

little rodent is a veritable demon. They believe that its home is the stomach of human beings, and that every person has one or more of them in his stomach. If a person is bad-tempered, immoral, passionate, a liar, thief, &c., they attribute these qualities in him to the mice-demons in his stomach. Again, if a person is taken ill, his father turns all his goods and belongings out of doors; he next proceeds to catch a mouse. Having secured one, he puts it into a small box and gives it plenty of grease to eat. He abstains himself from all food for three days. Each morning he takes the box and mouse down to the sea and drinks about a quart of salt water. He then returns and throws himself on his bed, places the box containing the mouse under his pillow, and goes to sleep. He sleeps throughout the day and following night, sentinels being placed about the house to prevent anyone from disturbing him or making a noise. In the morning he rises, goes down to the beach, drinks his quart of salt water, and returns to sleep till the following morning. He keeps this up for three successive days. If during this while he imagines or dreams that a person or spirit from the invisible world has appeared and revealed to him the name of the individual responsible for his son's illness, he straight-way rises and goes to this individual and charges him with the act, and demands his reasons for attacking his son in this manner. If, however, no vision or dream comes to him, after the third day has passed he takes the mouse in his hand and goes into every house in the place, and holds the mouse in front of each person until he is satisfied that he has found the individual guilty of the offence. If the mouse nods its head twice before anyone, it is to the Haidas plain proof that the culprit is revealed. In the older days this person would be found dead in the woods a little while after.

If one of these harmless little creatures has scampered over any food the Haidas would never think of eating it. They believe it is then impregnated with poison. It is all thrown into a fire and consumed.

Cloud Myth.

When the clouds hang low the Haidas believe that a soul is being snatched away, and expect to see one of their number shortly die.

Transmigration of Soul.

The Haidas believe in the transmigration of souls in this way: If, when a person dies, the nearest female relative of the deceased is about to be delivered of a child, the soul of the deceased will pass into the body of the new-born infant and live again.

Specimens of Songs of the Haida.

Berry Song.

Whit squate, squate, whit squate squate
 A la whit, a la whit:
 Kalunga olthē, kalunga olthē
 Siamzi whē, siamzi whe whit.

The above is an invocation to a bird called the 'whit,' which is supposed to ripen the berries. It is besought to bring many large and nicely coloured ones.