

Tehotikalá·lu.

[s.l.]: [s.n.], 1970/1979

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Little People

There is another kind of being that live in the mountains out east. They call them the little people. They are exceptionally small. They also live in caves and if anyone goes down the opening to the caves, they would never return.

One time they say these white people wanted to find out what it was like in the cave. So they put a rope around one man's waist and he went down in the cave. They had an understanding that if he would want them to pull him out quickly, that he should jerk on that rope. It was a very long rope and they had a large crew outside holding onto it. When they were just tired of waiting, they pulled back up on the rope, but the man was nowhere hanging on. So then they tied up two men and the two of them went down, but the same thing happened again.

Then they talked things over and they said, "We will send five of them." Now there were some Oneidas there and they chose one of them and put him in the middle. There were groups and they went out of sight and again they got tired of waiting. So they shook the rope and he really did answer back and shook the rope. Then he pulled on the rope. Only the Oneida man was left hanging on. So they asked him what he saw and what happened there and what happened to the others. He told them he just didn't pay attention. So then the white people realized that they had no business there.