

SONGS OF THE CHEYENNE

1. O'TÄ NÄ'NIS'NÄSISTS

O'tä nä'nis'näsists—Ehe'e'ye'!
 O'tä nä'nis'näsists—Ehe'e'ye'!
 Mä'tesemä'moestä'nowe't—Ähe'e'ye'!
 Mä'tesemä'moestä'nowe't—Ähe'e'ye'!
 Ho'ivitu'simo'moi'ts—E'ähe'e'ye'!
 Ho'ivitu'simo'moi'ts—E'ähe'e'ye'!
 Nu'ka'eshe'vao'e'tse'
 Nitu'si'mitä'nun,
 Nitu'si'mitä'nun.

Translation

Well, my children—Ehe'e'ye'!
 Well, my children—Ehe'e'ye'!
 When you meet your friends again—Ähe'e'ye'!
 When you meet your friends again—Ähe'e'ye'!
 The earth will tremble—E'ähe'e'ye'!
 The earth will tremble—E'ähe'e'ye'!
 The summer cloud (?)
 It will give it to us,
 It will give it to us.

The interpretation of this song is imperfect and the meaning is not clear. It evidently refers to the earthquake which it is supposed will occur at the moment of contact of the spirit world with the old earth. The literal meaning of the second line, rendered "when you meet your friends again," is "when you are living together again."

2. EHÄ'N ESHO'INI'

Ehä'n esho'ini',
 Ehä'n esho'ini',
 Hoi'v esho'ini',
 Hoi'v esho'ini',
 I'yohä'—Eye'ye'!
 I'yohä'—Eye'ye'!
 I'nisto'niwo'ni—Ahe'e'ye'!
 I'nisto'niwo'ni—Ahe'e'ye'!

Translation

Our father has come,
 Our father has come,
 The earth has come,
 The earth has come,
 It is rising—Eye'ye'!
 It is rising—Eye'ye'!
 It is humming—Ahe'e'ye'!
 It is humming—Ahe'e'ye'!

This is the song composed by Porcupine, the great leader of the Ghost dance among the northern Cheyenne. It refers to the coming of the