

Illustrations created by Chloris Lowe Sr.  
Video & Editing by Daryl Lonetree



For more information on Hocak Traditional Values,  
contact the Hocak Wazijaci Language & Culture

Program at:

P.O. Box 390, N4845 Hwy. 58

Mauston, WI, USA 53948

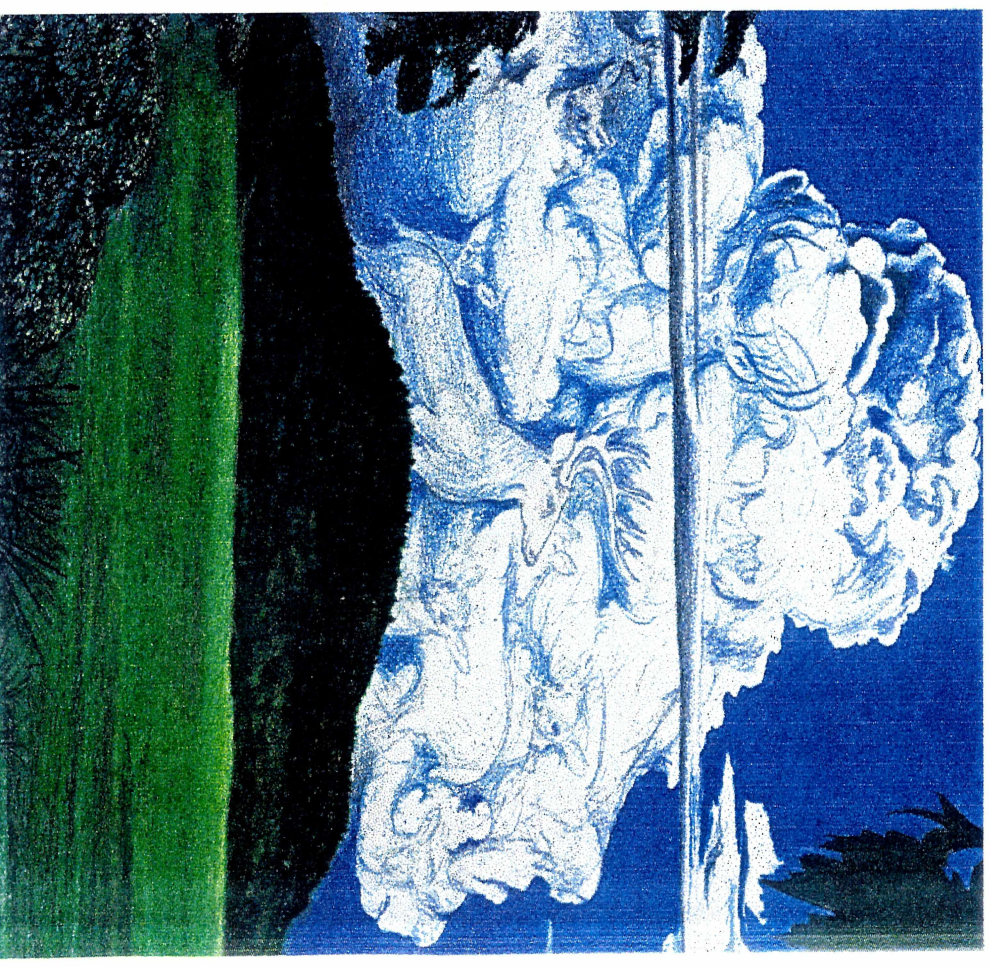
1-800-492-5745 or 608-847-5694

EMAIL: [hocak@mwt.net](mailto:hocak@mwt.net) WEB: [www.mwt.net/~hocak](http://www.mwt.net/~hocak)

Hocak Wazijaci Language & Culture Program 1997

# CA WORAK

## DEER STORY



Hocak Wazijaci Language & Culture Program  
1997

Once my father tried to tell me a story. This story comes from way back and they have passed it down. They named the months and they even named the deer. Once, a lot of people knew this story. Why is it that we are now losing this story? The place, they call it the town of Black River Falls. Then from the North and the West in between stands a hill. That hill is where the deer live. In the early days the Indians use to go there to fast. They went there to humble themselves.

Once, he said, the Hockak use to hunt deer there. And one day, the deer hunters thought they heard something. As it got nearer, here it was singing. As he got nearer they finally heard what he was singing. This is the song he was singing--

"If he is there, let him come. If he is there, let him come."

"If he is there, let him come. If he is there, let him come."

Blue Woman said, "If he is there, let him come. If he is there, let him come."

He came singing. When he quit singing after awhile he heard,

"Ooooooh, ooh, ooh, ooh, ooh, ooooooh", answering back. Here it was a woman deer. Here the one that was singing appeared. It was a buck, a spiked buck. It was singing about women deer. That's what my Father said, that's what they told him. The Hockak aren't the only ones that know love. The animals know love.

Later, not too long afterwards, they were going to have a War Bundle Feast. Before they left however, they went to the Sweat Lodge. An old man came and joined them. His name was, He Appears From The Middle Of The Earth. After they all entered the Sweat Lodge and were ready to go, it came to the old man's turn. He said, "When day light comes, two will stand."

So when day light came they went hunting. My Father and his son, whose name was Hi hi nup ga and my Father's name was Wa na gis na jin ga. When they got there to that place, they were going to drive and then some went to stand. Where they were going to stand, there was two of them in the middle of a clearing. As they were going my older brother shot. And drivers started to come and my brother shot again. When the drivers go back my Father went over to them and here there were two deer laying there.

What that old man said in the Sweat Lodge, "In the morning, there's going to be two together." That's what he meant when he said there are going to be two standing. An old man once, on the hill I named, said he fasted there. They took pity on him, that hill, the deer, and Earthmaker. Whatever that was sacred, they could bestow on him-they did. That's why that old man was bestowed with all this. That's why he knows.

That's why this story is a good story. So as the story comes down, that hill is sacred. That hill is still there today. Someday, if someone wants to fast, that is a good place. The Hockak use to go there to fast in the old days. That's as far as I'm going to tell this story.

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