



TO THE MOUNTAIN!

¡A la Montaña!
KO'ONE'EX WITS'

To the Mountain! Digital Version

By Sylvia Batty, Rebecca Friedel, and Leah McCurdy

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An Introduction & Hello

In these pages, you will find a story about two fictional Maya kids living during the Late Classic Maya period (600 - 900 CE) around the archaeological site of Xunantunich, Belize. Originally, Xunantunich was known as *Katyaatz Witz* (*Katyaats' Wits'*) or Clay Mountain. While fictional, this story is based on documented archaeological information and many cultural aspects of the ancient Maya. For example, the building illustrated on pages 33 and 37 is part of El Castillo acropolis and known as Structure A-6-2nd. Its stucco frieze still survives in part at El Castillo today. Visit <http://fajinaoutreach.org/tothemountain> for more information. We hope you enjoy and learn from this book!

For all story text, we provide English, Spanish, and Yucatec Maya versions.

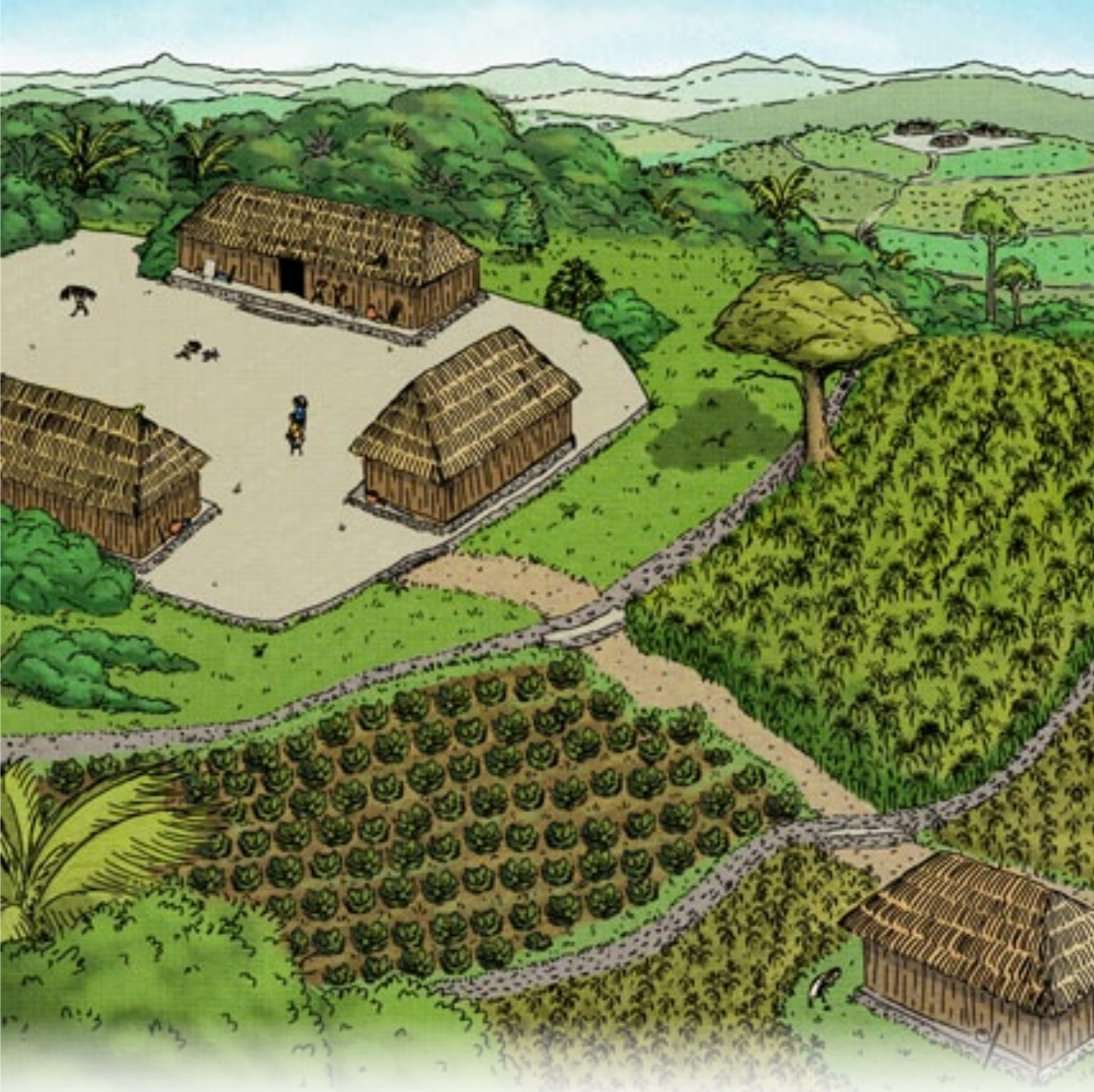
Notes on the Yucatec Maya Translation from Mr. Fernando Tzib:

To translate the name of Running Jaguar, I use "Chakmo'ol" instead of "Baalam" (both referring to jaguar) because it differentiates the sacred from the profane. I use an "h" instead of "j" to be consistent with Spanish usage. In addition, I use a double "aa" for the aspirated sound of an "a" which is longer than the "a" as in bat. This applies to all vowels. Further, I do not use the accented "a" as used by other writers when the sound of an "a" is aspirated (for example, baat vs báat). I also use "ts'" for glottalized sounds but it could be replaced by "tz," as in modern Maya studies.

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In a time of good fortune and plenty, there lived a little girl named Little Moon. She was born when the moon was at its fullest, bright and white. She lives with her family on their farming terraces in the community called Chan. They all work to plant and harvest the corn, squash, and beans grown on the terraces, even her little brother, Running Jaguar. Chan is part of the community called Clay Mountain, with a capital on a hill above the river. The Clay Mountain capital has the most impressive Mountain Temple for miles.

En un tiempo de gran fortuna y abundancia, vivía una niña que se llamaba Lunita. Ella nació cuando la luna estaba llena, brillante y blanca. Ella vive con su familia en sus tierras de cultivos en la comunidad llamada Chan. Todos ellos, hasta su hermanito menor, Jaguar que Corre, trabajan juntos para sembrar y cosechar el maíz, la calabaza y los frijoles cultivados en las tierras. Chan es parte de la comunidad llamada Montaña de Barro con su capital en una loma que se extiende sobre el río. La capital de Montaña de Barro tiene el Templo de la Montaña más impresionante en todos sus alrededores.

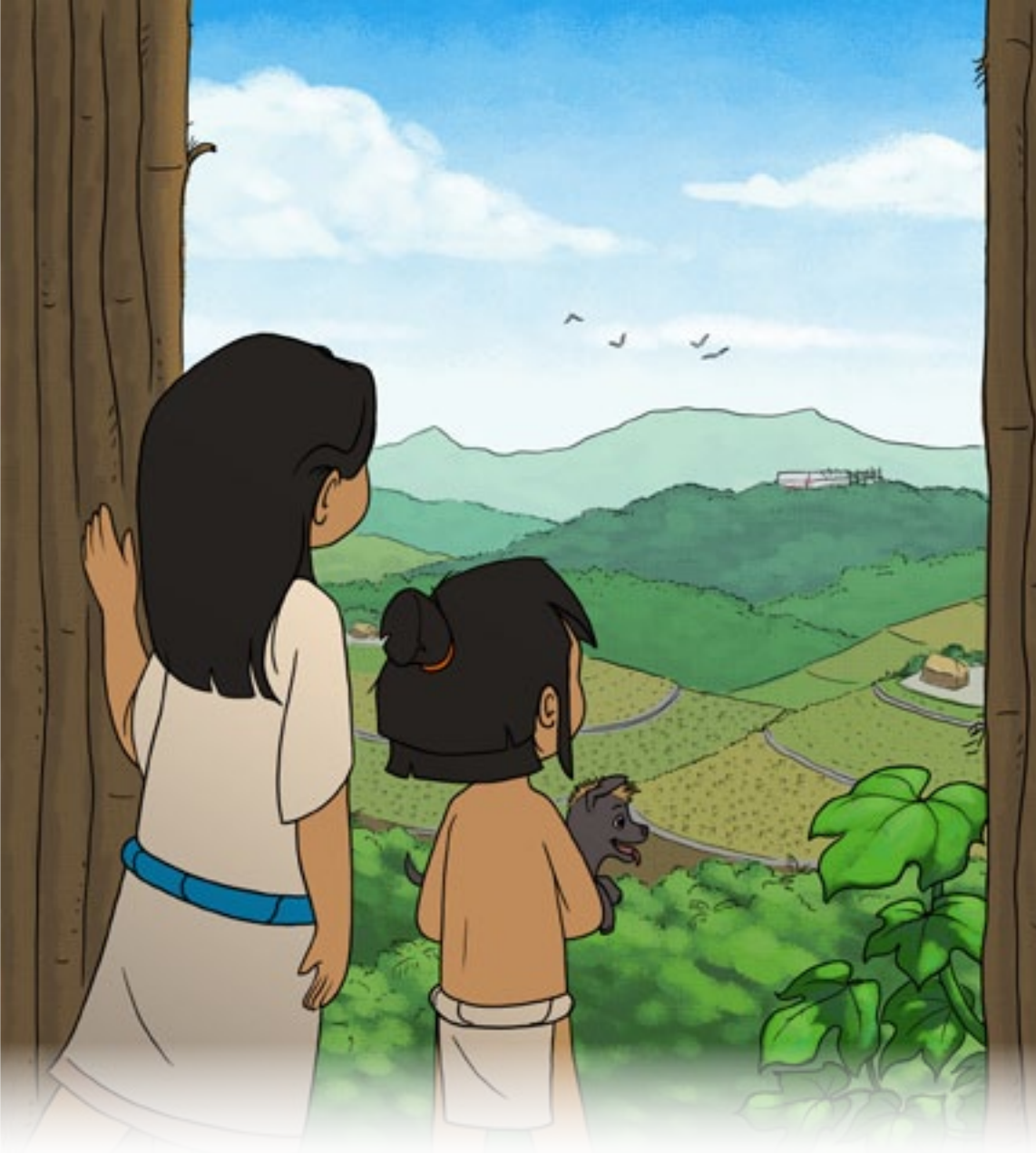
Ti'al u ma'aloobil k'inilo'obe' kuxlah huntul chan ch'upaale' u k'aabae' Chichan Uh. Le k'iin ka' sihe' hach tun u k'inil u tulistal, le saasleme'en sak uho'. Kahlaho'ob ichil u lu'umil u paak'alo'ob ichil u kahil Chan. Tu lakalo'ob ku meyaho'ob ti'al u pak'iko'ob yetel u moliko'ob nal, k'uum yetel bu'ul pak'ano'ob ichill le tsolbil buk'ultbil lu'umo'obo'beyxan u chan it's'in, Alkab Chakmo'ol. Chane' hun p'eel u kahil u baak'paachil u kahtalil Katyaats' Wits', u noh kahile ku hayikubaj tak hal le noh uk'umo'. Tu laakal u baak'paachile' mina'an u laak'kah yan u noh mulil bey hats'utsil he'ex U noh kajil le Katyaats' Wits'.



Little Moon has been helping the women to make rope from henequen leaves. The strings that grow in the henequen are very strong. They make the rope very thick for pulling and lifting. The rope Little Moon is making will be used by her father and his friends to make the Mountain Temple bigger and more beautiful. Little Moon's father is working to improve the Mountain Temple for everyone. Running Jaguar tries to help make the rope but chasing his puppy is more fun.

Lunita ha estado ayudando a las mujeres a hacer mecate de hojas de henequén. Los hilos que crecen en el henequén son muy fuertes. Ellas hacen el mecate muy grueso para halar y levantar. El mecate que Lunita está haciendo será usado por su papá y sus amigos para hacer el Templo de la Montaña más grande y bello. El papá de Lunita está trabajando para mejorar el templo de la Montaña para todos. Jaguar que Corre trata de ayudar a hacer el mecate pero se divierte más corriendo detrás de su perrito.

Chichan Uhe' ku yaantik le ko'olelo'obo u beeto'b u suumil kih. U suumil kihe'hach ts'u'uy. Le suum ku beetiko'obo' polok ti'al u kolal yetel na'aksal ba'axo'ob. Le suum ku beetik Chichan xUhe k'a'abeet ti'al u ka'ankunta'al yetel u hats'utskunta'al Noh Muul bin u taat yetel u laak'tsilo'ob. Le u taat Chichan xUhe' tan u meyahtik le noj muulo' yok'lal u k'ambe'ental t'ial tu laakalo'ob. Alkab Chakmo'ole' ku ts'akubah aantal xan ba'ale' ku p'atike' ku bin baaxal yetel u yalak' peek'.



Little Moon and Running Jaguar see the Mountain Temple changing from a distance every day. They see more limestone blocks added to make it taller. These blocks are covered with white plaster and then painted many colors. They know that the Mountain Temple is important and that it shows the power of the leaders of Clay Mountain. They want to know more! They want to see it up close!

Lunita y Jaguar que Corre ven, a la distancia, el Templo de la Montaña cambiando cada día. Ellos ven más bloques de piedra caliza agregados para hacerlo más alto. Estos bloques son cubiertos con yeso blanco y después son pintados de muchos colores. Ellos saben que el Templo de la Montaña es importante y muestra el poder de los líderes de La Montaña de Barro. ¡Quieren saber más! ¡Quieren verlo de cerca!

Saansamal Chan xUhe' yetel Alka Chakmo'ole' ku paktiko'ob bix u helpahal le Noh Mulo' ti'al nachilo. Ku yiliko'ob u ka'ankunta'al yetel kan-ti'its sak kaab tunichil koot. Le tunicho'obo' ku yuulta'alo'ob yetel sak luuk' te'elo' ku bo'onolo'ob yetel tu laakal bo'onanil. Leti'o'obe' u yohelo'ob u k'a'beetil le Noh Muulo'tumen ku yilaal u pahtalil u ho'olilo'ob u kahil Katyaats' Wits'. Tu taak' ti'o'ob u yohelto'ob bix u bin le meyaho' u k'aat u yilo'ob naats'il!



One day Little Moon decides that she must see the new Mountain Temple for herself. She is a big girl now. She has been making the tortillas all on her own for many months. She knows the path to the capital and she wants to see her father. She packs tortillas and jicama in her bag, just as she does when she goes to help pick corn on the terraces. Her mother will think she is there today. As the sun begins to rise in the sky, she says a prayer to the Sun God and leaves on her adventure. 7

Un día, Lunita decide que tiene que ver el nuevo Templo de la Montaña por sí misma. Ella es una niña grande ahora. Ha estado haciendo tortillas solita por muchos meses. Conoce el camino a la capital y quiere ver a su papá. Empaca tortillas y jícama en su bolsa del mismo modo que lo hace cuando va a ayudar a recoger el maíz en la milpa. Su mamá pensará que está allí este día. Cuando el sol empieza a salir, ella eleva una oración al Dios del Sol y sale en su aventura.

Hun p'eel k'iine' Chan xUje tu ts'aha tu tukule'yan u yilik tu yichil le noh kaaho' yetel le u Muulil le Wits'o'. Leti'e' nohoch xch'upal behla'e'. ts'o'ok u maan k'in u beetik wah tu hun. U k'a'ool u behil le noh kaaho', taak u yilik u taat. Tu ts'apa wah, tu but'ah chiicam xan ichil u ba'ay he'ex ken xi'ik aantal ichil koole'. Ken u chen tukultu u na'e ichil kool yaan le k'iin leelo'. Hubuknak u saastale payak'chi'nahe' ka' binbalnah u yil ba'ax ken uchuk.



She knows she must follow the path until she reaches the wide bend in the river where she will cross and then climb the hill to the Mountain Temple and her father. Feeling the sun's warm rays gives her confidence that she has the Sun God's blessing. The creaking of the trees, the crunch of the leaves, and the calling of the birds above give her peace. Suddenly, Little Moon hears a louder crunching noise behind her. Something is coming toward her and it is moving fast. A peccary! It must have smelled her tortillas and jicama!

Ella sabe que tiene que seguir el camino hasta que llegue a la amplia curva en el río donde ella cruzará y luego subirá la cima donde están el Templo de la Montaña y su papá. Sintiendo los tibios rayos del sol le da la confianza que ella tiene la bendición del Dios del Sol. El ruido de los árboles, el crujido de las hojas, y los cantos de los pájaros le da paz. De repente, Lunita oye un crujido más fuerte detrás de ella. Algo viene hacia ella y está moviéndose muy rápido. ¡Un cuche de monte! ¡Debió haber olido sus tortillas y su jicama!

U yohele' yan u t'u'ultik le beho' tak ti'al u k'uchul tu'ux yan u kochil u lo'olochil le noh ukumo' tu'ux ken manako' te'el tuuno' ku na'akal tu p'ichni'ilo tu'ux yan u Muulil Wits' yetel u taat. U k'inalil le u huul le k'iino' tu hets'ah u tuukul ku ya'alike' taan u pakta'al tumen K'iin K'uh. U huum le che'obo', u sawalta'al u le'o'obo' yetel u k'aay le ch'ich'o'obo' ku ts'ahik hets'balil ti leeti'. Ba'ale, chen mixba'ale' Chan xUhe' tu yu'ubah u yep'ech paachil ti'. Yan ba'ax tsaypachtik, hach peeka'an u taal. Hun tul kitam. Miyah tu yu'ubah u book le wah yetel le chiicamo'!



Frightened Little Moon throws her lunch into the bushes and runs to a Succotz tree. She scrambles up the branches, holds on tight, and waits for the peccary to pass. Little Moon hears laughter beneath her and opens her eyes to see Running Jaguar giggling up at her. Running Jaguar loves to run. He runs in the milpa. He runs with his puppy. Today, he must have been running behind Little Moon!

Lunita, asustada, arroja su almuerzo en el monte y corre a un árbol Succotz. Ella sube sobre las ramas, se sostiene con fuerza, y espera a que se vaya el cuche de monte. Lunita oye risitas al pie del árbol y al abrir sus ojos, ve a Jaguar que Corre, la está viendo, riéndose. A Jaguar que Corre le encanta correr. Corre en la milpa. Corre con su perrito. Hoy, debe haber estado corriendo detrás de Lunita.

Ichil u sahkiye' tu k'atch'intah u yo'och ichil le k'aaxo'obo' ka lakchah u yalkab tu chun hun kul chok'os. Na'ak u yalkab, tu ch'uyubah chich tu k'ab le che'o', ka' tu pa'atal u maan le kitamo'. Chan xUhe' tu yu'ubah che'eh yaanal ka tu p'ilah u yiche' ku yilike' tan u hi'hi' che'ehtaal bin Alkab Chakmo'ol. Alkab Chakmo'ole' ki' tu t'aan u yalkab. Ku yalkab ichil kool. Ku yalkab yetel u yalak' chan peek'. Behla'e' miyah tan u yalkab paach Chan xUh.



Angry, Little Moon climbs down the Succotz Tree. What will she do now? Her adventure is ruined! She must take Running Jaguar home. He is too young to be on an adventure and Mom will notice for sure that they are missing. Little Moon grabs his arm to take him home but he refuses to go. He wants to see the Mountain Temple too! Most of all, he wants to see Father. Little Moon's anger fades. She can never stay angry with him for long. She knows how he feels. She misses Father too.

Enojada, Lunita se baja del árbol Succotz. ¿Qué va a hacer ahora? Su aventura está aruinada. Ella debe llevar a Jaguar que Corre a su casa. Él es demasiado pequeño para ir en esta aventura y de seguro Mamá se dará cuenta que ellos no están. Lunita lo toma del brazo para llevarlo a casa pero él no quiere ir. ¡El quiere ver el Templo de la Montaña también! Sobre todo, él quiere ver a Papá. El enojo de Lunita se desaparece. Ella nunca puede quedar enojada con él por mucho tiempo. Ella sabe lo que él siente. Ella extraña a Papá también.

Ts'iika'an, chan xUhe' eem tu k'ab le chok'oso'. Ba'ax ken u beet bejla'e'. U ch'inho'olahle' k'aschah u ho'olil. Leeti'e' ma' nonoh ti ch'inho'olali' u na'e' u ts'a'ooltik mina'ano'obe'. Yan u bisik Alkab Chakmo'olti'al u yotoch. Chan xUhe' tu koolah u k'ab ka u bis tu yotoch ba'ale' leeti'e' ma taak u bini'. Taak u yilik le Noj Muul xano'! U hähile' taak u yilik Tàat. Chan xUhe tan u maan u ts'iikil. Ma' teen u paahtal u ts'iiktal yetel ka'hach xaanchak. U yohel bix u yu'ubikubah. Leeti' xane ku nàak' ti u yilik Taat.



Little Moon takes her brother's hand and continues towards the capital. The howler monkeys calling in the distance distract Running Jaguar but Little Moon keeps him moving forward. Finally, they see the end of the forest path, guarded by the most magnificent Ceiba tree. Little Moon and Running Jaguar join hands to say a prayer at the Ceiba that connects the ground they stand on with their ancestors in Heaven and the Gods in the Underworld. They have made it out of the forest and now must face the river.

Lunita toma la mano de su hermano y sigue su camino a la capital. Los monos aulladores a la distancia distraen a Jaguar que Corre pero Lunita lo mantiene caminando. Por fin, ellos ven que termina la vereda del bosque que está cuidado por el magnífico árbol Ceiba. Lunita y Jaguar que Corre unen sus manos para rezarle al árbol Ceiba que conecta el suelo que ellos caminan con sus antepasados en el Cielo y los Dioses de Xibalba. Ellos han salido del bosque y ahora deben enfrentar el río.

Chan xUhe' tu machah u k'ab u yiits'ine' ka' bino'ob tu tohil noh kaah. U yawat le xtuuchaho'obo ti'al le naachilo' tu naaysik yool Alkab Chakmo'ol ba'ale' Chan xUhe'taan u koolik ka xi'iko'ob taanil. Chen bey tune'ku yiliko'obe tan u k'uchulo'ob tu xuul le beh ichil le ka'anal k'aaxo' tu'ux ku kananta'al bin xnuk xYa'ax Che'. Chan xUh yetel Alkab Chakmo'ole' tu machah u k'a'o'obe' ka' payak'chi'naoob aktaan le xYa'ax che'o' tumeene' leeti' tsayuntik yok'ol kaab yetel u laak'tsilo'ob kimen'obo' tak xan le u k'uhilo'ob xbalbah. Ts'ook u hook'bahlo'ob ti'al le ka'anah k'aaxo' behla'e' yaan u paktaantko'ob le noh uk'umo'.



The wide bend in the river is a wondrous and scary place. A great many people gather here to buy and sell goods, meet their friends, and start longer journeys downstream. Mom told Little Moon that you can paddle from here all the way to the sea where people find beautiful shells and make salt! She has never seen so many people in one place. Running Jaguar is scared. They find a quiet area to think and figure out how to get across the river to the capital and to Father.

La amplia curva en el río es un lugar maravilloso y aterrador. Muchas personas se juntan aquí para comprar y vender cosas, encontrarse con sus amigos y empezar viajes largos río abajo. ¡Mamá le dijo a Lunita que se puede remar desde aquí hasta el mar donde la gente encuentra conchas hermosas y hacen sal! Ella nunca ha visto tanta gente en un solo lugar. Jaguar que Corre tiene miedo. Ellos encuentran un área segura para pensar y determinar cómo cruzar el río para ir a la capital donde está Papá.

U kuuchil tu'ux ku loochol le noh uk'umo' heet koch, hapchi'il, sahbe'entsil xan. Hach ya'abal maako'ob ku muuch'loob way koonole, maanal xan, ku yilik u baatsilo'ob, waay ku lik'il naachil binbalo'ob kaabalil ti'al le uk'umo'. Na'e' ku tsikbaltik ti'al leeti'e' ku pahtal u bin maak ichil cheem tak ti'al le k'a'naabo' tu'ux yan ya'abal uulich, tu'ux ku beetal ta'ab xan! Mix hun teen u yil hach ya'abal maak u mulmubaho'ob ti'al hun p'eelil kuuchil. Alkab Chakmo'ole' sahak. Tu kaxantaho'ob tu'ux ch'enchenkile' ka' kulaho'ob tukul yok'lal u patho'oltiko'ob bix ken maanako'ob ti'al le noh uk'umo' ken k'uchuko'ob ti'al le noj kaj tu'ux yaan Taato'.



Something soft bumps into Little Moon. She turns around to meet the kind eyes of an old woman. The old woman is wrinkled and her hair is gray but her eyes remind Little Moon of her grandmother's. The old woman introduces herself as Mim. She has nice smelling tamales and gourds of sweet atole that she is bringing to her sons for lunch. They work at the marketplace across the river. It looks like Mim could use help. There is no way she can take the tamales and gourds over the river all on her own.

Algo suave toca a Lunita. Ella voltea y se encuentra con los ojos amables de una anciana. La anciana tiene arrugas y su cabello es canoso, pero sus ojos le recuerdan a los de su abuela. La anciana se presenta como Mim. Ella tiene tamales olorosos y guajes de atole dulce que lleva para darles de comer a sus hijos. Ellos trabajan en el mercado al otro lado del río. Parece que Mim podría usar su ayuda. No es posible que ella solita pueda llevar los tamales y los guajes al otro lado del río.

Hun p'eel ba'ax ts'u'ts'u'kil tu naktaantah Chan xUh. Leeti' ku sutikubahe ku paktaantikubah yetel hunt'ul utsil ko'olel. Lexnuuko'yo'yots'u yich, u tso'otsele u ho'ole' sak ba'ale ku k'a'asik u nolich ti Chan xUh. Le Xnuuko'ku ya'alik bine'lèeti'e' 'xMim. Taan u bisik ki'book tamali', u luuchil ch'uhuk sa' ti'al u hanalt u paalal. Lèeti'o'obe' ti' ku meyhob'ob tu taanxil tselil le noh uk'umo'. xMim awa k'a'beet aantal ti'. Awa ma' u pahtal u bisik le tamali' yetel luucho'ob tu laak' u tseel le noh uk'umo'.



Little Moon and Running Jaguar offer to help Mim take the lunch to her sons. Taking a deep breath and holding tight to Running Jaguar's hand, Little Moon rushes behind Mim who has found someone to take them across the river in a canoe. The gourd is heavy but she has been helping her mother. She can do it! Running Jaguar is not running for once.

Lunita y Jaguar que Corre le ofrecen a Mim ayudarlo a llevar el almuerzo a sus hijos. Respirando profundamente y llevando apretada la mano de Jaguar que Corre, Lunita va de prisa detrás de Mim, quien ha encontrado a alguien que los lleve al otro lado del río en una canoa. El jarrón está pesado, pero ella ha estado ayudando a su mamá. ¡Ella sí puede hacerlo! Por primera vez Jaguar que Corre no está corriendo.

Chan xUhe yetel Alkab Chakmo'ole tu k'aato'ob u yaantiko'ob u bisoob u yo'och le paalalo'obo'. Tu ch'a'ah u yìik' naache' tu hiich' machal tah u k'ab Alkab Chakmo'ole, ka'pennah u bin paach xMim tumen lèeti'e ts'o'ok u kaxantik maax maansiko'ob ichil cheem ti'al le noh uk'umo'. Le luucho' aal ba'ale' suuk u yaantik u na'. Ku pahtal u bisik! Yaax u yila'ah Alkab Chakmo'ol ma tan u yalkabi'.



Crossing the river, Little Moon sees a big, white staircase. Mim tells her that the road behind the staircase leads to the capital. Their trek is long. Passing by temples built many generations ago, Little Moon chats with Mim about their journey to see Father. Mim is impressed that they all contribute to the great construction effort. Mim says, "We must all do our part." Getting closer, Little Moon's and Running Jaguar's eyes grow wide as they see the top of the Mountain Temple for the first time.

Cruzando el río, Lunita ve una escalera grande y blanca, Mim le dice que el camino detrás de la escalera, conduce a la capital. En el camino ellos pasan por templos contruidos hace muchas generaciones y Lunita le dice a Mim sobre su viaje a ver a su padre. Mim está impresionada que todos ellos trabajan juntos con esfuerzo en la gran construcción. Mim dice, "Todos nosotros necesitamos hacer nuestra parte." Al irse acercando, los ojos de Lunita y Jaguar que Corre se abren inmensos al ver la cima del Templo de la Montaña por primera vez.

Ka'k'ucho'ob tu laak' u tseel le noh uk'umo' Chan xUhe ku yilik u yalman yalal na'akbalil tunich. xMim ku ya'alik ti' leeti'e' le he'elo ku bin ti'al le noh kaaho'. Le beho' naach. Ti'al le beho' maano'ob tu'ux beeta'an muulo'ob bin le uuchben maako'obo', Chan xUhe ku tsikbaltik u binbalnaho'ob u yilaho'ob Taat. xMime' hach ki'maak u yool yubik bix u yaantalo'ob yetel u meejiil u beeta'al le muulo'. Ku Yalik xMime', " Tu laakal'on yaan ik aantal." Leeti'ku nats'alo'obe' Chan xUh yetel Alkab Chakmo'ole ku nulul u yicho'ob ka' tu yaax paktaho'ob u pichni'il le Noj Muulo'.



Little Moon, Running Jaguar, and Mim reach another big, white staircase and they begin to hear so many voices! Mim leads them across a big plaza and between buildings to the Clay Mountain Marketplace! They follow Mim winding around the stalls. They smell the spices, hear the sellers bartering, and see pots with decoration. Running Jaguar runs his hand across the big, shiny black obsidians. A young man catches Running Jaguar's hand and says "Careful! They are sharp."

¡Lunita, Jaguar que Corre, y Mim llegan a otra escalera grande y blanca y comienzan a escuchar muchas voces! ¡Mim los lleva a través de una plaza grande y entre edificios hasta llegar al Mercado de la Montaña de Barro! Ellos siguen a Mim serpenteando alrededor de los puestos. Ellos huelen las especias, oyen a los vendedores regateando, ellos ven ollas con decoración. Jaguar que Corre pasa la mano acariciando las grandes obsidias negras y brillantes. Un hombre joven coge la mano de Jaguar que Corre y le dice "¡Cuidado! Que tienen filo."

Chan xUh, Alkab Chakmo'ol yetel xMime' k'uchob
ti'al u laak' hun p'eel nohoch yal-man-yal na'akbalil
ku yubiko'ob ya'abal t'aano'ob. xMim tak ti'al le
nohoch k'iwikilo' maano'ob tu yam naho'ob tak ti'al u
k'uchulo'ob k'iwikil Katyaats' Wits'. U tsaypachmaho'ob
xMim bix u man u wa'wankilo'ob tu yam le koonolo'obo.
Ku yu'ubiko'ob u book ba'alo'ob tu'ux ku maak'anta'al
hanal, ku yubiko'ob bix u yayan le maako'ob yetel
le koonolo'obo, ku yiliko'ob kuumo'ob hats'uts
bona'anilo'ob. Alkab Chakmo'ole' ku haaxtik le nukuch
ts'i'tsi'kil tsikib-took'-chaako'obo'. Juntuul taankelen
xiibpaale' ku machik u k'ab Alkab Chakmo'ole ku
ya'alikti'e, "Kantubajh le ba'alo'obo' yan yeho'ob."



Little Moon and Running Jaguar look with curiosity as the young man strikes large obsidian pieces with river rocks to create the longest obsidian blades they have ever seen! They have seen their father making tools from brown stones but the black stone is special. Little Moon suddenly feels a hand on her shoulder. She looks up and sees that it is Father! He is shocked to find his children there!

Lunita y Jaguar que Corre ven con curiosidad mientras el hombre joven golpea grandes piezas de obsidiana con piedras del río para crear los cuchillos más grandes de obsidiana que han visto! Ellos han visto a su papá haciendo herramientas de piedras marronas pero la piedra negra es especial. Lunita, de repente, siente una mano en su hombro. ¡Levanta la vista y ve que es Papá! ¡Está sorprendido al encontrar a sus niños allí!

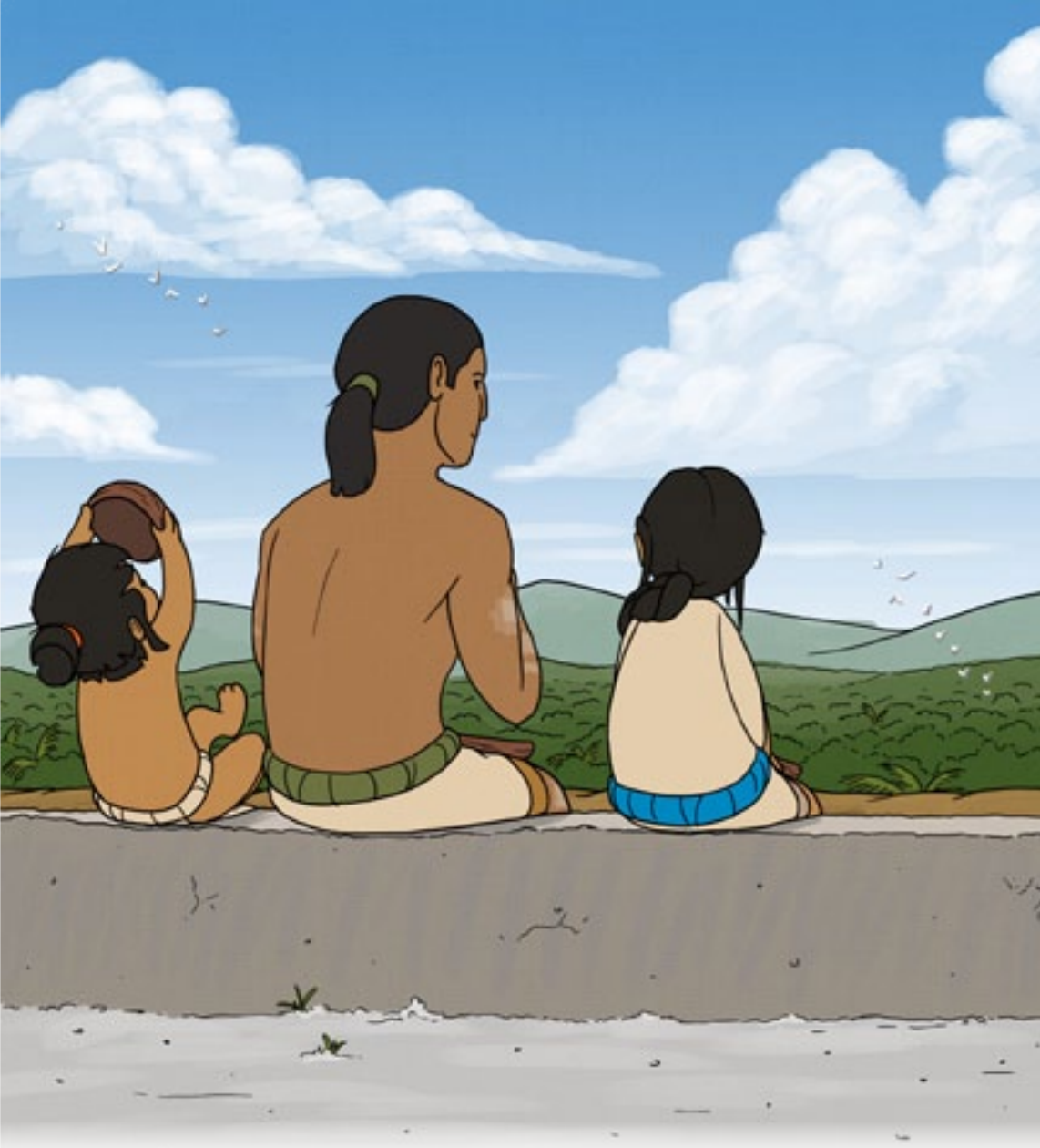
Chan xUh yetel Alkab Chakmo'ole ha'k'aha'an yoolo'ob, mix hun tèn u yilo'ob bix u ts'ehel le nukuch xexet'al ts'ikib-took-chaak yetel u tunichil le noh uk'um ti'al u beeta'ah le heta'an chowak xotebo'obo'ku beetik le taankelen xiibpaalo'. Ts'ook u yiliko'ob bix u beetal u nu'ukul meyah yetel chakp'uche'en tunich bin u taato'ob ba'ale'le box tunicha hela'an. Chan xUhe chen ka' tu yu'ubah u pets'kabta'aal u kelenbal. Ku lisik u yiche' ku yilike' Taat! Xek'anchah u yool u yilik u paalal te'elo'.



Father's eyebrows are turned down towards his nose and his forehead is wrinkled. He is angry with them. Mim steps close and tells him how helpful and strong they have been. Little Moon is glad that Mim explains their journey to Father. Father's face is still angry when he asks, "Why did you come all this way?" They tell him, "To see you!" His smile is big and while the danger they may have been in troubles him, he is very proud of them.

Las cejas de Papá se curvan hacia la nariz y la frente está fruncida. Él está enojado con ellos. Mim se acerca y le dice lo útil y fuerte que han sido. Lunita se alegra de que Mim le explica su viaje a Papá. El rostro de Papa todavía está enojado cuando pregunta: "¿Por qué vinieron hasta este lugar?" Ellos le dicen: "¡Para verte!" Su sonrisa es grande y si bien el peligro que pueden haber tenido, le preocupa, él está muy orgulloso de ellos.

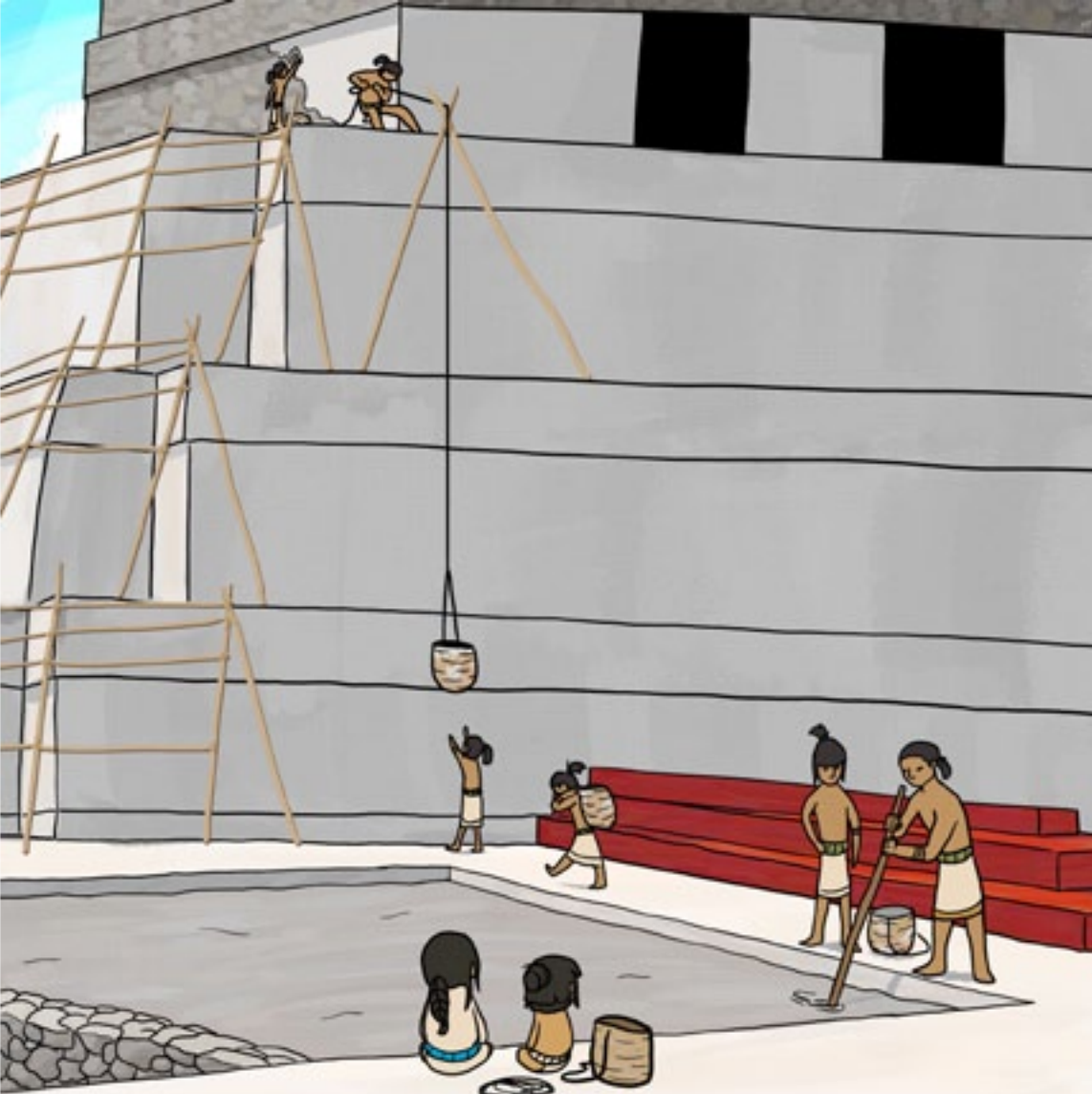
U tso'otsel u yich Taate' ku paach'a tu ni', u taanho'olale' yo'yo'ts'. Ts'iik ti'o'ob. Ku naats'ah xMim tu yiknale' ku ya'alik ti'bix pe'elan yetel muuk'be'en le paalalo'olo'obo'. Chan xUhe hach ki'maak u yool bix uuch u tso'olol bin xMim u binbalo'ob iknal Taat. U yich taatahe' laili' ts'iik ka' tu k'atah, " Ba'axten yan a taale'ex tak waye'?" Ku nukiko'ob ti'e', "Yok'lal ik wilikech." xKuyche'enah nohoch, kex tun waal yaat u yoole' le sahbe'entsil tu maansahoobo', chich u yich yetelo'ob.



Father buys tamales after helping Mim find her sons. They find a quiet spot to sit and eat. Little Moon and Running Jaguar tell Father about their adventure and Running Jaguar exaggerates about the Peccary! When they finish their lunch, Father asks "Well, since you are here, do you want to see the Mountain Temple?" They both jump up, ready to go with him!

Papá compra tamales después de ayudar a Mim a encontrar a sus hijos. Ellos encuentran un lugar tranquilo para sentarse y comer. Lunita y Jaguar que Corre le cuentan a papá su aventura y Jaguar que Corre exagera sobre el cuche de monte. Cuando terminan su almuerzo, papá pregunta, "Pues, ya que ustedes están aquí, ¿quieren ver el Templo de la Montaña?" ¡Los dos saltan, listos para ir con él!

Taate' tu manah tamali ka' ts'o'ok u yaantik xMim u kaxant u paalal. Tu kaxanto'ob hun chan tselil tu'ux ch'ench'enkil u kutalo'ob hanal. Chan xUh yetel Alkab Chakmo'ole'ku tsikbaltik ti'al Taat u ch'inballho'olalo'ob, Alkkab Chakmo'ole ku ts'ahik u tusil bix uchil yetel kitamo'. Ka ts'o'ok u hanalo'obe', ku k'aatik u taat, "Bey way yane'exo , a k'aat wa a wile'ex le u Muulil Wits'?" Waach' u siit'o'ob, taak u bino'ob u pakili' yetel!



Father leads them around the marketplace and they see the Mountain Temple again. It is so big it seems to touch the sky! He leads them to a group of men just getting back to work. They are around a big square pit full of wet lime plaster, stirring it with big sticks. Father picks up one of the baskets near the pit and shows the kids how they fill it with the plaster and send it up to be put on the limestone blocks. They are using the rope that they make at home!

Papá los guía por el mercado y ellos ven el Templo de la Montaña otra vez. ¡Es tan grande que parece tocar el cielo! Él los guía a un grupo de hombres que acaban de volver al trabajo. Ellos están en derredor de un hoyo cuadrado grande, que está lleno de yeso de cal mojado, batiéndolo con grandes palos. Papá recoge una de las canastas cerca del hoyo y les muestra a los niños cómo la llenan de yeso y la suben para usarla con los bloques de piedra caliza. ¡Ellos están usando el mecate que hacen en su casa!

Taate' tu maanso'ob tu baak'paachil le k'iwiko' ka' tu ka' ilaho'ob Muulil Wits' u laak' u teen. Hach nohoch awa ku taak'ah ti'al le ka'ano'! Tu bisaho'ob tu'ux mulaan hun p'it xiibo'ob taant u k'uchulo'ob meyahe'. U t'ismubaho'ob tu baak'paachil hun p'eel kan ti'its hool chuup yetel bok'bil sak kab luuk', ku bok'iko'ob yetel nohoch che'o'ob. Taate' tu ch'a'ah hun p'eel xaak haal le hoolo' ku ye'esik te' paalalo'obo' bix u chu'upul yetel lu'umil pak' te'elo ku na'aksal ti u yuulta'al le kan-ti'its sak kaab tunichil pak'o'. Lèeti' u k'a'abetil le suum ku beeta'al tu yotocho'!



At the end of Father's work day, he leads Little Moon and Running Jaguar back to the big white road and back home. Running Jaguar really wanted to stay and sleep in the camp where the men sleep while they do their work at the Mountain Temple. Father lifts Running Jaguar off his feet and pulls him into his arms, telling them "Mom will be very worried. You need to get back home". It is not too long before Running Jaguar falls asleep. Little Moon walks beside her father watching the sky change at the end of the day.

Al final del día de trabajo de Papá, él guía a Lunita y a Jaguar que Corre de vuelta al gran camino blanco y de vuelta a casa. Jaguar que Corre realmente quería quedarse y dormir en el campamento donde los hombres duermen mientras trabajan en el Templo de la Montaña. Papá levanta a Jaguar que Corre y lo abraza, diciéndoles, "Mamá estará muy preocupada. Necesitan volver a casa." No pasa mucho tiempo antes que Jaguar de Corre se duerme. Lunita camina al lado de su papá viendo el cambio del cielo al final del día.

Tu xul u k'inil u meyah Taate', tu bisah Chan xUh yetel Alkab Chakmo'ol ti'al le noh sak beho' ka' binoob tu yotocho'ob. Alkab Chakmo'ole' ku naak' ti' u p'aatal wenel tu'ux ku wenel le me(ya)hil maako'ob beetiko'ob le Muulil Wits'o'. Taate' tu ch'uyah Alkab Chakmo'ole ka' tu meek'ah ku ya'alik ti'al leeti'o'obe', Na'e' tan u hach tukultike'ex. Yan a bine'ex tanah." Ma' hach saame' ka' ween Alkab Chakmo'ol. Chan xUhe ku xiinbal tu tsel u taat tu cha'antik bix u helpahal le ka'an tu bin k'iino.



Little Moon takes one last look at the Mountain Temple. The white stone and plaster seem orange in this late light. This adventure has been very exciting and rewarding! They found Father and they saw the Mountain! Little Moon thinks of Mim and her grown-up sons working in the marketplace. She cannot wait to be older so she can take more journeys to the Clay Mountain Marketplace. Soon the Mountain Temple construction will be completed and it will be so beautiful. She hopes to see it many more times.

Lunita voltea a ver por última vez en el Templo de la Montaña. La piedra blanca y el yeso parecen ser de un color anaranjado por la luz del atardecer. ¡Esta aventura ha sido muy emocionante y le ha dado satisfacción! ¡Encontraron a papá y vieron la montaña! Lunita piensa en Mim y en sus hijos adultos trabajando en el Mercado. No puede esperar para ser más grande para hacer más viajes al Mercado de la Montaña de Barro. Muy pronto la construcción del Templo de la Montaña terminará y será muy bella. Ella espera verlo muchas veces más.

Chan xUhe' tu paktah ti'al u ts'ook u Muulil Wits'. Le sak tunich yetel le yuultbil pak'lu'umo'awa pak'al bona'anil ichil u ts'ook u saasilil u bin k'iin. Le ch'inho'olal leela' hak'oolil, hach utsil binak ti'. Tu nup'o'ob Taat, tu yiilo'ob le Muul xano'. Chan xUhe' tu tukultik xMim tak xan u paalal ku meyah'o'ob ti'al u kuuchil le koonolo'. Ma' u pa'atik u kiinil u nohochtal yok'lal u bin u sensen ximbalt u kuuchil koonol Katyaats' Wits'. Ma' u yuuchtal ken ts'o'okok u meyahta'al u Muulil Wits', hach tun hats'uts waale'. Ku pa'atik u sensen ilik.



The journey home seems shorter than the adventure to the Mountain. Once they reach the forest path, Father picks up Little Moon. She sets her chin on his shoulder to look behind at the path as he walks them home. At home, Mom runs up and hugs them all very tight. That night, Little Moon sits between Mom and Father, still holding sleeping Running Jaguar, and watches the torches flicker against the white Mountain in the distance. She thinks of the years to come and prays that the Clay Mountain will always be loved and respected.

El viaje de regreso a casa parece ser más corto que la aventura a La Montaña. Una vez que llegan al camino del bosque, Papá levanta en sus brazos a Lunita. Ella recuesta su barbilla en el hombro de Papá para ver el camino que ha quedado atrás, mientras que él camina con ellos a casa. Una vez en casa, Mamá corre y los abraza a todos fuertemente. Esa noche, Lunita se sienta entre Papá y Mamá, todavía sosteniendo al durmiente Jaguar que Corre, y observa las luces de las antorchas a la distancia contra la Montaña blanca. Ella piensa en el futuro y reza que la Montaña de Barro siempre sea amada y respetada.

U binalbalil u suut tanahe' awa ma teech u xaantal he'ex le chinbalhoolil ti'al le Muulo'. Ken k'uchko'ob ti'al le u behil le ka'anal k'aaxo', Taate' ku meek'ik Chan xUh. Ku hets'ik u no'och yok'ol u kelenbal yok'lal u yilik le beh paachil tu'ux ku bino'ob tanaho'. Xk'uuy che'enah ka'tu yilah le chok'os tu'ux na'ak ka puuts' ti'al le kitamo'! Ka k'ucho'ob tu yotocho'obe, u na'o'obe', lakchah u yalkab ka heep' meek'tabo'ob. Le ak'ab leelo', Chan xUhe kula'an chumuk u Taat yetel u Na', laili' u machma le Alkab Chakmo'ol ku paktik le tooch' k'aak'o'ob yano'ob nachilo' tu nak' le sak Wits'o'. Ku tukultik le k'iino'ob ku taalo'obo' ku pa'atik ka yahkuntaak, ka'tsiiktak xan.

Did You Spot the ...?

There are many hidden wonders in these pages! Can you find all the Maya plants, animals, and symbols? Learn more about the Maya and explore the story! Where do you see these ...

Chaya

(*Cnidoscolus aconitifolius*), a leafy vegetable, is packed with nutrients and used in many traditional and modern cuisines. The ancient Maya likely used this in many of their food dishes and even as a source of medicine and poison.



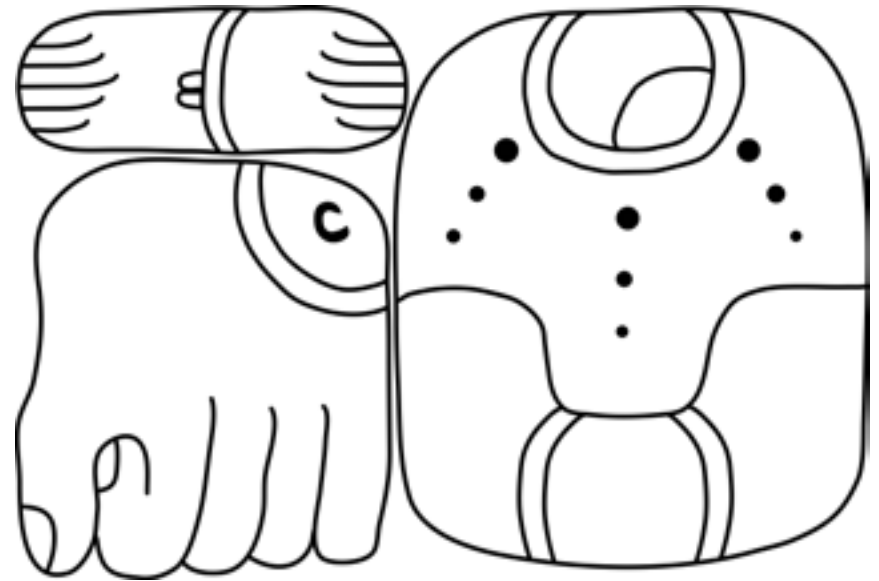
Trumpet Tree

(*Cecropia peltata*), also known as guarumo and ix-coch, is known for its use in medicinal healing where the leaves are boiled to make a tea. The trunk of the tree is well known for being used in irrigation constructions.

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Katyaatz Witz Glyph



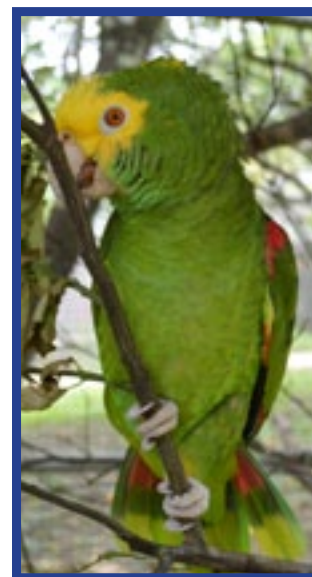
This is the hieroglyph for *Katyaatz Witz*, the ancient name of Xunantunich, meaning Clay Mountain. The top left bean symbol represents the sound "kat." The bottom left fist symbol represents the "aatz" sound. The right symbol represents the word "witz," meaning mountain.

Yellow Headed Parrot

(*Amazona oratrix belizensis*) is only found in Belize! They are mostly green with a striking yellow head and red on their wings. They can mimic speech and live up to 80 years. This species is **endangered** because people take them for pets and cut down their habitats. When kept as pets, they may only live for 5 years. **It is very important that Belize protects this special parrot in the wild!**

Info provided by Belize Bird Rescue

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The Wildtracks Centre near Sartenja, Belize rehabilitates monkeys, manatees, & other

animals. They share insights about monkeys, their significance to the ancient Maya, and how to treat them well today.



Spider monkeys (*Ateles geoffroyi*) grow to be about the size of a small dog, with long limbs and a tail they can use just like a hand. Their hands only have four fingers, no thumb! Spider monkeys can be different colours and patterns, including reds, browns, light gold and black. Just like all

monkeys, spider monkeys live high in the forest canopy and very rarely come to the ground. Spider monkeys eat what is provided by the trees they live in, including fruit and some leaves, such as fig. Spider monkeys live in big family groups, and need a very large area of forest to support all of the monkeys in the group.

Did You Spot the Spider Monkeys in the Story?

For the Maya, monkeys are sacred creatures, often associated with writing, learning, and art. Monkeys are often depicted as scribes. They can also represent joy, mischief, or duty.



Howler monkeys can be different shades of red, brown, and black. The species found in Belize, the Yucatan black howler monkey (*Alouatta pigra*), is black, sometimes with a small amount of white or gold around their faces. Locally called “baboons”, howlers are small monkeys with long tails. They are able

to use their tail as an extra limb to help them balance and climb. Howler monkeys eat mainly leaves and some fruit like zapote and fig. They are considered the loudest land animal in the Americas! Their howls can be heard for up to 2 miles!

A Story about a Spider Monkey named Kamal

Kamal and his mom spent all of their time together, high up in the tree tops in Belize. As a baby, Kamal needed his mom very much. She took very good care of him. He drank milk when he was hungry, she comforted him when he was upset, and she taught Kamal everything that he needed to know to get along with other monkeys and thrive in the forest. One day, though, people came and took Kamal from his mom. They wanted to make Kamal a pet. Kamal was very scared, and sad to be away from his mom. He became very hungry because the people who took him did not give him the food he needed to grow big and strong. It is not possible for baby monkeys like Kamal to get the food they need when they are kept as pets, so Kamal became very skinny and sick. He felt very bad and began to bite whenever anyone came close to him.

One day, a group of people in uniforms arrived. They talked very kindly to Kamal and put him into a crate with a big, soft towel in it. Kamal fell asleep on the towel just as he was put into a car. When he awoke, he was somewhere new! A new face talked quietly to him and gave him milk and fruit. They also gave him medicine that helped him feel better and he began to grow strong again. Kamal began to trust these new people and one day, once he was healthy again, they introduced him to another baby spider monkey, Cas, who was just like him! Now Kamal and Cas are best friends. They will continue to grow together at Wildtracks and when they are big enough, will be introduced to the rest of the spider monkeys in care. One day they will all be released back into the wild forests of Belize, where they belong!

Supporters & Contributors

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About *To the Mountain!* Project & Fajina Outreach Contributors

Sylvia Batty works for the Belize Institute of Archaeology and National Institute of Culture and History. She is a native Belizean, having grown up at and around archaeological sites throughout the country.

Rebecca Friedel is a PhD student at The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) studying archaeology and archaeobotany. She is interested in how humans of the past interacted with the plant world.

Leah McCurdy is a PhD Candidate also at UTSA studying archaeology and ancient architecture. She has excavated at Xunantunich with the Mopan Valley Preclassic Project since 2008.

Sally McCurdy is a retired Technology and Operations Executive. When she is not teaching Aquacise or playing golf or bridge, Sally volunteers with her local Women's Club, church, theater and civic organizations.

About *To the Mountain!* Spanish Translators



Mrs. Boryczka and her Spanish 4 AP Language and Culture students at Keystone School provided the Spanish translations. Keystone School is a private and nationally recognized institution in San Antonio, Texas with an accelerated PreK-12 curriculum.

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About *To the Mountain!* Illustrator: **Frederic Wierum**

Growing up in the jungles of Belize and having recently moved to the US, Fred has always had a love and admiration of nature, animals, and art. Dinosaurs have been his top interest and passion since the age of 5. After so many years of self-taught practice, Fred has now started taking his art skills to the freelance world and personal projects (examples below). *To the Mountain!* is the first professional job he's tackled and says it was great fun to try something new. Fred is glad to finally give back to his home country and hopes the kids enjoy the book!



About *To the Mountain!* Maya Translator: **Fernando Tzib**

Born in the village of San Antonio in Cayo District, Belize, Fernando spoke only Maya Yucatec up to age four. He first heard English words in primary school. With a passion for language and his culture, he studied anthropology in the US. In his translation, he tried to be faithful to the ancient culture. He has discovered that the contemporary Maya Yucatec language spoken in "the land of the three hills" or *Ox Muul Kah* (the original name of San Antonio village) is charged with meanings that link to the ancient culture. *To the Mountain!* or *Ko'one'ex Wits'* offers a view of the past with the message to take care of the ancient monuments and customs. Fernando hopes that readers enjoy and relish *To the Mountain!* *Ko'one'ex Wits'*.

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To the Mountain! follows two ancient Maya kids, Little Moon and Running Jaguar, on an adventure! There is a big construction project going on at the temple of the Clay Mountain capital. They've got to see how it's coming along! Join the kids as they trek through the jungle, over the river, and up the big white road to reach the capital!

To the Mountain! incorporates significant Maya plants, animals, and locations with an interactive *Did You Spot It?* game. The story centers on ancient *Katyaatz Witz* (Clay Mountain), today known as Xunantunich, near Succotz, Belize.

