Three Inuit Songs

[we apologize that technical difficulties have prevented us from including the original versions of these songs in syllabic script]

Quviasuliqpunga
(in Roman Orthography, followed by an English translation)

Qaumatilugusuli Sinilaurivugut
Ulluquli Tauva

Alianaituqaqpuq Inunialirama
Ulluquli Tauva

Akuktuyuq Anngutuvuq
Ulluquli Tauva

Quviasuliqpunga Inunialirama
Ulluquli Tauva

I am happy
Iyayayaya Iyayayaya

I am so glad I’ll be alive with the daylight out there
Iyayayaya Iyayayaya

The two with a lot of space have caught up
Iyayayaya Iyayayaya Iyayayaya

I am happy that I will be living
Iyayayaya Iyayayaya

[Transcribed from Elisapee Ootoova’s grandfather, Tununiq area near Iglulik, by Gara Mamgark]

Qilaup
(in Roman Orthography, followed by an English translation)

Tikirataqpanga tikirataqpangapisamaimma ublaakkut imma siniktarviup iluanut iluanut amma ayaya ...

Nagningnarurivaa pisiksarauna ta iniksarminik ayuqsaqturuna ayaya ...

Ayaa niryutininguna tainniyangimmat
inuinnarnikli tainniqpaglugu imngiqpalirmanga ayaya ...

Ayaa inuilli makua avammakpakmattaa
agkalukpungmata uqausirmanna
tusaqsauthaqpq ukiurlri misimulli ayaya ...

Aya tusauqaqautharmat ukiurlru miksimurli
iqqataathaqtunga igluligajuk miksanut imma
ayaya ...

Aya igluligarjuk tikisaqtlirmat
agsurulqthaqtinga uqausialungmuulli ayaya ...

It came to me, it came to me
Early in the morning I awoke in my bed.
Inside, inside and ayaya...
This is my own song
It’s hard to find a place to stay ayaya....

ayaa The animal should have said something
Say it in inuktitut
I sing ayayaa...

ayaa Inuit do things differently
Sore hands, we hear their voices
We can hear them before winter ayaya...

ayaa We can hear them.

[Transcribed from Qilaup, Theresa Kimmaliarjuk’s father, Chesterfield Inlet, Nunavut, by Jo Ellen Pameolik, translation by Olivia Tagalik]

Qiugaviit
(Roman orthography, followed by a partial English translation)

Qiugaviit
Qiugaviit
Ittimingnaak
Qiugaviit
Qiujavaxingnaraviit Maijaja

Qiugaviit
Qiugaviit
Paallangamuut
Qiugaviit
Qiujavaxingnaraviit Maijaja

Kuningmullii
Qiugaviit
Uqquulaamut
Qiugaviit
Qiujavaxingnaraviit Maijaja

Qaujiviit
Qaujiviit
Uqquulaarmut
Pijumavit
Qaujivaxingnaqpit Maijaja

are you cold
are you cold
Ittimingnaak [I think it's a name]
are you cold
are you going to be cold

are you cold
are you cold
Paallangamuut [I think that is the destination]
are you going to be cold

[I am not sure how to do this third verse]

are you cold
are you cold
worth is
what you need [?]
now that you know maijaja

[Transcribed from Tudjaat, Baffin Island, by Alanna Copland; translated by Gara Mamgark]

Arviat Imngitingit, 2004, Quviasuliapunga