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A Curing Ceremony

Told by Liboria Morales

1. ntjói se va'ébmp va'ébmp quinjyóì locuí'
 woman when it-hurts-her it-hurts-her her-abdomen it-hemorrhages-her
 cocjuì, bbá'ign. 2. vanguáat
 blood they-cure-her-ceremonially they-stick-onto-her
- rapò rích'ejegñ se vatsjàò, sotjé'g, mi'yá
 those foods which they-make tiny-round-tamales all
- vopá'g. 3. níngyo co'ògn mammèon yà māsèt
 unseasoned it's-egg turkey cooked already shelled
- ljéet. 4. ca ndá chi masàjaign máccal'
 they cut up each one little piece-by is-placed-inside-of
- nikkòjily', cojòp mánguat ne lon'fín, lo'uéì
 corn-dough then is-stuck-onto the sick-person he-does-that-way
- ne cajó. 5. vá vómga'ò químbyg'p ne
 the witch-doctor still he-is-holding-it over the
- lon'fín lójjuaich' mammò guèi' sottjé'g,
 sick-person he-raises-it-up-high dish are-in tiny-round-tamales
- cojòp va'àjot re cadéet. 6. (lijè ne cajó
 then he-addresses them the wild-things only the witch-doctor
- vannó'ot) 7. ngol'ájo re rinjà se lo'uéì
 sees/knows-them difficult/work the words which the-way-he-does
- nadàjot. 8. cotóè' químbyg'p copó' péòp se
 to-address-them big-place on-top-of ground where that
- manamàt yà mba lóccjua't 9. "yà
 they-are-going-to-go now maybe they-should-forgive-her already
- sta'òjjix nichjàp," va'èjg', 10. "yá mba lóccjua't
 too-much you-did-to-her he-says now maybe you'll-forgive-her
- lánjadn cotóè' químbyg'p copó' péòc
 leave-her-alone (pl. imper.) big-place on-top-of ground where
- se manávadn 11. que yà cáoc co'ue no'uéògn'
 that you (pl)-are-going-to-go that now I I-came I-gave-you (pl)

A Curing Ceremony--2

quích'ejegŋ, que no màs sta'òjjix nichjàp. 12. cjà
 food that no more too-much you-did-to-her interr.

m̄ba lyéèc'ŋ quí'odn' ninjè. 13. nammàign'
 perhaps you-(pl)-people you-(pl)-understand word he-finished

ndo'uàjot ndojòol' tso mèŋ vangóch^ŋ chi
 he-spoke-to-them he-put-it-into old bag little

ngoljuí'i quèi' re sottjé'g 14. ne
 chiquihuite are-in the (pl) the-little-round-tamales the

ngoljuí'i maígn' májjol' vangóch^ŋ. 15. co'uáà' se
 chiquihuite also placed-in bag whoever who
that

mattèjg't van'uán latàjich' 16. napò cajó
 married her-husband he-will-receive-it that witchdoctor

lamái lamá canjéòdnt , co'uáà' se
 he-will-command-him he-will-go a-thrower-away- whoever who
 (of-pl.-objects) *that*
hard

manatàjich' se mméjo copò. 18. conján' cotsá mmá'i
 he-is-going- who lives there (') down-there pond it-stands
 to-take-it

natégn mmà cadiágn, copò mmà ljó'g.
 capulín-tree he-goes a thrower-away- there they-go they-place-it
 (of sing. things)

Free Translation

1. When a woman's abdomen is paining her very much and she is hemorrhaging, they cure her ceremonially. 2. They stick onto her those foods which they make, tiny round tamales all unseasoned. 3. They cut up a cooked turkey egg after it's already shelled. 4. Each little piece is placed inside of corn dough, then it is stuck onto the sick person, the witch doctor does that way. 5. Still holding it over the sick person he raises up high the dish that the tiny round tamales are in; then he addresses the wild things. 6. (Only the witchdoctor sees (knows) them.) 7. The words which he uses to address them are difficult. 8. The world where they are going to go is a big place; now maybe they'll forgive her. 9. "You've done too much to her already," he says. 10. "Now maybe you'll forgive her, leave her alone, the world where you are going to go is a big place." 11. That "now I have come and have given you food; that you must not do too much to her any more. 12. Are you people who'll understand a word of advice?" 13. When he had finished addressing them, he put into an old bag a little square basket which (has in it) the little round tamales. 14. The square basket is also placed in the bag. 15. Whoever is married her husband will receive ^{it} that witchdoctor will command him to go and throw them away, whoever it is that is going to receive them, someone who lives there. 16. Down there at the pond where a capulin tree stands he goes to throw it away, there they go and place it.

He also says

(will do)