

THE GOOD LOOKING WOMAN

*told by Chief Charlie Elkhair
to Truman Michelson in 1912,*

Once there was a good looking woman. The men all liked her looks, but she would not have any of them. Even several animals said of her, "I sure would like to go with this woman."

Now there were three animals: a beaver, a skunk, and an owl. They said, "Now we will try to get this woman." They told the owl, "You go first and see whether you can get this woman." Then the owl went to see the woman, but she told him, "I won't go with you because you are ugly. Your eyes are too big. I won't go with you!" So the owl went back and said, "I couldn't get that woman."

Next the skunk went to see the woman, and she told him, "I won't go with you either because you are too ugly, and you stink." So he went back and said, "I couldn't get that woman either."

So then the beaver said, "I will go see that woman." When he got there he began to talk to the woman, but he also failed to get the woman. She told him, "I won't have you because you are an ugly thing. Your teeth are wide and your tail is big and broad. That tail of yours looks like a stirring paddle."

Then the beaver went back and he said, "Well, I also could do nothing with that woman. Now I wonder what we could do to get that woman?" Then they talked about what they could do to be able to get that woman. The beaver said, "Way over there in the creek, where she gets water, there is a log that runs into the water. Now I'll go and gnaw that log nearly in two. Then when that woman goes to fetch water, her weight will break the log, and the woman will fall into the water. Then she will send for us so we can help her get out."

Then when that woman fell in the water she said, "Now I wish the beaver was here. Maybe he could help me out of get out of the water."

Then she began to sing, "Pe Pe Kwan Sa, Pe Pe Kwan So. I like the beaver)." Then he said, "No one would like my looks because I am ugly. My teeth are too wide, and my tail looks like a stirring paddle."

Then the woman sang, "Pe Pe Kwan Sa. I like the skunk. Pe Pe Kwan Sa." The skunk said, "No one would like my looks because I am so ugly and because I stink."

Then again she began to sing, "Pe Pe Kwan Sa. I like the owl." Then the owl said, "No one would like my looks because I am ugly. I've got big eyes."

So the woman floated on down the creek, nobody would help her, and she finally drowned.