēqe'lakwa, yixe gwa-ga'wa'yanqōs. Wa, he'emtanu'ş" wute'l qa wa'dtemsenu'ş" qlu'lsqlul'yaş"-wutaxg'anu'şs Wi'waqlamek; Wa, he''maalasexs g'a'xae ila'tena'ya, yix Ex"eqa'lagema'e lax mo'kwe k'le's-k'edelts Qa'myulate, yixs g'o'kulae lax Pe'ntlatsa. Wa, laem'la'wise Ex"eqa'-lagema'e na'lofe'la g'e'x'id la'xwa gwa'-nakwex. Wa, g'il'em'la'wise e'x'a-g'aātela lax Pr'ntlatsans la'e do', watelaxa taq'wa' klwadzà''las la'xa ttêx'i'la. Wa, he'x'idaem'la'wise Ex"eqa'lagema'e te'k'os qlu'l'yakumlas taq'wa'-xēs qlu'l'yakumla qa's ts'a'we laq'a's la qa's'ida. Wa, ha'm'laa la'alaa la'xa t'éx'i'las k'le'sk'ledelas Qa'myula'-le, qass q'a'ala'mae Ex"eqa'lagema'yaq.

qe'xs, la'e qio'xtstödisa q'u'l'yakumlas taqlwa'. Wä, g'il'em'lawisë gwa'la, 25 la'e klwa'sto'lsax g'a'yagas 'nā'ywasa mo'kwē k-le'sk-ledelts Qa'myulalaxs qa'qeselsaaxox dza'dzenwax. Wa, k-'e-'anele Ex-'eqa'lagema'yaxa se'sa''alala 30 ek-le'q'ala. Wa, we'laoxe'dze'lae ga'laxs g'a'xaē ne'Fededa 'no'lastleguma'e. Wa, la''lae ee'lxta'e yū'dokwē tsla'tsla'yax. He'emlatal mā'x stoxta''eda k-li'yā'laxa amā''inxaē. Wa, g'ildza'ım'lae do'x-35