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Preface

The is a collection of five different Xyric myths and folk tales that were commonly told by
the Xyric people. This also provides an IPA transcription of each story and an interlinear gloss in
addition to the English translation. This has been the largest undertaking as of yet during my
time as a conlanger, and it’s my greatest pleasure to share this work with the world.
The Great Boulder

Once the great boulder lived on the moon and he slept.

He woke up, and he saw the Earth.

He wanted to travel to the Earth, so he threw himself from the moon to the Earth.

When he arrived, the animals had died.
The great boulder was very big, and he had killed them because he was so big.

He did not like this, so he created new animals, and he created humans.

After the great boulder made humans, he spoke to them.

He said, “All of you, come here!”

Kyt, arirho zog nhak xyk.
However, they did not come.

They couldn't understand the great boulder.

Therefore, he made the seven petal flower.

There was wisdom inside of it.

Seven humans saw them, and they ate them.
When the people ate the seven petal flower, they received the wisdom.

The were able to talk, and they were able to understand the great boulder, so they came to him.

He said to them, “I have created you. I am the great boulder. I will help you.”

The people understood him.
Many years passed, and the people lived near the great boulder.

He helped the people when they needed it.

The people learned much. They learned how to tan skins and they learned how to gather.

They were happy. When the people were gathering, they found a rock.
There was something edible in the rock, but the people could not break it.

Therefore, PST-ask-PL ART.AN-PL person-PL ART.INAN\ACC\ big great rock\ACC\, “know\INT\-SG break-INF 2SG ART.INAN\ACC\ this rock\ACC\?”

So, the people asked the great boulder, “Are you able to break this rock?”

The great boulder said, “Yes.”

The great boulder had died.

However, he could not break it because he had become weak, and he destroyed himself.

The great boulder had died.
Taro and the Demon

Asymhi nha xy to alérgi pjosh Taro, olg asymhi nha nhik xak alxy.

PST-be-SG ART.AN person REL PST-called-SG 3SG.AN taro, and PST-be-SG ART.AN ART.AN\GEN\-PL person\GEN\-PL leader.

There was a person that was named Taro, and he was the people’s leader.

Aresi pjosh nhe bydym xo, olg arémci rheje pjosh pjésh.

PST-have-SG 3SG.AN ART.AN\ACC\ small person\ACC\, and PST-love-SG very 3SG.AN 3SG.AN\ACC\.

He had a child, and he loved him very much.

Alérgi pjosh Agjé.

PST-called-SG 3SG.AN agjé

He was called Agjé.

Abjopo Taro ołg Agjé gi shaxornox oni.

PST-gather-PL taro and agjé ART.INAN\ACC\ forest\ACC\ near

Taro and Agjé were gathering near the forest.
Arirhalki Taro, “Fygri zog njós gi shaxornox fiv. Yco nhak shytik tox fiv.”

PST-speak-SG taro, “go\IMP\-SG NEG 2SG ART.AN\ACC\ forest\ACC\ in. live-PL ART.AN-PL demon-PL 3SG.INAN\ACC\ in

Taro said, “Don’t go into the forest. Demons live in there.”

Asymho nhak shytik rheje nhikit, olg acléno vac nhe bydym xo gegrec azrheco vac pjésh.

PST-be-PL ART.AN-PL demon-PL very evil, and PST-kill\COND\-PL 3PL.AN ART.AN\ACC\ small person\ACC\ if PST-find\SUB\-PL 3SG.AN\ACC\ in

The demons were very evil, and they would kill a child if they found one.

Sjog abjopi Agjé, abaxi pjosh nhe xo té asymhi pjosh gi shaxornox fiv.

PST-gather-SG agjé, PST-see-SG 3SG.AN ART.AN\ACC\ person\ACC\ REL\ACC\ in

While Agjé was gathering, he saw a person that was in the forest.

Arirhalki pjosh, “Anhó! Fygri pjosh fyjo drin. Esi kal gi mhjógeb.”

PST-speak-SG 3SG.AN, “hello! go\IMP\ 3SG.AN here to. have-SG 1SG ART.INAN\ACC\ fruit\ACC\ in

He said, “Hello! Come here. I have a fruit.”

Aresi Agjé gi ngléb, rhelb akamanxi pjosh nhe xo drin.
Agjé was hungry, so he walked over to the person.

However, it wasn’t a man, but it was a demon!

The demon grabbed Agjé and went into the forest, and Taro saw it.

Taro went into the forest to kill the demon.
He tried to kill the demon with his knife, but the knife broke.

Afefidi zog cinhez pjosh nhe shoti!

PST-know-SG NEG harm-INF 3SG.AN ART.INAN\ACC\ demon\ACC\ He couldn’t harm the demon!

Kyt, asymhi Taro ejed. Afefidi shocez pjosh nhek shotik.

however, PST-be-SG taro wise. PST-know-SG banish-INF 3SG.AN\ACC\-PL demon\ACC\-PL However, Taro was wise. He knew how to banish demons.

Arirhalki pjosh, “Shoci kal njis!” olg akli nha shyti gy mhikryg.

PST-speak-SG 3SG.AN, “banish-SG 1SG 2SG\ACC\!” and PST-become-SG ART.INAN rock He said, “I banish you!” and the demon became a rock.

Adegegi Taro Agjé.

PST-embrace-SG taro agjé

Taro hugged Agjé.
The Wind Man

Asymhi nha xy to aryci pjosh nhek xok ylox.

PST-be-SG ART.AN REL PST-live-SG 3SG.AN ART.AN\ACC\-PL person\ACC\-PL far

There was a man that lived far away from people.

Aryci pjosh nhek xok drin pégrelk axlegi zog irhalkez pjosh nhók xék.

PST-live-SG 3SG.AN there at because PST-like-SG NEG speak-INF ART.AN\DAT\-PL person\DAT\-PL

He lived far from people because he didn’t like talking to people.

Axlegi lortez pjosh.

PST-like-SG ponder-INF 3SG.AN

He liked to think.

Gegrec asymhi nha xy gi pjesh icérhax fiv olg alorti pjosh, aresi pjosh gi lyrt.

When PST-be-SG ART.AN person ART.INAN\ACC\-3SG.AN\GEN\ house\ACC\ in and PST-ponder-SG 3SG.AN, PST-have-SG 3SG.AN ART.INAN\ACC\ idea\ACC\ 

When the man was in his house and he was thinking, he had an idea.

Kyt, asymhi zog gy lem lort teshis.
However, this idea wasn’t normal.

The idea was the best idea that he’d had.

He had to tell the people.

He said, “If I walked to the people’s houses slowly, the suns would become the stars and the people wouldn’t listen to me.”
Therefore, PST-walk-SG very fast 3SG.AN ART.INAN\ACC\-PL ART.AN\GEN\-PL person\GEN\-PL house\ACC\ at

Therefore, he ran to the people’s houses very quickly.

Gegrec alarhki tlyroz drin, arirhalki pjosh, kyt amhilko zog nhak xyk pjésh.

When PST-arrive-SG 3PL.INAN at, PST-speak-SG 3SG.AN, but PST-hear-PL NEG ART.AN-PL person-PL 3SG.AN\ACC\ When he arrived at the houses, he spoke, but the people didn’t hear him.

Arirhalki pjosh, “Xav fefado zog mholkez nhak xyk kel?”

PST-speak-SG 3SG.AN, “why know\INT\-PL NEG hear-INF ART.AN-PL person-PL 1SG\ACC\?”

He said, “Why can’t the people hear me?”

Aronghi irhalkez rald pjosh nhók xék, kyt afefido zog mholkez vac pjésh.

PST-attempt-SG speak-INF again 3SG.AN ART.AN\DAT\-PL person\DAT\-PL but PST-know-PL NEG hear-INF 3PL.AN 3SG.AN\ACC\ He tried to talk to the people again, but they couldn’t hear him.

Pégrelk akamanxi rheje sóf pjosh, akli nha xy nhe rhón.

Because PST-walk-SG very fast 3SG.AN, PST-become-SG ART.AN person ART.AN\ACC\ wind\ACC\
Because he ran so fast, he had become the wind.

Onghi irhalkez gjashik pjosh nhek xok.

He still tries to speak to people.
The Pet that Could Talk

Asymhi nha bydym xy to axlegi irhalkez rheje pjosh.

Once there was a girl that really liked to talk.

Alérgi pjosh Lana.

Her name was Lana.

Anjho zog irhalkez nhak xyk pjash pégrelk arirhalki rheje njré pjosh.

People didn't want to talk to her because she talked so much.

Asymhi pjosh oc pégrelk anjho zog irhalkez nhak nlovek xyk pjash.

She was sad because no one wanted to talk to her.
Kyt, aresi pjosh gi anjir olg arirhalki pjosh tyx.

/kyt arˈesi pjɔʃ gi ˈaɲiɹ olɡ arıˈr alki ˈpjɔʃˈtyx/

However, PST-have-SG 3SG.AN ART.INAN\ACC\ pet\ACC\ and PST-speak-SG 3SG.AN 3SG.INAN\DAT\

However, she had a pet and she talked to it.

Anjhi Lana gamalb afeidi irhalkez gy pjesh enjir.

/ˈaɲ,iˈlana ˈgamalb aʃeɬiˈɾ, alkez gy ˈpjeʃˈɲiɹ/

PST-want-SG lana that PST-know-SG speak-INF ART.INAN 3SG.AN\GEN\ pet

She wanted the pet to be able to talk.

Anjhi góv kjov exicipev irhga Lana gamalb afefydi irhalkez gy pjesh enjir.

/ˈaɲ,i ɡøβ exiˈçipeβˈir.ga ˈlana ˈgamalb aʃeɬiˈɾ, alkez gy ˈpjeʃˈɲiɹ/

PST-want-SG ART.INAN\DAT\-PL all-PL night\DAT\-PL on lana that PST-know\SUB\-SG speak-INF ART.INAN 3SG.AN\GEN\ pet

Every night Lana wished that her pet could talk.

Avlashi Lana gó dérhtip irhga olg amhilki pjosh gi pjesh anjir. Arirhalki téx, “Lana! Lana!”

/əˈblɑʃiˈlana goˈdar.tipˈir.ga olg aˈlm.iɬki ˈpjɔʃ gi ˈpjeʃˈaɲiɹ ˈariˈɾ alki ˈtex ˈlana ˈlana/

PST-wake.up-SG lana ART.INAN\DAT\ day\DAT\ on and PST-hear-SG 3SG.AN ART.INAN\ACC\ 3SG.AN\GEN\ pet\ACC\ PST-speak-SG 3SG.INAN, “lana! Lana!”

She woke up one day and heard her pet. It said, “Lana! Lana!”

Afeidi irhalkez gy pjesh enjir!
Her pet could talk!

Afegri Lana gi pjesh anjir drin.

Lana went over to her pet.

Arirhalki pjosh, “Fefidi irhalkez njós! Xled njhozi irhalkez njós?”

She said, “You can talk! What do you want to say?”

Arirhalki gy enjir, “Cici njós!”

The pet said, “Screw you!”

Asymhi Lana rheje balirk.

Lana was very surprised.
She didn't know that her pet would have been so vulgar if it could talk.

She said, “Don’t talk!”

However, the pet still talked. “Screw you! You’re a piece of crap!”

So, she had to talk to a very vulgar pet.
The Bird Mother

Once there was a woman named Zrhaji and she liked to help people.

If a person was hungry, she would give the person food.

If a person was sad, she would talk to the person.

She loved everyone, and she also loved animals.
Aresi pjosh giv rheje jogeβ anjirev.

She had many pets.

Akamanxi pjosh gó dérhtip irhga gi shaxornox fiv gegrec azrhaci pjosh nhek gulek bydymek rhépjigyk.

One day she was walking in the forest when she found seven baby birds.

Areso zog vac nhe tilm.

They had no parent.

Rhelb, anjeli pjosh vec olg akamanxi pjosh gi pjesh icérhax drin palz tólmez vec.

So, she grabbed them and walked to her house to raise them.

Avylki góv kjov dérhtipev irhga pjosh vóc gi pasado olg arirhalki golz pjosh vóc.
She gave them food every day and also talked to them.

She loved the baby birds very much.

One day she woke up and didn’t see the birds.

They had flown far away from the house.

Zrhaji was very sad.
Kyt, abaxi pjosh nhek rhépjigy.

/kyt aˈbaxi ˈpjoʃ n ək r əˈpjigy/

But, PST-see-SG 3SG.AN ART.AN\ACC\-PL bird\ACC\-PL

*However, she saw the birds.*

Afegro rald vac gi icérhax drin.

/aˈfegro rald ɪβaç gi iˈçər ax drin/

PST-go-PL again 3PL.AN ART.INAN\ACC\ house\ACC\ at

*They had come to the house again.*

Abo rhez vac.

/ˈabo r.ez ɪβaç/

PST-learn-PL fly-INF 3PL.AN

*The had learned how to fly.*

Abi rhez Zrhaji, olg arhi pjosh nhók pjesh rhépjygyk nja.

/ˈabi r.ez ɪzr. aji olg ɪar.i ˈpjoʃ n ək ɪpjeʃ r əˈpjigyk ɲa/

PST-learn-SG fly-INF zrhaji, and PST-fly-SG 3SG.AN ART.AN\DAT\-PL 3SG.AN\GEN\ bird\DAT\-PL with

*Zrhaji learned how to fly and she flew with her birds.*
The Bird that Couldn’t Fly

Asymhi nha bydym rhépjógy to aefidi zog rhez pjosh.

There was a small bird that couldn’t fly.

Aronghi rhez njré pjosh, kyt aefidi zog rhez gjashik pjosh.

He often tried to fly, but he still couldn’t fly.

Aresi kjelf pjosh gi ngléb pégrelk aefidi zog rhez, rhelb aefidi zog bjopez drérg.

He was always hungry because he couldn’t fly, so he couldn’t gather well.

Aresi pjosh giv nlovev rhógev.

He had no friends.

Anjajo nhak kjok rhépjógyk, “Symhi pjosh gy ngérhsh pégrelk fefidi zog rhez pjosh.”
All the birds thought, “He’s worthless because he can’t fly.”

One day all the birds flew away from him. He was very sad.

When he was sadly walking, another animal saw him.

The animal said, “Why are you sad?”

The animal said, “Why are you sad?”
The bird said, “The birds flew away from here. I can’t fly, so I’m still here. I can’t find food and I’m hungry.”

The animal wanted to help this bird so they went to the animal’s house and the animal gave food to the bird.

He was very happy, but also confused.

The bird asked, "Why did you help me? I’m a bird that cannot fly. I’m worthless!"
Arirhalki nha pjógy, “Symhi zog njós gy ngérhsh! Njaji kal gamalb symhi njós drérg olg somhi njós gy drérg rhig.”

The animal said, “You’re not worthless! I think that you’re nice and that you might be a good friend.”

Asymhi nha rhépjógy rheje ydré. Apelprhi zog fefidez rhez pjosh palz symhez nha drérg rhépjógy.

The bird was very happy. He didn’t need to be able to fly to be a good bird.

Adegegi nha rhépjógy nhe pjigy.

The bird hugged the animal.