

The discrepancy between the above Dog Husband versions and the Coeur d'Alene account, all of which have some element of desertion and transformation in common, lies in the abrupt, unorientated conclusion of the Coeur d'Alene myth.

A *Wasco* myth which does not fit into the typical Dog Husband outline, is abstracted below in conclusion to show its use of the Coeur d'Alene feature of the family of dog-folk.

A woman follows a dog who has stolen her paint; the woman spends the night in a house occupied by dogs; the dogs become men who complain of the woman's slaps; the woman's dog-man guide marries her; accompanied by her husband and her child, she visits her parents; she looks at other men; her husband leaves her (PAES 2:253).

12. *Coyote and Fox Gamble with the Fish*

Coyote teasingly invites Fish to be his guests

Fish arrive, gamble and win

Fish invite Coyote and Fox to gamble in water

Coyote accuses Fox of cheating

Coyote and Fox win and return home

Coyote and his friend, Fox, had a house. Coyote had a daughter. Every day the men went to catch pheasants. They always brought many home. One night after eating Coyote went down to the water. As he sat idly on the bank he saw fish deep in the water. "We ought to be doing something to pass the time. Tell your elders to visit us." The little fish apparently paid no attention to him. "Do you hear? I am talking to you." They said nothing. Coyote went home.

Not long after as he and Fox were sitting quietly at home they heard a sound as of many people approaching. Fox saw ten boats full of people rise to the surface of the water. The little fish had said, "Here, you people! Coyote told us to invite you to come." The grownups answered, "Ah!" Fox went back and announced to Coyote, "Lots of people have come. They say you invited them." "Oh goodness!" replied Coyote, "I was only joking."

The people all came in. The place was crowded. Fish's little boy said, "You said we should come to pass the time. That's why we are here." "Let's have a stickgame." "We have nothing to bet." "You have lots of pheasant tails." Coyote said, "No, they are too high-priced." "Is that too high for you to bet?" "How much do you bet?" "The stripe on the feather will be the stake for each game."¹ "All right!"

¹ The text here is obscure. The informant did not know the details of gambling and these are technical terms.

Coyote kept count. They laid out a blanket and a shirt. They played. Coyote and Fox lost. They played again. Again they lost. Then the Fish said, "We must go back. We belong in the water. We are getting too dry. Let us have some contests at our home under the water." "All right!" said Coyote and Fox.

They went back to the water. About two days later Coyote and his daughter got into a boat. "I'll be the first," said Coyote. "No, I want to be first," said his daughter.¹ Four times the boat with its contents was to go down and come up again. They dived. Coyote nearly died until it came up again. He opened his mouth to complain, but before he could get his breath they had dived again. Each time he was nearly dead.

After they dived the fourth time they came to the land below, the water where the fish lived. There was a very long house there. One of the fish announced, "Coyote has come." They landed. They went in and played the stickgame. Coyote sang out, "He's cheating my friend, Fox," "Be quiet," said his daughter. "It can't be helped. You can't depend on what those animals say."

This time Coyote and Fox won, Fish lost. Then Fish said, "We'll play again, but we want something better to bet. Let's not bet those pheasant tails. Put them away." They laid other things down. Coyote and Fox won again. Then said Coyote, "Let's quit."

They went back to their boat and Coyote and his daughter argued again as to who should get in first. He said, "I'm going to dive first." "No, I'm going to," said his daughter. "First place belongs to me. The fish will make fun of you." "No, it belongs to me." She sat first in the canoe. Each time Coyote came up gasping. They came to their house.

Thus it comes to the end of the road.

Among the large number of gambling myths, in which the loser wins back all he has lost, there is one example in *Kutenai* mythology of a gambling match between Coyote and Fox on the one side and Salmon on the other. It is a continuation of the Kutenai Coyote-Fox story of the animals who stole the hoop (cp. this work tale 3).

Coyote and young Fox lose everything gambling with the Salmon who wish to obtain Coyote's hoop; Fox and young Coyote win everything back and in addition Salmon's younger sister who becomes young Coyote's wife (BBAE 59:151). (The story continues at this point with episodes correlating with those of the Coeur d'Alene Water Monster Woman myth, 27.)

¹ They argued this way because the first in the boat was the first to dive. Coyote always dived first, then accused the others of holding him back. Consequently his daughter wanted to be first. Since they could not agree, the boat with all its contents dived at once.