

ma'uqw 'i' thu snuhwulhs¹
The duck and his truck

- 1) suw' tskwims thu snuhwulhs tthu ma'uqw.
The duck's truck is red.
- 2) yut'at'ukw' tthu ma'uqw.
The duck is heading home.
- 3) yutl'e'lum'tus thu tskwim snuhwulhs, wulh yut'at'ukw'.
He's driving his red car, going home.
- 4) 'uhwin' tthu she'shlhs kwus yutl'a'lum'thut.
It's a small road that he is driving on.
- 5) hwun' yutl'a'lum'thut 'i' ni' wulh tiqw' 'u tthu smeent.
He's driving along and he bumps into a rock.
- 6) susuw' nem' 'uw' hwust'ut'ikw 'u tthu st'iql'.
And he gets stuck in the mud.
- 7) tstl'um qw'im 'u tthu tluk snuhwulhs, suw' t'a'thut thxutus.
He jumps off of his truck and he tries to push it.
- 8) xi'xlhem' tthu sxu'enhw.
The frog is watching.
- 9) suw' thut-s tthu sxu'enhw, "aah, ts'ewuthamu tsun. thxuthamu tsun."
And the frog said, "Oh, I will help you. I will push you."
- 10) yey'sul'u t'a'thut thxutus tthu snuhwulhs.
The two of them try to push his truck.
- 11) 'i' ni' hwun' st'ut'ikw 'ul'.
But it was still stuck.

¹ Delores Louie (Swustanulwut) supplies the Hul'q'umi'num' translation and voice to this children's story by the wonderful Jez Alborough. (This version is edited by Donna Gerds 24 May, 2016.)
<http://snuhwulh.hwulmuhwqun.ca/mauqw-i-tthu-snuhwulhs/>

- 12) hwun' t'ut'a'thut 'i' wulh wil' tthu na'nuts'a' lumutou 'ula'ulh.
They were still trying and along came a sheep on his car.
- 13) suw' temut-s thu ma'uqw', "'eyqthuth!"
And he shouted to the duck, "Get out of my way!"
- 14) "skw'ey! 'i tsun st'ut'ikw!"
"I can't! I'm stuck!"
- 15) "tstamut tst tse'? ni' tst tse' tstamut?
"What will we do? What will we do?"
- 16) aaa, m'i tsun tse' tl'uw' 'ewu ts'ewuthamu thxut."
Oh, I will come and also help you push it."
- 17) lhhwelu t'a'thut thxutus tthu tskwim snuhwulhs—tthu ma'uqw,
sxu'enhw 'i' tthu lumutou.
The three of them tried to push the red truck—the duck, the frog, and
the sheep.
- 18) ni' hwun' st'e 'ul' hwun' st'ut'ikw.
But it was still just stuck.
- 19) xut'e 'u tthey' 'i' wulh wil' tthu neni, yu'i'tutum'.
They were doing that and along came a goat, dozing off.
- 20) 'i' wulh ts'elhum'ut kwus yututem',
And he heard someone yelling,
- 21) tutem', "st'ut'ikw thunu snuhwulh!
hollering, "My truck is stuck in the mud!"
- 22) skw'ey kws m'is 'utl'qnamut."
I can't get it out!"
- 23) suw' wenshum 'utl' neni tthu xwi'lum'.
So the goat threw them a rope.
- 24) suw' thut-st-hwus, "q'eput.
And he told them, "Tie it on.

- 25) aaa yust'ut'iqw kw'un' q'eput 'u tthun' q'lhan 'u tthun' snuhwulh."
Oh, tie it on tight to the front of your truck."
- 26) 'i' tl'e' wulh qul'et thxutus 'eelhtun, hwi' yey'sul'u 'ul'.
And then they tried again, the two of them.
- 27) 'i' hay tthu neni hay nilh tthu pout-s,
And there was the goat on his boat,
- 28) ha'kwushus kwus hwkw'atum, hwkw'atum ni' 'u tthu qa'.
using it to pull, pulling from the water.
- 29) ni' thxutum tthu sxu'enhw 'i' tthu lumutou,
The frog and the sheep were pushing,
- 30) 'i' yu'ul'a'ulh tthu ma'uqw 'u tthu snuhwulhs
and the duck was on his truck.
- 31) hwun' xut'u 'i' ni' wulh 'utl'qnamut, suw' 'ulhep.
Finally it did come out, and (the rope) came off.
- 32) 'i' hay kwthu lumutou, tthu sxu'enhw, 'i' tthu neni
And there's the sheep, the frog, and the goat
- 33) hay ni' hwuslhelhuq' sun'iw' 'u tthu st'iqul'.
sprawled out in the mud.
- 34) hay ni' yusi'yus kwus yuhuy'u tthu ma'uqw,
And there's the duck, happily going on his way,
- 35) yut'it'ul'um' 'iyus kwus yuhuy'u, nem' wulh yut'at'ukw'.
singing merrily, departing toward home.
- 36) 'i' hay kwthu neni, tthu sxu'enhw 'i' tthu lumutou ni' hwun'
st'ut'ikw.
And there's the goat, the frog, and the sheep still stuck in the mud.
- 37) ni' hay.
The end.
- 38) skwati ma'uqw!
Crazy duck!