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Indian Legend

Another Adventure of the Coyote

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This story refers to many centuries ago, so many I could not guess, but it is as told to me of the time when the coyote, grizzly bear, black bear, rabbit, wren, humming-bird, eagle, and in fact, all other animals and fowls were people, living of course like the Indians in wigwams located in a beautiful valley where the streams ran smoothly among beautiful green trees.

One time there was a dance at a place where all the people were to attend. The dance hall belonged to a class who were at that time called giants. All the children were afraid of them because they always carried a basket on their backs, which was filled with hot stones, and whenever they saw little children playing out away from their homes, they would take them and put them into the basket and carry them off to a place where they would eat them. These people were enemies of the coyote, and Coyote had to go to the great Indian

dance. When he reached the place the people were all there, so he got in safely because the place was so crowded.

He saw the people dancing, and after looking on for some time, he was so tempted that he went out into the open space and began to dance. The house was long and there was a fire in the center, and the dancers had to dance around the fire. Coyote, after making his first round, saw that the best thing he could do was to escape from his enemies, which he did, with the giants in hot chase. When he saw that he was about to be caught he ran into a badger's hole.

After staying there for some time he looked out, thinking that he was going to get out safely, but he was surprised when he saw one of the giants still sitting at the opening waiting for him to come out. So he went back in again, and by this time was getting very hungry. He took one of his eyes out and swallowed it. After a while he looked out again and saw that the giant was gone, but to be sure, he stayed in the hole until he became so hungry that he ate his other eye to keep from starving. Finally he got out and wandered about unhappily for many days, because of his eyes, thinking it very hard to find a way of getting another pair of eyes. One day he picked a sunflower for his eye

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