*vakkáynuusich mupákkurih*: HHR 9d
Sung by Phoebe Maddux in Orleans, March 9, 1926

This song was sung so that the gatherer may get more acorns than anyone else. Phoebe's mother showed her. It was known as the acorn worm's song or **vakkáynuusich**'s song.[1]

**ayváyvarukutîi**
(Sung form only)[2]

Phoebe said, "We don't use that word now. It is an old story word, but it seems like it means 'lots lying around.' In the old times [**papikvávahirak**] when all the animals were people the little white worm in the acorn, called **vakáynuusich**, was also a person who loved acorns, and this was her song when she gathered them."[3]

[Phoebe tells Harrington[4] that she] cannot understand the words. It may mean that this worm wants someone to spill acorns to him. At least they sing this to make lots of acorns under the trees to pick up—sung by the gatherer.

Prose: **iyvaayváraki**, to spill (= to throw away) anything in direction towards Requa. Ct. **iyvôonihi**, to spill downslope. **iyváaraa**, to spill upslope. **iyvaayrôovi**, to spill upriver toward Happy Camp.

Punctual forms:

**tóoyvaayvarak**, he spills it downriverward.
**tó oyvôonih**, he spills it downslope.
**tóoyvaayraa**, he spills it upslope.
**tóoyvaayroov**, he spills it upriverward.

Phoebe's mother told her to always sing this song.

**íshshaha tá néeyvaayka**, spill water on me: [w]hen they bathe old women too weak to spill water over themselves, too weak.

**iyvaayváraki néeyvaayki**, spill it downriver, spill it on me. Have to use two words to express this indirective.

**vakkáynuusich**, acorn worm. No etymology of last part. **vákkay**, worm.

---

[1] These three sentences are from Helen H. Roberts' notes, taken at the time that she made the recording of this song, as found in Harrington's *Karuk Music* files [JPH 014: 272]. Roberts loaned much of her Karuk material to Harrington.

[2] These lines were taken by Harrington directly from Maddux, sometime during her visit to Washington, D.C., from October, 1928 to April, 1929. [JPH 014: 273].

[3] This paragraph is Roberts'. See footnote 1.

[4] The remainder of the information about the song Harrington obtained from Maddux, as per footnote 2, [JPH 014: 273-5].