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New Coyote Stories

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New Coyote (*qomu'tsau*) Stories

“Regrets”

~Adam S. Wither

Coyote laid almost dead at the bottom of the canyon, legs up, his fur singed to bare skin.

“I do, now, regret,” he said, “setting fire to the bush.”

Before the regret: While running on hind legs, as fast as he could, firelit and smoking, and even while jumping over the cliff to cool himself off, he screamed, “I am one fiery meteorite!”

But alas, now at the bottom of the canyon licking multiple wounds, he thought differently. He had regrets.

“Yes, I can run faster while on fire, but the trip downward ain’t worth it.”

“I must tell humans never to do that.”

But he forgot, as he always does, like the time he did not tell them they were an afterthought.

