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## Mole<sup>11</sup> / The Sky Falls

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A Wiyot story told by Jerry James and published as “The Sky Falls” in Reichard (1925, pp. 184-185); and by Della Prince, published as “Mole” in Teeter & Nichols (1993, vol. II, p. 13). The two versions of the text are nearly identical; here, the Della Prince version is in **black** text and the Jerry James version is in **blue** text for comparison (footnotes are from Teeter & Nichols). Spellings have been converted to the approved Wiyot writing system.

1. **We’n Hushurreni’milh**<sup>12</sup> ji daqh .  
**We’n Hushurrenuwilh** ji daqh  
Mole that’s where s/he lives, resides, dwells, is there  
*Mole lived there.*
  
2. **Rrak Shou’r Lhugilh** ji da louwilh .  
**Rrak Shourra Lhughilh** ji da louwilh  
Southwest-Young-Man that’s where durative s/he comes  
*Southwest-Young-Man came there.*
  
3. Qi klhamilh, da rridibou’ .  
**Qi** **klhamilh,** da **rridibou’**  
on arrival s/he sees durative two (people) cooking  
*When he got there, he saw two people cooking.*
  
4. Hou rrouguk, “Tsiqutsgurou’!”  
**Hou** **wurouguklh,** “Tsiqutsgurou!”  
when a while little one fall down!  
*After a little while, he said, “Little one fall down!”*
  
5. Hi noulunuvilh, boudurous .  
**Hi** **noulunuwilh,** boudurous  
then s/he picks it up with hands wild potato; Brodiaea root  
*He picked up an Indian potato.*

11. “Retold from R[eichard 1925 pp. 184-185] text 25, “The Sky Falls,” originally related by Jerry James (footnote 8).”

12. “Lit., “the one who held up the sky.””

6. **Hi vighi'n .**

**Hiyu wighi'n**

then it is divided

*Then they divided it.*

7. **Rrak Shou'r Lhugilh hi voudi'wuluvilh .**

**Rrak Shurra Lhughilh hiyu woudiwluluwelh**

Southwest-Young-Man then s/he enjoys eating it

*Southwest-Young-Man ate it and enjoyed it.*

8. **Hisgu'nuvooumilh .**

**Hisgunuwou'**

s/he gives him/her a piece

*He gave Mole a piece.*

9. **“Tsiqutsgurou’!”**

**“Tsiqutsgurou!”**

little one fall down!

*“Little one fall down!” he said.*

10. **Hi noulunuvilh, bouduroush .**

then s/he picks it up with hands wild potato; Brodiaea root

[Reichard notes: “Repeat sentences 5 to 9 several times.”]

*He picked up an Indian potato.*

11. **Hi vighi'n .**

then it is divided

[Reichard notes: “Repeat sentences 5 to 9 several times.”]

*Then they divided it.*

12. **Rrak Shou'r Lhugilh hi voudi'wuluvilh, hisgu'nuvooumilh .**

Southwest-Young-Man then s/he enjoys eating it s/he gives him/her a piece

[Reichard notes: “Repeat sentences 5 to 9 several times.”]

*Southwest-Young-Man ate it and enjoyed it, then he gave Mole a piece.*

**13.Rrak Shou'r Lhugilh**      **hi yilih,**      “**Shou**      **diquutgulughoulilhit,**      **rradutgurray.”**  
**Rrak Shurru Lhughilh**      **hi yilih,**      “**Shou**      **diquutgulughalilhit,**      **rradutgula’.”**  
Southwest-Young-Man      then s/he says      I wish      it would fall down  
a big one  
*Then Southwest-Young-Man said, “I wish a big one would fall down.”*

**14.We'n Hushurreni'milh**      **lhe ga**      **da'lilh**      .  
**We'n Hushurrenuwilh**      **lhu ga**      **dalilh**  
Mole      finally negative      s/he speaks  
*Mole never spoke.*

**15.“Diquutgulou’!”**  
**“Diquutgulou!”**  
(big one) roll down!  
*“Big one fall down!” [said Southwest-Young-Man].*

**16.Juwa**      **we'n gas**      **twulh**      .  
that's when      sky      then, at that time      s/he/it falls down  
**Jouwa**      **wi gas**      **tuwulh**      **we'n .**  
that's when      ?      then, at that time      s/he/it falls down      sky  
*That's when the sky fell.*

**17.Gish      husgunuvilh**      .  
**Dish      (h)usgunuwilh**  
in vain      s/he holds up a piece with hands  
*[Mole] tried in vain to hold up a piece.*

**18.Houwe'sanu'l shaw**      **hi rraqlhayurr**      .<sup>13</sup>  
**We'sanu'l shaw**      **hi rruqlhayurr**  
his/her hand(s)      sideways      then      it is/they are pushed  
*His hands were pushed sideways.*

13. “This is said to be the origin of the peculiar shape of the front paws of moles.”