Nosi
A Chickasaw Lullaby

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Nosi
Minti abebe.
Foshi ishki iibebe.

Nosi. Nosi.

Ookhili hashi chokkilissa ischimmashki
Micha ishwakaat nittaki onashki.

Foha abebe.
Foshi ishki iibebe ishkannosi.

Nosi. Nosi.

Sleep
Come my baby.
Mother’s baby bird.

Sleep. Sleep.

Be like the quiet moon
And fly to the morning.

Rest my baby.
Mother’s little baby bird.

Sleep. Sleep.

Poem submitted by Freyda Craw in English and Chickasaw as a class assignment in LRC 576, AILDI 2007. JoAnn Ellis has kindly corrected my beginner’s Chickasaw language skills for publication purposes.