NAA MS 3002-a, folder 5
Fox text and English translation of "Singing around rite"
collected by Truman Michelson, undated
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This is how I will bless you. For you to be grandchild, "It was told. He awoke, he began to think, really my grandfather was right of what he said to anyone. "You will prepare yourself to know if your future is your faith." He used to say. The next morning he began to cook for himself. From then on he began to obey what his grandfather asked him to do. He did not even begin to think of women, and to this one whom he was betrothed, he did not even look at her when he meets her. He only lived throughout the years in the same fashion."

I will always know whatever you desire. So you will decide.
called upon to notify smokers. He went on his way, going into various wigwams, and at one place when going in, he chanced upon an old man with a great number of goods of all sizes. "What are you going to do with all these?" He said to him. "Nothing, I planted these last year and those who do not have any usually come here and get some to make one of their own," he was told.

"Now if you need one, you can select the one you like best and take it with you," he was told. "I need one," he said. "Take your choice," he was told.

Then he selected a good-sized good and took it with him, and when he returned home, his nephew said to him, "What are you going to do with that? I do not know you held festivals," he said.

"It is not only the ones who hold festivals that can afford these, it is because you do that yourself, you understand, when only holding festivals we add on according to what we know," he said to his nephew. "If you happen lose anything you will call upon one," he said to his nephew. But he was very skeptical about it, and was still slowly making his grand. 110
and after completing his grand, his nephews was already planning what he will do to him. Then once he tried one of his horses far off, then told that he had lost it, he pretend that he was hunting for it all day. In reality he was laying his horses from place to place. Then the third day: "Now I have really lost my horses, and it happens to be the one I take pride in.

"If you find it for me I will give you that buffalo robe, it may be," he was told by his nephew. He was really skeptical, that why he does that. He took his grand, and drove, "Cover me," he said to his nephew. Then he began to sound it. Then he sang, I can see all

this island

112

He sang the song. He felt as if he was of an enormous size and saw everything, and saw every thing what his nephew had done, and saw that he had tied his horses here and there in a short time he uncovered. "You have not lost your horse, it is tied quiet where you tied it last. You have tied 113 that there yourself." He said to his nephew. Then he really,
believed him. Then he told his friend about him: the one that did not believe his nephew. "He really knew what I meant to do!" he said to his friend. Then he also did not believe, and once while he was out hunting, he shot a raccoon by the water.

I looked for it." He said to his friend, "If you call upon him, I am sure he will know what had happened to it." He said, then they went back to his nephew. "Take your gun. This, he had lost his raccoon. You look for it for him. He had already killed it." He said. He took his gun, sat down and covered himself.

He sounded his gun, then began to sing:

I can see all this...
He sang the song. In a short time he uncovered, "you are indeed very bad, both if you are old enough," he said to them.

He really made them realize, "I am not nearly become like this. It is because I obeyed my grandfather while he lived. When he told me to fast, that is why I am like this," he said to these men. He really made them bow their heads.

He himself, when it fell in the water, in the bushes, he pushed it in, it is still there, but the turtle is now eating it," he said to them. "you did not believe me, that is why you have fooled me. If you have lost anything then it would be right for you to come to me, but now it seems that you are just mocking me.

He told them these, thus, they did cease disbelieving, then they became afraid of him. Then it was almost fall when the one whom he was betrothed married another. He did not altogether care to court anyone. "I guess she was one of those wicked," he thought. In the fall, but though that this was the last time he
will do what his grandfather had
desired of him. He was then
nineteen. 130
years old. "Now I will fast all
the harder," he thought. He went
to cut a stick to make
he fasted for six days. He went
hunting regardless of severe cold.
He did not care, he did not even
put on warm clothes. "You must
wear warm clothes," he was told. "This is
not very cold," he said.

121

He was indeed very brave. He often
went fasting. He was not allowed
to go with men. "You are still fasting,"
he was told, he fasted although the
winter then in the spring he need
not do it. 122

When he fasted for the last time, he fasted
seven days, then at night he brought
in some wood. Then painted his
body with sand.

He laid down, then dreamt.
"Grandchild I have blessed you,
you must eat. You will be like this
look at me," he was told from
above. When he looked above, then
he saw a man standing above,
holding a little drum. It had wings.
"This is you," he was told. "This is

123

how you will make the one you will
keep. This only to hold and also this.
He was told. He showed him a little
guard, "you seek one as big as this,
you will tie some feathers
"I was told, "Those will represent the wings, that is why I told you this."

124

"at this time grandchild." He was told, this only one sided, this drum it's not ornamented, you will make one like it and after you have made it you will ask something to look you can get almost anything so after you have brought some thing you will ask two men and ask them to cook for you.

125

And also they will come in full regalia, you will all wear full regalia and do not feel to display anything because of its value you will not be afraid to bear the rain, and if there is a river in the way you must go on where everyone go and do not allow any to draw in front of you."

126

127
men you must ask, they will
they will be called, they will
ring in the distance while the
drum is being beaten. If you
are on the journey, they will ring
in the front, if any one is in
front they must whip him.

They will not be easy on him.

They must say this when

128
they whip anyone (wo, aw) they
will say, and if the dogs
are in the way they must kill
them. It is like that, you must
ring. This my blessedness to you.
you will help the Indians as
long as they remember it. This
what they must all do, the future
Indians if they do not forget

They were told, "Before you began to
cut one must, one must be
required to give a whoop, and this
is what he must say: (a wo, aw, a wo, a wo, a wo) then you begin
to cut. This is what you will do,
and it will come back to you
again. He awoke it was almost
dawn, after it was light he began
to cook for himself the corn
meal. He never thought of any-
thing else, but only thought

130
what he dreamt. The dream was
not complete, "Whenever I dream
again," he thought to himself all
day, the next night. He went
to bed very early, and as
soon as he fell to sleep—"I have come again grandchild, it spoke to him from above, "you have known where I left off, you must always dance whenever you beat the drum, and if on the way your mind 131 dance on the way." He was told, you will sing like this when ever you are through. Whenever you use that drum." He was told, "you will choose when ever you want to do that, I will not tell you, that you must do it at this time. I only blessed you take this. Then from then you will serve your will.

132

This is the first song:

137

(137 syllables)

133

(133 syllables)

134

(134 syllables)
When you sing, I will always know, and if one sings that whatever they wish, ‘He was told by his grandfather,’ and if the men sing as loud as they can and all the women they must sing, and as long as you must sing all you have taken, with the grandfathers and some sometimes the dreadful disease brings among your poor young women away.

For that, I have given this to you, this dream, because you have suffered hunger, that is the power that was given to many of me to bless you. That is why we can bless you, and really they all become according to our blessings.’ He was told, ‘It is not in a bad way, but we have blessed any one. That is not why they have created me.’ He was told, ‘I have blessed you. This is...’
good and only you men must have goods, and women will not, but they will not be required to rattle goods, but only you will say this to them. This will be a great help to you all.

139

This will aid in getting rid of the dreaded disease. Because of any blessedness, and as soon as you are through and think it is still lingering among your fellow Indians, then you must look. This will only be for getting together. That is why you will cook. I have told you, then you will all go into every wigwam.

140

Beating the drums all the while and singing very loud, and after you have gone into every wigwam, then you will circle the whole village. You will begin when the light strikes first and circle the village, and after you come back to where you started then you will choose where you want to stop dancing.

141

Right then the disease will take flight, and never will anyone become the victim of the disease. He is much afraid of me. It will know me as soon as you begin to going into wigwams. Then he cannot insist, if you wish you can do that occasionally.
The disease would thus be nothing. You can take anyone, if you are thorough, then you let them know of what I have said, as long as the believers do. They will be the same as you, if they believe you. 143

They must keep this to their utmost. As long as they do not forget what you have done, this will be a great help to them. Sometimes the disease comes every summer and that is the time the Indians suffer. That is why I blessed your granddaughter and daughter, and also this.

I have taken a new member you must all be present. And also this 144

You must not be too careful with your clothes. Even if there is a heavy rain, and if you want to go anywhere and if anyone is in the way, they must be whipped. When I say that, when do that. The disease is much afraid of me. You must not be easy on anyone. You must pull yourselves up for the law.

(The one that going while on journey)

That is how you will say. I have 145

Told you all of it and I must go granddaughter. He was told.
he watched him while dancing on the way. He saw him disappear among the clouds. He awoke. It was dawn. "I think I got what is good now. That was what my grandfather meant to while alive. To help those Indians," he said. "Who will live after me? It will help them, and their thoughts of it to the belief I will always know." Then he knew that as he already reached fasting that was the last time he first lied and he was their almost twenty-two years old. In the forest all the Indians were depending upon him.

When ever someone began to feel the hunger they would upon their feet go hunting for them, and they would also call upon him to run errand to a great distance he was the first summer. He was never in need of anything. It was winter but it seemed to him like summer. He did not care for cold weather. Those who had daughters wished him very much for their son-in-law.

But he did not desire any courtship. He was already what his grandfather desired him to do. He behaved well all summer, and she was
hesitating to do, according to requirements of his recent blessidness, "anytime you wish to do so." He was told at the time, finally it was written again, then in the spring he kill a buffman.

He set out the hide right where he killed it; often he would go out to look at it, and after it had dried thoroughly, he began tanning it the best he could, and after he had made it, he took it and placed it nearby. Then he prepared a stick, according to the one who beat him hard. Then made a drum and after making it, she made the ground, after making them, she obtain some feathers then tied them to the ground, and after completing everything he went out to kill a deer, but after bringing it in, he called upon tidewomen. "Now we will cook this deer," he said to them. They did not know why they should cook it for.

Ignorantly the began to cook. "It is now cooked," they announced at last. "Now you may call upon ten men and fourteen." He said, they call upon these and after they all come an..."
"Now your away dish out along the rig," he said. They proceeded to dish out. After doing so they said, "That's all." They said, then the asked on one man: "You must give a whoop in this manner..."

"A wo, a wo, a wo, a wo," you will say," he said, then the man said, "A wo, a wo, a wo, a wo," he said, then they all began to eat. After eating he began to tell," We have done an entirely different thing for the first time. Whenever you hear the drum, you must go. That will be the announcement. In some things not go to everyone.

Because they hate to walk around, you will do that. Whenever they start to cook we will start to beat the drum, so we will have enough dancing," he said to them. "And you men, you must each one of you make yourselves a ground to dance, but you must tie the little feathers to those grounds and they must make them very small." He said to them. "And to our women they must sing as long as we do or give. I am not doing this for nothing, last year, I failed eight times. That is why I know what to do.

It is not for me alone but..."
everybody, including women and children. We will depend on this, if it is real. The disease will not linger among us, if it is possible for us to do this, and those of you who wish to bring along something to cook, you may do so. Those of you whom 154

I have taken, you must gather here, in the streams, whenever the disease begins among us, we will then go into every wigwam and when circle around,” he said, “then, these four, we will call. If anyone is near, way they must whip him and to the dogs they can kill. It do 157
you must carry on, on this.

159

part of the disease." He said to
them, "We must sing." He said,
they began to line up along the
drums and began to sing. He
recalled all the songs, but
to them it seems very long to learn
one song. From then on, they
continued the same. They soon
learned all the

160

drums, from then on they didn't
the same thing, telling them about
it at each time. Time and time
the warriors were to go out.

He asked by the leader to go with
them. "We want to depend

161

you for our food!" He was told.

"I am not well acquainted with
any of the young men," he said.
"You can join any one of them.

He was told, "I am going with
you at any rate." He said. He asked
his parents. "I have not thought
of you to do such. Although you
are already a warrior and besides,
these Indians will depend on you." He was told. "You will
do as you please. You must at
least take our sacred bundle." He
was told by his father. "There's no
need of it. It will bother me so."

162

He said, "Well well! I again have
fainted heretofore." He was told
He went along. Not only to his first guard with him. He noticed that everyone of them had several bundles. In the evening, "you must go ahead of me." They were told. "You will be told," he said. "We will hunt out the way and let them make fire until we get there." They told by the leader, "That will not be necessary, we will until 163 until we get there, then I'll hunt while they make fire." He said. He was indeed worried, for fear he might not kill any game and when they got. He asked very easy on everything. Then he hunted but no more than he was out of sight, he came back dragging the bear with him. "There is still another I have killed," he said. They went after it. "This is indeed too much, you ought to kill just one, thus it would be easy to cut up," he was told. He was much acquainted with one who of the same age as he was. He was much depended upon by the leader. He done the same whenever making the camp. He would bring out game when no than going out of sight. He killed various kinds of game. They slept six times and at the seventh time they slept. "Here is where we will rest. It is only a little ways from here to our destination."
They were told. He told the exact place where the ones they came for lodged. "I will see them," he said. He took his gun. "You must cover me with something," he said. After he was covered, she began something with a sword, thinking, I can see all.

"..."

"..."

This fulfilled.

He said, "Now that I am nothing they are not there where we intended to go. Boys," they were told, "I am for nothing." They were told, "I have brought you here for nothing." They were told, then went. "I will never again go anywhere if I insist, if I go out to hunt and there kindly we would all probably be killed. That is how it is. It is that, if the ones you come for are there, it is good, that you come back with all you took with you." They were told, the leader, "We came here for nothing, it is a great shame whenever the wignaus are there. It is very far from here." He said, "They are five families, each one of them."
But very slowly he began cutting the heads of the people, and very slowly went out of sight. After being out of sight, he saw taking him a very short time, it was far in distance to where his friends were, but the daylight was just coming on, when he returned, they stood with him, when he returned to his friends, a pack of heads. "Here they are," he said. "We threw one to each one of his friends. He threw two to the leader, he did not leave any for himself. "You must all hurry cutting off these scalps, we must make haste in going," said
"All leaders, 'They might follow,' they were told, "They do not know we are here," he said, "you may choose which course to take."

"And if these families are suffering, because their men are not killing any game," they were told. The next day he went out hunting for others, the others, whom he went with were beginning for dances.

"He did not want to perform all of those ceremonies. "I will not, for I just went out with you," he said to them. He, in reality, was the real warrior, I did not care. "Really, that was not urgent to me by my grandfather," he thought. Then once, "I believe this is the time for me to consider marrying," he thought.
to himself. He began to think over, the one rule will be good. He particularly watched each girl. However, he was much admired by most of them but he did not care to go with them. It was almost a year noticing all girls. He was attracted by one. She was very industrious. She made mats, 176
days, gather firewood and cooks very early in the morning. She raised an abundance of food. He never saw her idly anywhere, and never had any knowledge of anyone courting her. "I guess this is the right one," he thought to himself.

"She is not attractive," he thought. "But my grandfather 177
They are not good when women and pretty if they are bad. The ones that behave well are the ones that are good." He used to say that to her when he was alive," he thought as he began courting her. She replied in return. Finally, she consented to marry him. He married her. The others were very angry, 179
other women were busy trying to say hateful things against his wife. Because of her unattractiveness, she was really a good wife. They occasionally bungled around. She sang.
after marriage it was fruitless, and the woman wished very much to bear a child. He was given medicine to drink by his relatives.

After 180

She was then going to bear a child. It was planting season. She was taken ill, then she felt to bear the child. She died, and that man became very sad. Even after the adoption, he was still sad. They even ceased to dream. You must stop being severely grieved. You are still worthy of another.

Then 181

You see her again. You can marry another, she will not

When returning, a number
9 then had died, and everyone as soon as they came in would catch the plague. "Those who went out hunting, hunting have brought the plague," they all said and before the night was over several had died. and that man awoke very early in the morning 184.

Before breakfast he went out to hunt; in a short time he was back with a deer just as the Indians were awakening. Then he called upon his men to prepare for cooking what he had brought. Then began beating the drum.

"This is what the one who blessed me spoke to me about," he was saying. Now we will know if it is real! 185.

"You must not be afraid," he said after they all came in. They dressed while they were cooking. The sun then shone when they were through cooking. Then they began according to the one who blessed him had said. After they had eaten they began on the young beating the drum. They started going into every wigwam.

"It is not until that we are just doing this, it is to do away with this contagious disease, among the Indians is why we do this," he said to his fellow soldiers. They went into every one, even to the victims.
I have helped you. I have always obeyed my grandfather, when he told me to fast in good faith and never to steal. 187

anything, you will be very poor. If you steal and you must not never say a thing against the Indians. Do not grieve with them. As soon as they take the one that is good. Then marry when you are full grown. Do not desire to live with them too soon, but prepare yourself for life first to help your fellow Indians.

188

greatly depending upon this, but it was real. I hope yourself go hungry. In fact, and now have already known how

189

190

Hunt was what decide to sing to me. I have always obeyed him and he was right, and every
thing you have been doing is due to that foolishness, so I urge you all to make your decisions right. He said to this fellow, 191.

As for me, I know now that they have begun making me feel before I knew anything. They began when I was five years old. My grandfather began making fun at that time. I never said anything at that time, even when I was six years old. I barely remember.

The way I was blessed I would only have control over you whenever I want you to die. If I have taken that blessing and did not stop to consult him I would 193.

taken myself into wrong. That is what I always thought. The children should begin at the age of seven then they would know. The elders should always teach him confidentially and let him tell all his blessings. Then the older person should know whether the received the right blessings or not. That was what I did. I always told my grandfather,” he said to them. 194.
Indeed they tried very hard for
the now, and on individually
one would bring something
its dead, then once going them
were taken it, only their fellow
then in the end. He was
called upon. "What shall we do," they
were asked. "The members of
the family in which death
occurred may obtain some
thing to cook, then we will
gather them." He said it to the
195
one who came to tell him.
Then he came again. "Why they
consented to cook something of
me said. He took his drum
and the placa, then began beating
it. Then all the

there. When the body was being
taken for burial they followed
in procession, beating the drum,
and as long as the body was
not buried 196
they kept singing. And as soon
as it was buried they ceased
singing. This signifies the
bidding farewell to the deceased,
that is why they do that, and also
its let him know, who blessed
them, and they only sang one
song all the while. Then the
197
was why we done this, to sing.

We do not do this merely
for nothing, or singing in
glee, but those are the songs.
I summoned four men, and also to this relative of yours if you are sorry for him, and wondered why he died. You must fast, and if you must say this mourning song, you will surely know why he died," he said to them. "Then one woman, who was a brother to the deceased, fasted 198

Then she sang that song while mourning:"  
(C syllables)

She sang the song, and then as she expected she dreamt, and some one told her why he died. "I guess that is real," she thought, and she began to think a lot about the woman. Whenever she gets anything she always gave it, for they to cook. "You must beat the drum," she would always say. Finally that man made her a member, she was in too good faith with them, and after that she was always there whenever the drum is beaten. Even if she was very busy she would go regardless of that, whenever she hears their drum, then as she 200

went out with the camping expedition. They wanted to get some meat and hides..."
At this time hides are at their best. They said. That now went along, the one that owned the drum. They obtain great amount of hides. This they spent time, and on returning they were met by one. "Great many of them have died, and many of them fled across the river, but they also are beginning to die."

In a short time, they were all there, everyone in full regalia. They began going into every wigwam. Then they went across the river. They walked with their clothes, giving into the wigwams of those who fled across the river, then they circled the village, and after they were through, the plague was gone.

Now next time when I am not here, you must proceed, if the business comes again, I will not live forever. Place some one who will be good in my place, as long as you
to alain good faith it
203
will always hold good, you
will always depend on it, those who
will live after us, you must
always put some one in your
place.” He said to them.
He died when he was about
fifty years old, he desired to do
so at his own will.

Note — I do not claim
to know all, this is in
accordance to what I was
told.

All Best,

The signature is illegible.

2/15
The head man failed to choose a successor. He had to have a treatment for the head. So the treatment was decent.

The 1st head had 2 assistants. He had 2 sons. One son died. In 1980, she died before that. The Society's history. The 1st head man, the father, came here and got the Society started here.

The information in this text was obtained from an old manuscript of the Society's administration.
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