

6. THE COWARD

coward.001

tarso

coward

The coward.

coward.002

qılə=y hest=b-e, qılə=y ni-b-e.
CLF=one EXIST=be-PRET.3SG CLF=one NEG-be-PRET.3SG

Once upon a time...

coward.003

ğərəyz xıdo hiç ki ni-b-e.
except God no who NEG-be-PRET.3SG

there was nobody but God.

coward.004

qılə=y xıyzon hest=b-e : qılə=y merd, qılə=y=ən jen.
CLF=one family EXIST=be-PRET.3SG CLF=one man CLF=one=ADD woman

There was a couple: a man and a woman.

coward.005

ın jen bə şu om-ə ruj-i=ku bə=ştə şuyə
this woman to husband come(II)-PTCP day-OBL=by to=REFL.POSS husband

ə-vot-i ki, az tarso=m.
IPF-say-IPF.3SG COMP 1SG.DIR coward=COP.1SG

From the day she got married, this woman would say to her husband, I'm a coward.

coward.006

min-i cayli va-mə-də.
1SG.OBL-ACC alone leave-PROH-give(I).IMP.2SG

Don't leave me on my own.

coward.007

fəğır-ə merd=ən hejo ıştə jen-i dumo=b-e.
poor-ATTR man=ADD always REFL.POSS woman-OBL behind=be-PRET.3SG

And the poor man was always at his wife's back.

coward.008

bə so e-vo-y=adə, bə təvilə ş-ey=adə merd=ən bəpe de=əy
to courtyard down-come-INF=at to barn go-INF=at man=ADD must with=3SG.OBL

b-ə-ş-i.
MOD-IPF-go-IPF.3SG

When she went out into the yard and when she went into the barn, the man had to go with her.

coward.009

şanqo qılə=y kiti, sipə sədo məs-ə-cəğın jen ə-vit-i çı merd-i ton=o
evening CLF=one cat dog voice hear-PTCP-TEMP woman IPF-run-IPF.3SG of man-OBL side=by

ki, vuy dılətok b-im, əv çı sədo b-e?
COMP oh scared be-PRET.1SG 3SG.DIR what voice be-PRET.3SG

When she heard the noise of a cat or dog at night the woman would run to her husband saying, Oh I was scared, what was that noise?

coward.010

əv=e merd hiç ıştə jen-i cayli o-n-ə-qət-i.
3SG.DIR=COP.3SG man no REFL.POSS woman-OBL alone PV-NEG-IPF-take-IPF.3SG

So the man never left his wife alone.

coward.011

ruj=i çı ruj-on hamsiyə=də i kəs e-qın-i-ye mard-e.
day=one of day-PL neighbour=at one person down-fall-II-PRET.3SG die-PRET.3SG

One day at the neighbour's someone collapsed and died.

coward.012

şanqo jen-i vot=ış-e bə=ştə merd-i : -merd, min-i
evening woman-OBL say=3SG.CL-PRET to=REFL.POSS man-OBL man 1SG.OBL-ACC

bı-bə bə yas.
MOD-carry(I).IMP.2SG to mourning

In the evening the woman said to her husband: –Husband, take me to the mourning.

coward.013

hamsiy-əti=ye, ni-ş-oş bə-vəc ə-vo-ni, ayb=e.
neighbour-ABSTR=COP.3SG NEG-go-OPT.2SG to-fit FUT-come(I)-NEG.3SG shame=COP.3SG

It's neighbourliness – if you don't go it will be taken amiss, it's a shame.

coward.014

merd o-qın-i-yə=b-e.
man PV-fall-II-PTCP=be-PRET.3SG

The man was tired.

coward.015

əmo məcbur mand-e, jen=ış=ən pe-qət-e, ş-in bə yas.
but obliged stay-PRET.3SG woman=3SG.CL=ADD up-take-PRET go-PRET.3PL to mourning

But he was obliged, and he took his wife and they went to the mourning.

coward.016

jen-on qılə=y kə=də, merd-on co kə=də qırdə b-ə=b-in.
woman-PL CLF=one room=at man-PL other room=at gathered be-PTCP=be-PRET.3PL

The women had gathered in one room and the men in another room.

coward.017

jen də-ş-e bə jen-on nişt-ə kə.
woman in-go-PRET.3SG to woman-PL sit-PTCP room

The woman went into the room where the women were sitting.

coward.018

merd=ən merd-on ništ-ə kə=də, kəybə qəv-i=ku ništ-e.
man=ADD man-PL sit-PTCP room=at door mouth-OBL=by sit-PRET.3SG

And in the room where the men were sitting, the man sat down by the door.

coward.019

hiç bə məlo qəp-i quş do-ydə=ni-b-e.
no to mullah speech-OBL ear give(II)-PROG=NEG-be-PRET.3SG

He wasn't listening at all to what the mullah was saying.

coward.020

fik=iş bəsə iştə jen-i=sə b-e.
thought=3SG.CL on REFL.POSS woman-OBL=on be-PRET.3SG

He was thinking about his wife.

coward.021

jen-on ništ-ə kə=də çı qəp jə-ydə=b-in, in merd
woman-PL sit-PTCP room=at of speech hit(II)-PROG=be-PRET.3PL this man

ə sixan-on məs-eydə=b-e.
that word-PL hear-PROG=be-PRET.3SG

The talk going on in the room where the women were – this man could hear those words.

coward.022

jen-on=ədə qılə=y damə b-e : –jen-on, maştə haft-ım-ə ruj=e.
woman-PL=at CLF=one speaking be-PRET.3SG woman-PL morning seven-ORD-ATTR day=COP.3SG

One of the women said: –Women, tomorrow is the seventh day.

coward.023

xavlo=mon j-ə.
halva=1PL.CL hit(II)-PTCP[PF]

We've prepared the halva.

coward.024

əmo əy bəpe, bə adət-i qorə, tibəso=ədə bı-pat-i.
but 3SG.OBL must to custom-OBL according_to graveyard=at MOD-cook-SBJV.2SG

But by tradition, you have to make it in the graveyard.

coward.025

ki ısa ş-e bə-zn-e bə tibəso, bo xavlo jə-y?
who now go-INF FUT-know-FUT to graveyard for halva hit(II)-INF

Now who can go to the graveyard to prepare the halva [*sic*]?

coward.026

hiç kəs damə ni-b-e.
no person speaking NEG-be-PRET.3SG

Nobody said anything.

coward.027

çand=i-bə-çand-on qılə=y jen-i vot=ıſ-e : az bə-ſ-e=m.
how_much=one-to-how_much-PL CLF=one woman-OBL say=3SG.CL-PRET 1SG.DIR FUT-go-
FUT=COP.1SG

After a little while one woman said: I'll go.

coward.028

ordə, lokə, çamçə bı-d-ən, az ſ-eydə=m.
flour bowl ladle MOD-give(I)-IMP.2PL 1SG.DIR go-PROG=COP.1SG

Give me the flour, bowl and ladle, I'm going.

coward.029

merd pe-larz-ə-y.
man up-tremble-II-PRET.3SG

The man started.

coward.030

vuy, in sədo bə=çəy jen-i sədo oxşəş do-ydə=b-e.
oh this voice to=3SG.POSS woman-OBL voice resemblance give(II)-PROG=be-PRET.3SG

Oh – that voice sounded like his wife's voice.

coward.031

ıſtən bə=ſtə=ſ vot-e : –“əv b-e ə-zini, çımı jen
REFL to=REFL=3SG.CL say-PRET 3SG.DIR be-INF FUT-know.NEG.3SG 1SG.POSS woman

caylinə bə so e-vo-y zin-eydə=ni.
alone to courtyard down-come-INF know-PROG=NEG.COP.3SG

He said to himself: 'It can't be her, my wife can't go out into the yard alone.

coward.032

ıſə mand-e, şanqo bı-şu tıbəso=ədə, kanə ğəb=ədə
now stay-PRET.3SG evening MOD-go.SBJV.3SG graveyard=at old grave=at

xəvlo bı-jən-o?
halva MOD-hit(I)-OPT.3SG

No way – for her to go into the graveyard at night, to make halva in an old grave?

coward.033

ne, b-e ə-zini”.
no be-INF FUT-know.NEG.3SG

No, it can't be.'

coward.034

merd-i de=ştə vey no-pe-qət=ıſ kard-e.
man-OBL with=REFL much put(II)-up-take=3SG.CL do(II)-PRET

The man thought to himself a great deal.

coward.035

b=ı vaxt-i jen-on nişt-ə kə-y=ku qılə=y jen be-ſ-e.
to=this time-OBL woman-PL sit-PTCP room-OBL=by CLF=one woman out-go-PRET.3SG

Just then a woman came out of the room where the women were sitting.

coward.036

sə=də=ş hami-yə-jən, dast=ədə=ş=ən lokə iyən çamça
head=at=3SG.CL dough-AGN-hit(I) hand=at=3SG.CL=ADD bowl and ladle

qət-ə=ş=b-e.

take-PTCP=3SG.CL=be-PRET.3SG

On her head she'd taken the vessel for kneading dough, and in her hands the bowl and ladle.

coward.037

merd-i de diğğət-i=ş fik do-y.
man-OBL with attention-OBL=3SG.CL thought give(II)-PRET

The man paid close attention.

coward.038

in bə=çəy jen-i oxşəş do-ydə=b-e.
this to=3SG.POSS woman-OBL resemblance give(II)-PROG=be-PRET.3SG

She looked like his wife.

coward.039

merd çı kə-y=ku be-ş-e.
man of room-OBL=by out-go-PRET.3SG

The man left the room.

coward.040

e-qın-i-ye çı jen-i dumo.
down-fall-II-PRET.3SG of woman-OBL behind

He followed behind his wife.

coward.041

kəmbir=iş jə-y.
short_cut=3SG.CL hit(II)-PRET

He took a short cut.

coward.042

də-ş-e bə tibəso.
in-go-PRET.3SG to graveyard

He went into the graveyard.

coward.043

qılə=y kanə ğəb=ədə o-lxart-e.
CLF=one old grave=at PV-lie-PRET.3SG

He lay down in an old grave.

coward.044

ıştə səpe=ş de livə-lambuş-i=ş e-do-y.
REFL.POSS on=3SG.CL with leaf-brush-OBL=3SG.CL down-give(II)-PRET

He covered himself over with leaves and brush.

coward.045

jen omə-y.
woman come(II)-PRET.3SG

His wife came.

coward.046

çi merd-i niyo b-ə ğəb-i ton=o ıstə şələ=ş e-vard-e.
of man-OBL hidden be-PTCP grave-OBL side=by REFL.POSS burden=3SG.CL down-bring(II)-PRET

She put down her burden by the grave where her husband was hiding.

coward.047

merd bəne im jen açəy jen=e.
man behold this woman 3SG.POSS woman=COP.3SG

The man saw that this woman was his wife.

coward.048

ıstə dil=adə=ş vot-e : –“vay, çi zolım-i kinə!
REFL.POSS heart=at=3SG.CL say-PRET oh what cruel-ABSTR girl

In his heart he said: ‘Oh, what a cruel girl!’

coward.049

çan sor=e bən=ən tı bə=mi du vot-eydə=ş=bən=ən.
how_much year=COP.3SG EVID=ADD 2SG to=1SG.OBL lie say-PROG=COP.2SG=EVID=ADD

For so many years it turns out you have been lying to me.

coward.050

çok, kə=də bə=ştə hol-i diyə bə-ka=ş”.
good house=at to=REFL.POSS situation-OBL look FUT-do(II)=COP.2SG

Well, at home you’ll see how things stand.’

coward.051

merd-i sədo=ş be-nı-kard-e.
man-OBL voice=3SG.CL out-NEG-do(II)-PRET

The man didn’t make a sound.

coward.052

jen de xəvlo jə-y mişğol b-e.
woman with halva hit(II)-INF busy be-PRET.3SG

His wife was busy preparing the halva.

coward.053

tikə=y də-vard-e.
little=one in-pass-PRET.3SG

A little time passed.

coward.054

merd-i ıstə dast=ış çi ğəb=o be-kard-e.
man-OBL REFL.POSS hand=3SG.CL of grave=by out-do(II)-PRET

The man stuck his hand out of the grave.

coward.055

jen-i im=iş vind-e.
woman-OBL this=3SG.CL see-PRET

The woman saw this.

coward.056

çamçə=ş jə-y bə merd-i dast-i, vot=iş-e : –sıpə zoə mardə,
ladle=3SG.CL hit(II)-PRET to man-OBL hand-OBL say=3SG.CL-PRET dog boy corpse

jiğo zin-eydə=ş bə-tars-e=m?
like_this know-PROG=COP.2SG FUT-fear-FUT=COP.1SG

She hit the ladle on the man's hand and said: –Son of a bitch corpse, do you think I'll be scared?

coward.057

ləz=i=yən də-vard-e.
moment=one=ADD in-pass-PRET.3SG

A little more time passed.

coward.058

xəvlo hozı b-e.
halva ready be-PRET.3SG

The halva was ready.

coward.059

merd-i ijən=ən iştə dast=iş be-kard-e.
man-OBL again=ADD REFL.POSS hand=3SG.CL out-do(II)-PRET

The man again stuck his hand out.

coward.060

jen-i i tikə xavlo=ş no-y bə merd-i dast.
woman-OBL one little halva=3SG.CL put(II)-PRET to man-OBL hand

The woman placed a bit of halva in the man's hand.

coward.061

merd-i iştə dast=iş o-karn-i-ye.
man-OBL REFL.POSS hand=3SG.CL PV-pull-II-PRET

The man pulled his hand in.

coward.062

jen-i iştə ko=ş o-rıxn-i-ye.
woman-OBL REFL.POSS work=3SG.CL PV-free-II-PRET

The woman finished her work.

coward.063

həmi-yə-jən=iş no-y bə=ştə sə.
dough-AGN-hit(I)=3SG.CL put(II)-PRET to=REFL.POSS head

She put the vessel for kneading dough on to her head.

coward.064

dəro qın-i-ye dumo kə-y tərəf-i.
to.road fall-II-PRET.3SG back house-OBL direction-OBL

She set off back towards the house.

coward.065

merd çı ğəb=o be-ş-e.
man of grave=by out-go-PRET.3SG

The man got out of the grave.

coward.066

omə-y bə=ştə kə.
come(II)-PRET.3SG to=REFL.POSS house

He came home.

coward.067

kamiş=i də-vard-e, jen=ən omə-y be-ş-e.
little=one in-pass-PRET.3SG woman=ADD come(II)-PRET.3SG out-go-PRET.3SG

A little time passed, and the woman came back too.

coward.068

bino=ş kard-e : –merd, ti zin-eydə=ş ki, az tars-eydə=m.
beginning=3SG.CL do(II)-PRET man 2SG know-PROG=COP.2SG COMP 1SG.DIR fear-PROG=COP.1SG

She began: –Husband, you know that I’m afraid.

coward.069

mun=i boçi çəş nı-kard-e?
1SG.OBL=2SG.CL why eye NEG-do(II)-PRET

Why didn’t you watch over me?

coward.070

merd-i vot=iş-e : –bəs bə tıbəso bo xəvlo jə-y ş-ey=adə
man-OBL say=3SG.CL-PRET well to graveyard for halva hit(II)-INF go-INF=at

tars-eydə=ni-b-iş?

fear-PROG=NEG-be-PRET.2SG

The man said: –Well why weren’t you afraid when you went to the graveyard to prepare the halva?

coward.071

jen-i bə həşə=ş jə-y pi-yə-y : –çiç-ə tıbəso, çiç-ə xəvlo?
woman-OBL to denial=3SG.CL hit(II)-INF want-II-PRET what-ATTR graveyard what-ATTR halva

The woman tried to deny it: –What graveyard, what halva?

coward.072

–bəs çımı dast-i səpe in çamçə rizə çiç=e?
well 1SG.POSS hand-OBL on this ladle trace what=COP.3SG

–So what’s this ladle mark on my hand?

coward.073

jen-i xirtə hişq b-e.
woman-OBL throat dry be-PRET.3SG

The woman's throat went dry.

coward.074

bino=ş kard-e co vərəvonə vard-e.
beginning=3SG.CL do(II)-PRET other bustling bring(II)-INF

She started to bustle over something else.

coward.075

b=ı səfə merd-i iştə mişt=ış o-kard-e.
to=this time man-OBL REFL.POSS fist=3SG.CL PV-do(II)-PRET

This time the man opened his fist.

coward.076

xəvlo=ş nişo do-y : -bəs in çiç=e?
halva=3SG.CL sign give(II)-PRET well this what=COP.3SG

He showed the halva: –So what's this?

coward.077

in xəvlo ti ni-no-y bə=çımı dast?
this halva 2SG NEG-put(II)-PRET to=1SG.POSS hand

Didn't you put this halva into my hand?

coward.078

jen-i həni sıxan=ış pəydo kard-e ni-zn-ə-y.
woman-OBL already word=3SG.CL evident do(II)-INF NEG-know-II-PRET

Now the woman didn't know what to say.

coward.079

e-qın-i-ye bə merd-i linq-on.
down-fall-II-PRET.3SG to man-OBL foot-PL

She fell at the man's feet.

coward.080

merd, "çiç=ı hard-ə, tırşin-ə aş", rəs-ə-y bə jen-i.
man what=2SG.CL eat(II)-PTCP[PF] sour-ATTR porridge arrive-II-PRET.3SG to woman-OBL

The man, seething with anger [*lit.* 'what have you eaten, sour porridge?'], set upon his wife.

coward.081

dı-se qılə=ş pe-puşt-e bə jen-i.
two-three CLF=3SG.CL up-wrap-PRET to woman-OBL

He wrapped two or three around her [*i.e.* hit her two or three times].

coward.082

jen-i bino=ş kard-e lovə kard-e : ğələt=ım kard-ə,
woman-OBL beginning=3SG.CL do(II)-PRET begging do(II)-INF mistake=1SG.CL do(II)-PTCP[PF]

i kərə=n jıǵo səf ə-kə-nim.
one time=ADD like_this mistake FUT-do(I)-NEG.1SG

The woman began to beg: I was wrong, I won't make a mistake like this again.

coward.083

min-i bı-baxş.
1SG.OBL-ACC MOD-forgive.IMP.2SG

Forgive me.

coward.084

merd-i həni jen=ış ni-ku-yə-y.
man-OBL already woman=3SG.CL NEG-beat-II-PRET

The man didn't beat his wife any more.

coward.085

ç=ə ruj-nəni=ku jen-i ın xosyət=ış no-y bə kəno.
of=that day-ADJZ=by woman-OBL this character=3SG.CL put(II)-PRET to side

From that day on, the woman put that trait aside.

coward.086

həni merd-i i kərə=ş=ən ni-məs-ə-y ki, jen bı-vot-o ki,
already man-OBL one time=3SG.CL=ADD NEG-hear-II-PRET COMP woman MOD-say-OPT.3SG COMP

“az tars-eydə=m”.
1SG.DIR fear-PROG=COP.1SG

The man never again heard his wife say, 'I'm scared'.

coward.087

yol-on çok=işon vot-ə=ybən : –hırs-i damon=e pəl-ə-hu.
big-PL good=3PL.CL say-PTCP[PF]=EVID bear-OBL remedy=COP.3SG hoe-ATTR-blade

The elders rightly said: –The remedy for a bear is beating it with a hoe.

coward.088

çi osmon=o se qılə sef e-qın-i-ye.
of sky=by three CLF apple down-fall-II-PRET.3SG

Three apples fell from the sky.

coward.089

qılə=y çi nəğıl-i bı-vot-i, qılə=y çi quş do-ə-kəs-on, qılə=y=ən çımı.
CLF=one of tale-OBL AGN-say-OBL CLF=one of ear give(II)-PTCP-AGN-PL CLF=one=ADD 1SG.POSS

One is the storyteller's, one is the listeners', and one is mine.