

The Lake Monster and Appearances of the Deceased

As told by Lucille Davis

There used to be a monster in the lake at Karluk. Every now and then it would come out, but half, especially people would always see them toward *Nunalek* where my *Kraasnaya* used to live. There is a swamp in there. They would also be seen in the mouth of the lake, and Karluk River.



The deceased would actually appear in spirit so they can be seen and never be forgotten. That is why Robert used to go and bless those lakes and swamps, always. My youngest brother Moses happened to see Phillip Vasili that drowned right there in Larsen Bay. He saw him. He remembered him with his black knitted cap, and he was showing himself to my brother. So he made the sign of a cross then. Sometimes they (the deceased) wanted to show themselves. I guess the living would tell stories about them.



Let's say that it was me who would appear. Somewhere along the lake I would appear and you would say: "I saw Lucille, I really did. Her spirit." But that person would disappear...

The lake monster would also appear at random. As a matter of fact, my daughter saw it in the paper, about five or six years ago and said, that is the story my momma used to tell me.



The monster that was near *Kanatak* was half octopus and half whale. But I cannot remember the lake that it was in. I can't. But they used to go up there for *Krisainya* in January on the 19th in order to get holy water and bless it. Every little swamp would be blessed.



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