

Chāno'ŋpa wa'ŋ chi'cha-u'pi,
 A'te he'ye lo',
 A'te he'he lo'.
 Cha'-yani'pi-ktā',
 Cha'-yani'pi-ktā',
 A'te he'ye lo',
 A'te he'ye lo'.

Translation

~~My son, let me grasp your hand,~~
~~My son, let me grasp your hand,~~
 Says the father,
 Says the father.
 You shall live,
 You shall live,
 Says the father,
 Says the father.
 I bring you a pipe,
 I bring you a pipe,
 Says the father,
 Says the father.
 By means of it you shall live,
 By means of it you shall live,
 Says the father,
 Says the father.

This song refers to the sacred pipe which, according to the Sioux tradition, was brought to them by a mysterious young woman from the spirit world. The story, as outlined by Captain J. M. Lee, is as follows: In the old times the Sioux were always at war, not only with other tribes, but also among themselves. On one occasion two young men were out hunting when they saw a young woman approaching them with folded arms. Seeing that she was not of their own tribe, one proposed to the other that they kill her, but he refused and urged that they wait until they learned what she wanted. The first speaker, however, was about to kill her as she drew near, when she suddenly stooped down and took from around her ankle something resembling an anklet, which she waved about her head. The motion was so rapid that it seemed as though a cloud encircled her for a few moments, when she ceased, and the snake which she had taken from off her ankle glided away through the grass. But the young warrior who had thought to kill her had disappeared, swept from the face of the earth.

Turning now to his companion, she said, "To you I come as a friend and helper. Your people have been killing each other. I bring you a pipe, which is a token of peace," and she held out a pipe as she spoke. "When you smoke it your thoughts will be of peace, and no murderer (i. e., no one who kills a member of his own tribe) must be allowed to smoke it." She returned with him to his village, where the women prepared for her reception a large tipi, to which the chiefs of the tribe came to listen to her instructions. She taught them to be at peace with

see
 wey god
 painted
 tipi