

Cite as: Xotlák – The vampires; performer: Ioannis Amarantidis, camera/ interview/scientific advisor: Thede Kahl, transcription: Thede Kahl, Sotirios Rousiakis, translation: Sotirios Rousiakis, project coordinator: Andreea Pascaru, editor: Antonio Fichera, retrieved from [www.oeaw.ac.at/VLACH](http://www.oeaw.ac.at/VLACH), ID-number: pont1253GRV0008a.

## Pontic Greek

## English translation

1 00:00:13,080 --> 00:00:19,520 Sto-Bóndo k'ε παλά ipírçe éndoni ðisiðemonías léme,	1 00:00:13,080 --> 00:00:19,520 In Pontos there were many superstitions in old times,
2 00:00:19,520 --> 00:00:26,080 óti ipárχun májises, ipárχun χotlák.	2 00:00:19,520 --> 00:00:26,080 about witches and vampires.
3 00:00:26,080 --> 00:00:31,800 O χotlák eléγane. I Turk apá sa tafía to	3 00:00:26,080 --> 00:00:31,800 The vampire was called "hotlak".
4 00:00:31,800 --> 00:00:36,640 ódes éθaftan ton peθaménon éfínan énan-dripí.	4 00:00:31,800 --> 00:00:36,640 The Turks left a hole on their graves when they buried the dead.
5 00:00:36,640 --> 00:00:41,320 K'ε káθε vráði epéγane etérnane	5 00:00:36,640 --> 00:00:41,320 They went every night and checked
6 00:00:41,320 --> 00:00:45,160 an o Túrkon in endáksi.	6 00:00:41,320 --> 00:00:45,160 if the deceased Turks were fine.
7 00:00:45,160 --> 00:00:48,680 T-emetére léγan endelós andíθeta.	7 00:00:45,160 --> 00:00:48,680 Our legends tell it differently.
8 00:00:48,680 --> 00:00:53,120 T-emetére léγane óti o Túrkon evjén χotlák.	8 00:00:48,680 --> 00:00:53,120 They say that the Turks come out as vampires.
9 00:00:53,120 --> 00:00:54,880 Xotlák. en óti jínete χaíván,	9 00:00:53,120 --> 00:00:54,880 Vampire means that he becomes an animal,
10 00:00:54,880 --> 00:00:59,320	10 00:00:54,880 --> 00:00:59,320

## VLACH Transcriptions

kápïo χaiván kápïo zóo.

an animal.

11

00:00:59,320 --> 00:01:02,880

K'e epiðí i musulmán k'e k'-in χristiani

11

00:00:59,320 --> 00:01:02,880

Because the Muslims are not Christians

12

00:01:02,880 --> 00:01:04,400

evjénan so tripín

12

00:01:02,880 --> 00:01:04,400

and they came out of the hole

13

00:01:04,400 --> 00:01:08,040

k'-ólon ti níχtan láfk'ete sa χoría apés

13

00:01:04,400 --> 00:01:08,040

and all during the night they go around the villages

14

00:01:08,040 --> 00:01:14,880

k'e líyo protú ksimerón páne embéne so tripí.

14

00:01:08,040 --> 00:01:14,880

and before dawn they go back into the hole.

15

00:01:14,880 --> 00:01:19,440

Aftí íne i ðisiðemonía alá i pragmatikótita en

15

00:01:14,880 --> 00:01:19,440

This is the superstition, but the reality is

16

00:01:19,440 --> 00:01:22,440

óti i Turk páne énan evðomáðan

16

00:01:19,440 --> 00:01:22,440

that the Turks go for one week

17

00:01:22,440 --> 00:01:26,320

k'e tirúne an o ánthropo en peθaménos

17

00:01:22,440 --> 00:01:26,320

to see if the human is really dead,

18

00:01:26,320 --> 00:01:28,000

jatí ipárçi i nekranástasi

18

00:01:26,320 --> 00:01:28,000

because of the reanimation.

19

00:01:28,000 --> 00:01:31,440

pu léme k'e emís χristianí alá k'e tóra.

19

00:01:28,000 --> 00:01:31,440

As we Christians say even now,

20

00:01:31,440 --> 00:01:36,080

jaftó i eklisía évale to mónazma.

20

00:01:31,440 --> 00:01:36,080

that is why the church ordered the permanence.

21

00:01:36,080 --> 00:01:38,800

ðilaðí na míni éna vráði ipoχreotiká sto spíti.

21

00:01:36,080 --> 00:01:38,800

Namely the dead must stay home for one night.

22

00:01:38,800 --> 00:01:41,800

Éjjine k'e ðo sto xorjío aftó.

23

00:01:41,800 --> 00:01:45,360

Άνθρωπος ο οποίος tin epómeni méra íçe psiçí.

24

00:01:45,360 --> 00:01:46,840

Aftí in i pragmatikótita.

25

00:01:46,840 --> 00:01:50,440

Tóra énas çotláks lipón moameθanos

26

00:01:50,440 --> 00:01:55,720

ekséven a so tripí k'e jéndone jk'ílos, sk'ílí.

27

00:01:55,720 --> 00:01:57,400

K'-ekatíve so ðiplanón to çorío

28

00:01:57,400 --> 00:02:04,520

siη-Gútula k'e elásθen ek'í, epík'en.

29

00:02:04,520 --> 00:02:06,600

O jk'ilón ólon to vráði.

30

00:02:06,600 --> 00:02:10,720

Énas çorjanós polí palikarás levéndis

31

00:02:10,720 --> 00:02:13,720

ekatéve so çorío ti níçta so álo

32

00:02:13,720 --> 00:02:15,920

k'e eklósθe si kalítsas to çorío

22

00:01:38,800 --> 00:01:41,800

It happened even here in the village.

23

00:01:41,800 --> 00:01:45,360

Someone turned out to be alive the next day.

24

00:01:45,360 --> 00:01:46,840

This is the reality.

25

00:01:46,840 --> 00:01:50,440

Now a Muslim vampire

26

00:01:50,440 --> 00:01:55,720

came out of the hole and became a dog.

27

00:01:55,720 --> 00:01:57,400

He came down to the next village

28

00:01:57,400 --> 00:02:04,520

in Kırantaş [Kutula] and walked around there.

29

00:02:04,520 --> 00:02:06,600

He was a dog all night.

30

00:02:06,600 --> 00:02:10,720

One person from the village was very brave,

31

00:02:10,720 --> 00:02:13,720

he came down to the other village during the night,

32

00:02:13,720 --> 00:02:15,920

and returned to his wife's village,

## VLACH Transcriptions

33 00:02:15,920 --> 00:02:17,120 a si mánas ats to méros.	33 00:02:15,920 --> 00:02:17,120 to her mother's place.
34 00:02:17,120 --> 00:02:18,720 Télos pándon eklósθen.	34 00:02:17,120 --> 00:02:18,720 Whenever he turned around,
35 00:02:18,720 --> 00:02:21,320 Apo pís klófk'ete tirí éna fk'ilópon.	35 00:02:18,720 --> 00:02:21,320 behind him he saw a dog moving.
36 00:02:21,320 --> 00:02:24,000 <γav γav> to fk'ilák'i ércete.	36 00:02:21,320 --> 00:02:24,000 <Woof woof>, the dog came.
37 00:02:24,000 --> 00:02:30,160 Den to díni simasía. Sk'ília polá som-Bóndon.	37 00:02:24,000 --> 00:02:30,160 He did not take much notice of it. There were many dogs in Pontos.
38 00:02:30,160 --> 00:02:35,520 Pái eváli to áloyon so mandrí.	38 00:02:30,160 --> 00:02:35,520 He went and put the horse into the stable.
39 00:02:35,520 --> 00:02:38,240 Ejéven k'e o fk'ilon opis.	39 00:02:35,520 --> 00:02:38,240 The dog came into the stable behind him.
40 00:02:38,240 --> 00:02:39,400 Árcise ómos na ksimeróni.	40 00:02:38,240 --> 00:02:39,400 The dawn had started.
41 00:02:39,400 --> 00:02:43,120 Siyá siyá θa ksimerón.	41 00:02:39,400 --> 00:02:43,120 Little by little it was clawing.
42 00:02:43,120 --> 00:02:46,160 Éklisen jerá ti-bórta.	42 00:02:43,120 --> 00:02:46,160 He closed the door tightly.
43 00:02:46,160 --> 00:02:50,000 Apó kámbosa óras eθélese na pai.	43 00:02:46,160 --> 00:02:50,000 After a good while, he wanted to leave.
44	44

## VLACH Transcriptions

00:02:50,000 --> 00:02:52,800  
Per to áloyon-at páli.

00:02:50,000 --> 00:02:52,800  
He took his horse again.

45  
00:02:52,800 --> 00:02:54,960  
Páí n-aníz ti-bórtan. Típote.

45  
00:02:52,800 --> 00:02:54,960  
He went to open the door. It did not move.

46  
00:02:54,960 --> 00:02:58,080  
Kundá ti-bórtan, zmbróxni ti-bórta,

46  
00:02:54,960 --> 00:02:58,080  
He pushed against the door,

47  
00:02:58,080 --> 00:03:04,400  
i pórtá k'-anís. Kundá. Típote.

47  
00:02:58,080 --> 00:03:04,400  
the door did not open. He pushed. Nothing.

48  
00:03:04,400 --> 00:03:08,360  
Metá epíen ípen k'e to jítanon apó dípla

48  
00:03:04,400 --> 00:03:08,360  
Then, he went to talk to his next-door neighbour,

49  
00:03:08,360 --> 00:03:11,640  
k'e mazí me ti jinékan at k'e to jítóna, télós pándon,

49  
00:03:08,360 --> 00:03:11,640  
and together with his wife and his neighbour

50  
00:03:11,640 --> 00:03:16,880  
kundúne tim-bórta k'-elépne énan theóraton ánθropon

50  
00:03:11,640 --> 00:03:16,880  
they pushed the door open and they saw a tall man

51  
00:03:16,880 --> 00:03:21,400  
opís a si-bórta.

51  
00:03:16,880 --> 00:03:21,400  
behind the door.

52  
00:03:21,400 --> 00:03:24,320  
O ánθropon atós étone énas Túrkos

52  
00:03:21,400 --> 00:03:24,320  
This man was a Turk

53  
00:03:24,320 --> 00:03:29,120  
o opíos ekséven a son tripín k'e ejéndone jk'ílos

53  
00:03:24,320 --> 00:03:29,120  
who had come out of the hole and had become a dog,

54  
00:03:29,120 --> 00:03:32,240  
k'e metá afú érθen eséken a so mandrí

54  
00:03:29,120 --> 00:03:32,240  
and after he came and went into the stable,

## VLACH Transcriptions

55 00:03:32,240 --> 00:03:35,880 k'-epóresen o jk'ílon na vjen.	55 00:03:32,240 --> 00:03:35,880 the dog was not able to get out.
56 00:03:35,880 --> 00:03:38,200 K'-anangastiká afú érthen i iméra	56 00:03:35,880 --> 00:03:38,200 As the rule said, when the day arrives
57 00:03:38,200 --> 00:03:41,600 éprepe páli na jínete ánθropos.	57 00:03:38,200 --> 00:03:41,600 he must become human again.
58 00:03:41,600 --> 00:03:47,440 K'e étsi évrane ton Túrkon	58 00:03:41,600 --> 00:03:47,440 They found the Turk like this
59 00:03:47,440 --> 00:03:51,880 k'e eðiaðóθi pandú.	59 00:03:47,440 --> 00:03:51,880 and that story was spread everywhere.
60 00:03:51,880 --> 00:03:57,160 Aftó íne ja ólo tom-Bóndo. To léne óli.	60 00:03:51,880 --> 00:03:57,160 This was in all of Pontos. All were talking about it.
61 00:03:57,160 --> 00:04:03,520 I pramatikótita ómos íne aplí k'e i eksís k'e jaftó.	61 00:03:57,160 --> 00:04:03,520 The reality of this is simple.
62 00:04:03,520 --> 00:04:09,040 Me opioðípote trópo epórnane i aθrópi i xristianí	62 00:04:03,520 --> 00:04:09,040 The Christians tried in every way
63 00:04:09,040 --> 00:04:15,600 na mi jíndan Turk. Úte ta korítsi úte ta peðía.	63 00:04:09,040 --> 00:04:15,600 not to become Turks. Neither the girls nor the boys.
64 00:04:15,600 --> 00:04:21,480 Éprepe o Túrkon na ef jíla stravá.	64 00:04:15,600 --> 00:04:21,480 The Turks must have one thousand bad things.
65 00:04:21,480 --> 00:04:24,120 Piðí k'-evaftíuton ja t-ató évjene xotláks.	65 00:04:21,480 --> 00:04:24,120 Because they were not baptized they became vampires.

66 00:04:24,120 --> 00:04:28,680 Enó i χristianí m-aftó ton trópo tromokratís to nearó	66 00:04:24,120 --> 00:04:28,680 The Christians scared the young that way
67 00:04:28,680 --> 00:04:30,720 k'e metá jínete siníðisi.	67 00:04:28,680 --> 00:04:30,720 and it became a belief.
68 00:04:30,720 --> 00:04:35,800 Omologó óti epístevan ató i paleí óti simvéni.	68 00:04:30,720 --> 00:04:35,800 I mentioned that the elderly believed that this happened.
69 00:04:35,800 --> 00:04:39,000 K'e tóra pu píxame me tin Ólga, epíame sim-batríðan	69 00:04:35,800 --> 00:04:39,000 Now, when Olga and I went to the homeland
70 00:04:39,000 --> 00:04:41,400 epíraza tim-beθerá m. Tin-dríti forá.	70 00:04:39,000 --> 00:04:41,400 I teased my mother-in-law. It was the third time,
71 00:04:41,400 --> 00:04:44,400 I tétarti forá. Íxa k'e tim-beθerá m.	71 00:04:41,400 --> 00:04:44,400 the fourth time. My mother-in-law was with me.
72 00:04:44,400 --> 00:04:46,920 Epíga sa túrk'ika ta mnímata.	72 00:04:44,400 --> 00:04:46,920 I went to the Turkish graves.
73 00:04:46,920 --> 00:04:50,360 Íne a so meídán pço apán.	73 00:04:46,920 --> 00:04:50,360 They are a little more distant from the square.
74 00:04:50,360 --> 00:04:52,360 K'e elépo kat jk'ilía léo.	74 00:04:50,360 --> 00:04:52,360 I saw some dogs and I said:
75 00:04:52,360 --> 00:04:54,920 <A peθerá, léo, autóς xotláks en.>	75 00:04:52,360 --> 00:04:54,920 <Ah! Mother-in-law, this is a vampire.>
76 00:04:54,920 --> 00:04:56,680	76 00:04:54,920 --> 00:04:56,680

Níxta étone. Ek'ini:

It was night. She:

77

00:04:56,680 --> 00:04:58,680

<To koroíðévs? > Leí. <Eyó pistév-ato.

77

00:04:56,680 --> 00:04:58,680

<Are you joking?> She said. <I believe it.

78

00:04:58,680 --> 00:05:01,960

I mána m éleen óti en xotláks.>

78

00:04:58,680 --> 00:05:01,960

My mother said that there are vampires.>

79

00:05:01,960 --> 00:05:04,840

Páme líyon okjúká. Féyume tóra si stráta ja ti Matsúka.

79

00:05:01,960 --> 00:05:04,840

We went away, we now took the road to Maçka [Matsuka].

80

00:05:04,840 --> 00:05:06,760

Akrivós oksuká sin-Drapezúnda.

80

00:05:04,840 --> 00:05:06,760

Just outside of Trabzon.

81

00:05:06,760 --> 00:05:09,560

Vlépo éna jk'ilí na tóso. Tranó jk'ilí.

81

00:05:06,760 --> 00:05:09,560

I saw a big dog, a very big one.

82

00:05:09,560 --> 00:05:11,720

Léo: <Peθerá autó molás étone.>

82

00:05:09,560 --> 00:05:11,720

I say: <Mother-in-law, it is a Muslim priest.>

83

00:05:11,720 --> 00:05:14,640

Popás étone. Ta pistévane.

83

00:05:11,720 --> 00:05:14,640

It was a priest. They believed that.

84

00:05:14,640 --> 00:05:16,280

K'-o papúz-mu to písteve.

84

00:05:14,640 --> 00:05:16,280

My grandfather believed it.

85

00:05:16,280 --> 00:05:20,000

K'e polá ála tétça ta pistévane.

85

00:05:16,280 --> 00:05:20,000

And they believed many other such things.

86

00:05:20,000 --> 00:05:27,120

I kataklíða k'e pço akrea en me tus Armenándas.

86

00:05:20,000 --> 00:05:27,120

The most blatant story is with Armenians.

87

00:05:27,120 --> 00:05:31,440

Mña kopéla epórene na per énan Armén

87

00:05:27,120 --> 00:05:31,440

One girl could marry one Armenian boy



88  
00:05:31,440 --> 00:05:35,360  
afú en orθóðoksos k'-atí orθóðoksisa.

88  
00:05:31,440 --> 00:05:35,360  
because both are orthodox.

89  
00:05:35,360 --> 00:05:39,960  
Éleyane sa korítsa k'e sa peðía andístrofa

89  
00:05:35,360 --> 00:05:39,960  
They said to the girls and the boys

90  
00:05:39,960 --> 00:05:43,360  
óti o Arménis ---, étsi éleyan,

90  
00:05:39,960 --> 00:05:43,360  
that Armenian --, they said it like this,

91  
00:05:43,360 --> 00:05:48,520  
o Arménis, ja na jínete Élinas χristianós

91  
00:05:43,360 --> 00:05:48,520  
in order for an Armenian to become a Greek  
Christian,

92  
00:05:48,520 --> 00:05:51,280  
prep próta na ínete Túrkos

92  
00:05:48,520 --> 00:05:51,280  
he must first become a Turk

93  
00:05:51,280 --> 00:05:53,760  
k'e na aparniθí k'e ton-Durkizmó

93  
00:05:51,280 --> 00:05:53,760  
and he must deny the Turkish culture (Islam),

94  
00:05:53,760 --> 00:05:55,120  
k'e na jíni χristianós.

94  
00:05:53,760 --> 00:05:55,120  
and then he becomes Christian.

95  
00:05:55,120 --> 00:05:59,320  
Íne çiróteri a si Turks.

95  
00:05:55,120 --> 00:05:59,320  
They are worse than the Turks.

96  
00:05:59,320 --> 00:06:02,840  
jatí me tus Túrkus éton polá ðískolon

96  
00:05:59,320 --> 00:06:02,840  
Because it was very difficult

97  
00:06:02,840 --> 00:06:04,240  
na per énas χristianós

97  
00:06:02,840 --> 00:06:04,240  
for a Christian to marry with a Turk,

98  
00:06:04,240 --> 00:06:07,040  
enó me ton Armén i tin Arménitsa

98  
00:06:04,240 --> 00:06:07,040  
but it was easy

99

00:06:07,040 --> 00:06:08,960

éton éfkolo na per.

100

00:06:08,960 --> 00:06:12,160

K'e étsi lipón íxan k'-aftí ti ðoksasía.

99

00:06:07,040 --> 00:06:08,960

to marry Armenian men or women.

100

00:06:08,960 --> 00:06:12,160

So they even had that belief.