

Sitting Bull kindness to birds. MS 28

By Two Bulls.

Sitting Bull was at one time invited invited out to a feast with a number of old men. The feast was to be given in the camp ~~that~~ ^{+ hence} they walked over and as they went along they sang songs in honor of the giver of the feast and between singing they would crack jokes at each other showing that they were in the best of mood.

Suddenly Sitting Bull slipped away and was busily engaged in trying to catch a little ^{bird}. It was a wounded young meadow-lark limping round. At last he succeeded catching the little suffering creature and ^{was} holding it in his hand.

The rest of the old men stopped and waited for the chief and Gray eagle, brother-in-law of Sitting Bull, jokingly remarked. "What is he doing again. He is getting to be childish - chasing a mouse or a bird." The rest of the men, likewise, made similar jokes. They called the old chief to stop his childish pranks, as they were anxious to go on and perhaps they are waiting for them.

But the chief did not listen to their jokes. ~~Instead~~ He called them over where he was and holding out the little wounded meadow-lark, before their eyes and said. "My dear comrades, the meadow-lark branch of the Bird Tribe was intended a friend to us Dakotas. What do these birds mean when they say plainly: "Eeana wanijeta ktelo." - "I will soon be winter." Pehinjala pi mapin." "Calves liver is nutritious." "Hokriela tehan