Angay pagpareto na ang kalag ay pagbalik
Why I believe that souls return
Marilyn Acosta (1991)
78–88
Angay Pagpareto na ang Kalag ay Pagbalik

Why I Believe that Souls Return

This text was narrated and later edited in 1991 by Marilyn Acosta. It was elicited by SIL researcher Gail Hendrickson. The text is a high interest, personal narrative involving supernatural experiences. A fair amount of conversational material is embedded in the narrative.

1. Nontokaw, indio gatako na si Nay Coroy
   nontokaw indi =o gaa =tako na si Nay Coroy
   formerly NEG1=1S.T IMP,STAT =know COMP PM.T Mom Coroy

Aban ay appaningan ta kalag. 2. Mandian asing Abril 1987
Aban ay ag-an =paning ta kalag mandian asii =ang Abril 1987
Aban INV IMP,RF =go GEN soul now D3 =LKR April 1987

ang tatayo ay napatay. 3. Ig yo may ang ana
ang tatay =o ay na =patay ig yo may ang ana
TOP father =1S.G INV PERF,STAT =die and 1S.F and TOP child

ni Nay Coroy ay pagobra ong tanga opisinan ong
ni Nay Coroy ay pag =obra ong tanga--an opisina ong
PM.G Mom Coroy INV IMP,AF =work OBL one.unit office OBL

GAMNHS. 4. Nagistoria ong yen tang ana na ganing,
GAMNHS nag =istoria ong yen tang ana na ga =aning
GAMNHS PERF,AF =story OBL 1S.O TOP child 3S.G IMP,AF =say

“Si tatay mo ay papaning ong balay pagigampang
si tatay mo ay CV =paning ong balay pagi =ampang
PM.T father 2S.G INV IMP,AF =go OBL house IMP,SOC =converse

ong ni Nanay.” 5. Ganingo,
ong ni nanay ga =aning =o mono =pa tanan
OBL PM.G mother IMP,AF =say =1S.T how =Q 3S.F

mapanining atan ong nindio komo tananida ay patay da?”
ma =paning atan ong nindio komo tananida ay patay da
INF,ABL,AF =go LOC2 OBL 2P.O since 3S.F INV die already

6. Ganing tang ana ni Nay Coroy, “Si nanay ay
gan =aning tang ana ni Nay Coroy si nanay ay
IMP,AF =say TOP child PM.G Mom Coroy PM.T mother INV

1. In the past, I didn't know that Auntie Coroy Aban was visited by the souls of the departed. 2. Now last April 1987 my father died.

3. And Auntie Coroy’s daughter and I were working in the same office at the high school.

4. Her daughter told me, “Your father comes to our house and talks with Mother.”

5. I said, “How can he going to your house when he’s already dead?”

6. Auntie Coroy’s daughter said, “Mother prays the ‘del Carmen’ prayer and the souls come to her if they still
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pangadi ta ‘del Carmen’ ig ang mga kalag ay
paang =adi ta del Carmen ig ang mga kalag ay
IMP,AF =pray GEN del Carmen and TOP PL soul INV

papaning ong nandia mga indi gapanoyon-toyon
CV =paning ong nandia mga indi gaapang =toyon =REDUP
IMP,AF =go OBL 3S.O if NEG1 IMP,ABL,AF =instruct =DIMIN

obin may dapat ang yaning na ang importanti.”
obin may dapat ang i =aning na ang importanti
or exist should LKR INF,GF =say 3S.G LKR important

ga =aning =o talaga =ang ma =tood ga =aning ong
IMP,AF =say =1S.T really =LKR ADJ =true IMP,AF =say OBL

yen, “Ee, maski mandian ang lagi tomasbida
yen ee maski mandian ang lagi om =tabid =a
1S.O yes even now LKR immediately INF,AF =accompany =2S.T

ong yen ig te-maen mo si Nanay mga matod ang
ong yen ig te-ma =en mo si nanay mga ma =tood ang
OBL 1S.O and question =INF,GF 2S.G PM.T mother if ADJ =true LKR

si tatay mo ay papaning ong balay.”
si tatay mo ay CV =paning ong balay
PM.T father 2S.G INV IMP,AF =go OBL house

9. Mandian siminabido ra ong balay nira ig
mandian imin =tabid =o ra ong balay nira ig
now PERF,AF =accompany =1S.T already OBL house 3P.G and

nagpabalitaao mga matod. 10. Ganingo
nag =pa =balita =o mga ma =tood ga =aning =o
PERF,AF =CAUS =news =1S.T if ADJ =true IMP,AF =say =1S.T

“Nay Coroy, onopa? Matod na si Tatay ay
Nay Coroy ono =pa ma =tod na si tatay ay
Mom Coroy what =Q ADJ =true COMP PM.T father INV

papaning tarin ong balay mi?” 11. Ganing, “Ee,
CV =paning tarin ong balay mi ga =aning ee
IMP,AF =go LOC1 OBL house 2P.G IMP,AF =say yes

matod. 12. Si tatay mo ay napaning talabi tarin.
ma =tood si tatay mo ay na =paning talabi tarin
ADJ =true PM.T father 2S.G INV PERF,AF =go last.NIGHT LOC1

have instructions for the family or
something important to tell
them.”

7. I said, “Is that really true?” 8. She
said to me, “Yes, come along with
me right now and
ask Mother if it’s
true that your
father comes to the
house.”

9. Now I went
along to their house
and asked if this
was true.
10. I said “Auntie
Coroy, tell me. Is it
true that Father
comes here to your
house?”

11. She said, “Yes,
it’s true.
12. Your father
came here last
night.
13. Ig ganing tanandia, ‘Aningen mo tang mga
   ig ga =aning tanandia aning=en mo tang mga
   and IMP,AF =say 3S.F say =INF,GF 2S.G TOP PL

   anao na pamsano nira.” 14. Mandian ong
   ana =o na pa =misa =an =o nira mandian ong
   child =1S.G COMP CAUS =mass =INF,RF =1S.T 3P.O now OBL

   isipo midio imposibili ig ganingo ong
   isip =o midio imposibili ig ga =aning =o ong
   think =1S.G seem impossible and IMP,AF =say =1S.T OBL

   sadili =o ono =pa bato talaga =ang ma =tood piro angay
   self =1S.G what =Q suppose really =LKR ADJ =true but why

   gata-wanan ni Nay Coroy? 16. Ah, sigoro matod ka
   ga-an =tako ni Nay Coroy ah sigoro ma =tood ka
   IMP,ABL,RF =know PM.G Mom Coroy ah maybe ADJ =true EXP
   kaman.”
   kaman
   indeed

17. Minoliko ra ong balay.
   olik =min =o ra ong balay
   go.home =PERF,AF =1S.T already OBL house

18. Pagkaboto ganingo ong ni Nanay,
   pag =kabot =o ga =aning =o ong ni nanay
   when =arrive =1S.G IMP,AF =say =1S.T OBL PM.G mother

   “Napaningo ong balay da Nay Coroy ig
   na =paning =o ong balay da Nay Coroy ig
   PERF,AF =go =1S.T OBL house PM,PL.G Mom Coroy and

   ganing ong yen, ‘Si tatay mo pama-dol ta
   ga =aning ong yen si tatay mo paang =pa-dol ta
   IMP,AF =say OBL 1S.O PM.T father 2S.G IMP,AF =ask.for GEN

   pamisa.”’
   pa =misa sabat ni nanay ong damal ang apon
   CAUS =mass answer PM.G mother OBL tomorrow LKR afternoon

   panging amo ong simintirio agod mamiwsita amo.”
20. Ang
   panging amo ong simintirio agod mang =bisita amo ang
   go 2P.T OBL cemetery so.that INF,AF =visit 2P.T TOP

   13. And he said,
   “Tell my children to
   have a mass said
   for me.”" 14. Now I thought
   this seemed
   impossible and I
   said to myself,
   “What do you
   suppose? Could this
   really be true?

   15. But, why does
   Auntie Coroy know
   this?

   16. Ah, maybe it
   really is true.”

   17. I went on
   home.

   18. When I arrived
   home, I said to
   Mother, “I went to
   Auntie Coroy’s
   house and she said
   to me, ‘Your father
   is asking for a mass
   to be said (for
   him).’”

   19. Mother answer-
   ed, “Tomorrow
   afternoon, go to the
   cemetery to visit
   (the grave).”

   20. My older and
   younger sisters
aromano ang napaning ong simintirio ay ang
aroman = o ang na = paning ong simintirio ay ang
companion = 1S.G LKR PERF,AF = go OBL cemetery INV TOP

manango may ang ario. 21. Ganing ami
manang = o may ang ari = o ga = aning ami
older.sister = 1S.G and TOP younger = 1S.G IMP,AF = say 1PE.T

don ong lebengan ni Tatay, “Tatay, mga yawa ay
doong ong lebeng = an ni tatay tatay mga yawa ay
LOC3 OBL bury = LOC PM.G father father if 2S.F INV

gabasi, mandian ang alas sais ang apon don ita
gaa = basi mandian ang alas sais ang apon doon ita
IMP,ABL,AF = hear now LKR o'clock six LKR afternoon LOC3 1PI.T

mamagbagatan ig magampang ong balay da Nay
mamag=a= bagat ig mag = ampong balay da Nay
INF,PL,RECIP = meet and INF,AF = converse OBL house PM,PL.G Mom

Coroy.”
Coroy
Coroy

22. Pagolik amen ong balay aporado ami ra ang
pag = olik amen ong balay aporado ami ra ang
when = go.home 1PE.G OBL house hurry 1PE.T already LKR

paning ong Cambian tenged magalas sais da.
paning ong Cambian tenged mag = alas sais da
go OBL Cambian because INF,AF = o'clock six already

23. Tamang-tama atan ami ong plasa si Nay Coroy
tama = ang = REDUP atan ami ong plasa si Nay Coroy
correct = LKR = INTENS LOC2 1PE.T OBL plaza PM.T Mom Coroy

aporado ra ka ang golik. 24. Ganing ong
aporado ra ka ang go = olik ga = aning ong
hurry already EXP LKR IMP,AF = go.home IMP,AF = say OBL

yamen, “Nagpasinial da si tatay mi. 25. Asi
yamen nag = pa = sinial da si tatay mi asi
1PE.O PERF,AF = CAUS = sign already PM.T father 2P.G D3

ra ang pagelat ong yaten. 26. Animan dalien ta
ra = ang pag = elat ong yaten animan dali = en ta
already LKR IMP,AF = wait OBL 1P.LO therefore hurry = INF,GF 1PI.G

went with me to the cemetery.
21. There at Father’s grave we said, “Father, if you can hear us, this afternoon at six o'clock let’s meet and talk at Auntie Coroy’s house.”
22. When we got home, we were in a hurry to get to Cambian because it was nearly six o'clock.
23. Just as we passed the plaza, there was Auntie Coroy hurrying home also. 24. She said to us, “Your father has already given a sign.
25. He’s already there waiting for us.
26. So let’s hurry it up.”
tang panaw.” 27. Pagkabot amen ong balay nira, 
tang panaw pag =kabot amen ong balay nira 
TOP walk when =arrive 1PE.G OBL house 3P.G

siminaboan si Nay Coroy ganing ong yamen, “Nani
imin =taboan si Nay Coroy ga =aning ong yamen nani
PERF,AF =go.down PM.T Mom Coroy IMP,AF =say OBL 1PE.O D1

ra si tatay mo.” 28. Ganingo ang minitala,
ra si tatay mo ga =aning =o ang min =bitala
already PM.T father 2S.G IMP,AF =say =1S.T LKR PERF,AF =say

“Tatay, mga yawa pamasi te-leken mo tang kakay amen.”
tatay mga yawa paang =basi te-lek =en mo tang kakay amen
father if 2S.F IMP,AF =hear touch =INF,GF 2S.G TOP foot 1PE.G

ary pag =tapos lamang tang bitala =o in =te-lek
INTJ when =finish only DEF say =1S.G PERF,GF =touch

ami ra ang talele-ta. 31. Aroy! 32. Masigiwikay ami ig
ami ra ang talele-ta aroy masig--ay =iwik ami ig
1PE.T already LKR each.one INTJ INF,AF,SIM =squeal 1PE.T and

namondo ami ra ong kalarongan.
nang =bondo ami ra ong Vr =karong =an
PERF,AF =stand.on 1PE.T already OBL PL =sit =LOC

33. Ganingo si, “Mga talagang matod ang yawa
ga =aning =o sii mga talaga =ang ma =tood ang yawa
IMP,AF =say =1S.T again if really =LKR ADJ =true LKR 2S.F

atan banggilay ami ta batakal.” 34. Aroy! 35. Otro
atan banggil =ay ami ta batakal aroy otro
LOC2 throw =REQ 1PE.T GEN pebbles INTJ again

binanggil ami si. 36. Ganingo “Talagang
in =banggil ami sii ga =aning =o talaga =ang
PERF,GF =throw 1PE.T again IMP,AF =say =1S.T really =LKR

matod kaman.”
ma =tood kaman
ADJ =true indeed

37. Oman siminaboan si Nay Coroy nagampang
oman imin =taboan si Nay Coroy nag =ampang
then PERF,AF =go.down PM.T Mom Coroy PERF,AF =converse

27. When we arrived at the house,
Auntie Coroy came down (out of the
house) and said to us, “Your father is
already here.”

28. I spoke saying,
“Father, if you are
listening, touch our
feet.”

29. Oh my! 30. As
soon as I finished
speaking, each one
of us were touched.
31. Oh my! 32. We
each squealed and
stood up on the
benches.

33. I said again, “If
it’s really true that
you are there,
throw some pebbles
at us.” 34. Oh my!
35. This time (lit.
once again) we had
stones thrown at us.
36. I said, “It really
is true indeed.”

37. Then Auntie
Coroy went down
again and she and
Father talked.
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38. She said that Father said, “I want to speak to each of my children alone.”

39. Auntie Coroy went inside the house again.

40. She said to us, “He says you are to talk over there in the shadows near the pandanus tree, and he wants to speak with you one at a time.”

41. Oh my! 42. It was so dark, and we were so afraid and I was already really nervous.

43. “Please tell him not to insist that we do this because we are so frightened.

44. And besides that, there are many different souls that come here. 45. It might not be our father who we talk to.”

46. Auntie Coroy said, “Your father is the one who is waiting there now.”
47. Ganing ami, “Aning mo kay, mga poidi ong nio ga =aning ami aning =en mo kay mga poidi ong nio IMP,AF =say 1PE,T say =INF,GF 2S.G REQ if can OBL 2S.O
ra lamang yaning na.” 48. Ganing, “Indi ono. ra lamang i =aning na ga =aning indi ono already only INF,GF =say 3S.G IMP,AF =say NEG1 RS

49. Yamo enged tang galiliagan na.” yamo enged tang ga-an =CV =liag na 2P.F INTENS TOP IMP,ABL,RF =PL =like 3S.G

50. Otro siminaboan si Nay Coroy ig inaning otro imin =taboan si Nay Coroy ig in =aning again PERF,AF =go.down PM.T Mom Coroy and PERF,GF =say na ra si Tatay na, “Ang mga ana mo ay indi na ra si tatay na ang mga ana mo ay indi 3S.G already PM.T father COMP TOP PL child 2S.G INV NEG1

51. Ang sabat na, mag =paret tenged doro =ang eled nira ang sabat na INF,AF =obey because very =LKR fear 3P.G TOP answer 3S.G

52. Aningen mo ang papiliso ay dilemen nira aning =en mo ang papilis =o ay dilem =en nira say =INF,GF 2S.G TOP papers =1S.G INV look.for =INF,GF 3P.G

ong kabinito, ig si Helen indi pabaya-bayan ong kabin = =o ig si Helen indi pabaya =REDUP =an OBL cabinet =1S.G and PM.T Helen NEG1 neglect =DIMIN =INF,RF

53. Kaministriran tabangan nira ang nira ka-an =ministir tagb = =an nira ang 3P.G NLR =need help =INF,RF 3P.G LKR

padalen tenged kinapos da tang pa =adal =en tenged in =kapos da tang CAUS =study =INF,GF because PERF,GF =run.out already TOP
54. And I will escort them home.”

55. Asing mga alas dosi tang labi,
asi = ang mga alas dosi tang labii
D3 = LKR approximate o’clock twelve DEF night

56. Ang isipo naa = basi = o ta CV = goy ang isip = o
PERF,ABL,AF = hear = 1S.T GEN I MP,AF = call TOP think = 1S.G

57. Oh my!

58. Gradually the voice got louder and louder and clearly said,
“Cesar.”

59. I said, “Oh my!

60. Father is calling.”

61. When I woke up my older brother, the voice suddenly went away.

62. Then the next night we went again to Auntie Coroy’s.

63. My older sister said, “Auntie Coroy, tell Father to come to our

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1 This household, like many Agutaynen households, operated a small variety store from their front room.
Coroy, aningen mo si Tatay paning don ong balay mga
Coroy aning=en mo si tatay paning doon ong balay mga
Coroy say =INF,GF 2S.G PM.T father go LOC3 OBL house if

yo ra lamang tang gapoaw.” 64. Aroy!
yo ra lamang tang gaa =poaw aroy
1S.F already only TOP IMP,STAT =awake INTJ

65. Inanigan ni Nay Coroy ig napaning kaman.
in--an =aning ni Nay Coroy ig na =paning kaman
PERF,RF =say PM.G Mom Coroy and PERF,AF =go indeed

66. Ang oras ang asi ang manango ya ra lamang tang
ang oras ang asi ang manang =o ya ra lamang tang
TOP time LKR D3 TOP older.sister =1S.G PRO already only TOP
gapoaw. 67. Nagkonoari tanandia ang
gaa =poaw nag =konoari tanandia ang
IMP,STAT =awake PERF,AF =pretend 3S.F LKR
gapoayat piro ong matod gapoaw.
gaa =poyat piro ong ma =tood gaa =poaw
IMP,STAT =sleep but OBL ADJ =true IMP,STAT =awake

68. Nagkopot tanandia tang kolton asing
nag =kopot tanandia tang kolton asi =ang
PERF,AF =cover.head 3S.F DEF blanket when =LKR
gabasi tanandia ta lapak-lapak. 69. Mandian, mintras
gaa =basi tanandia ta lapak-lapak mandian mintras
IMP,STAT =hear 3S.F GEN foot.steps now while
tanandia ay paglekey, konoari golagek. 70. Aroy!
tanandia ay pag =lekey konoari go =olagek aroy
3S.F INV IMP,AF =feign.sleep pretend IMP,AF =snore INTJ

71. Mintras golagek mas intel tang talinga na
mintras ga =olagek mas in =etel tang talinga na
while IMP,AF =snore more PERF,GF =pinch TOP ear 3S.G
may kalima na ta kasitsitan, ig ang lapak-lapak
may kalima na ta ka--an =sii =REDUP ig ang lapak-lapak
and hand 3S.G GEN SUPER =pain =INTENS and TOP foot.steps
sigi-sigi. 72. Ong ori tanged pisan dang geldan
sigi-sigi ong ori tanged pisan da =ang ag--an =eled

house when I’m the only one awake.”

64. Oh my!
65. Auntie Coroy told him and he really did come to our house.
66. At that time my older sister was the only one still awake.
67. She was pretending to be asleep but really she was awake.

68. She covered her head with the blanket when she heard footsteps.
69. Now while she was feigning sleep, she was pretending to snore.
70. Oh my!

71. While she was snoring her ear and hand were painfully pinched and the sound of steps continued.
72. Finally, because she was so frightened she called out to
continuous OBL last because indeed already =LKR IMP,RF =fear

giminoy da ong ni Nanay. 73. Paggoy na ong ni
imin =goy da ong ni nanay pag =goy na ong ni
PERF,AF =call already OBL PM.O mother when =call 3S.G OBL PM.O

Nanay biglang nalipat tang lapak-lapak ig anda
nanay bigla =ang na =lipat tang lapak-lapak ig anda
mother sudden =LKR PERF,STAT =lose TOP foot.steps and NEG3

kay taw ang inita.
k =ay taw ang in =ita
EXP =INV person LKR PERF,GF =see

74. Maramal tang kalibotan napaning ami
maramal tang ka--an =libot na =paning ami
next.morning DEF NLR =go.around PERF,AF =go 1PE.T

si ong balay ni Nay Coroy. 75. Ganing ami,
ssii ong balay ni Nay Coroy ga =aning ami
again OBL house PM.G Mom Coroy IMP,AF =say 1PE.T

“Aningen mo kay si Tatay pamisan amen
aning =en mo kay si tatay pa =misa =an amen
say =INF,GF 2S.G REQ PM.T father CAUS =mass =INF,RF 1PE.G

da ka ig ang tanan ang toyon na ay nata-wanan
da ka ig ang tanan ang toyon na ay na--an =tako
already EXP and TOP all LKR instruct 3S.G INV PERF,ABL,RF =know

amen da ka ig ang papilis ay inita amen da
amen da ka ig ang papilis ay in =ita amen da
1PE.G already EXP and TOP papers INV PERF,GF =see 1PE.G already

ka. 76. Mga ang problma na ong ni Helen sia
ka mga ang problma na ong ni Helen asia
EXP if TOP problem 3S.G OBL PM.O Helen PRO

padalen amen ka.”
pa =adal =en amen ka
CAUS =study =INF,GF 1PE.G EXP

77. Ig tegka don ong paganing ni Nay Coroy na ang
ig tegka doon ong pag =aning ni Nay Coroy na ang
and until LOC3 OBL NLR =say PM.G Mom Coroy COMP TOP

tanan ang katobolan na ay pareten amen, indi
tanan ang ka--an =tobol na ay paret =en amen indi

Mother.
73. When she called for Mother the sound of steps
suddenly stopped and there was no one to be seen.

74. The next morning we went again to Auntie
Coroy’s house.
75. We said,
“Please tell Father that we’ll have a mass said for him
and that we have understood all of his instructions and
we’ve also found his papers.

76. And if he’s worried about
Helen, we will put her through school.”

77. And since the time Auntie
Coroy told him that
we would obey all
of his commands,
he hasn’t returned
all  LKR NLR  =command  3S.G INV obey =INF.GF  1PE.G NEG1
ra ka nagbalik ong yamen asta mandian. 78. Animan, ra ka nag =balik ong yamen asta mandian animan already indeed PERF.AF =return OBL 1PE.O until now therefore to our house.
yo talagang pagpareto na ang kalag ay yo talaga =ang pag =paret =o na ang kalag ay 1S.F really =LKR IMP.AF =believe =1S.T COMP TOP soul INV pagbalik.
pag =balik IMP.AF =return really do believe that souls return.