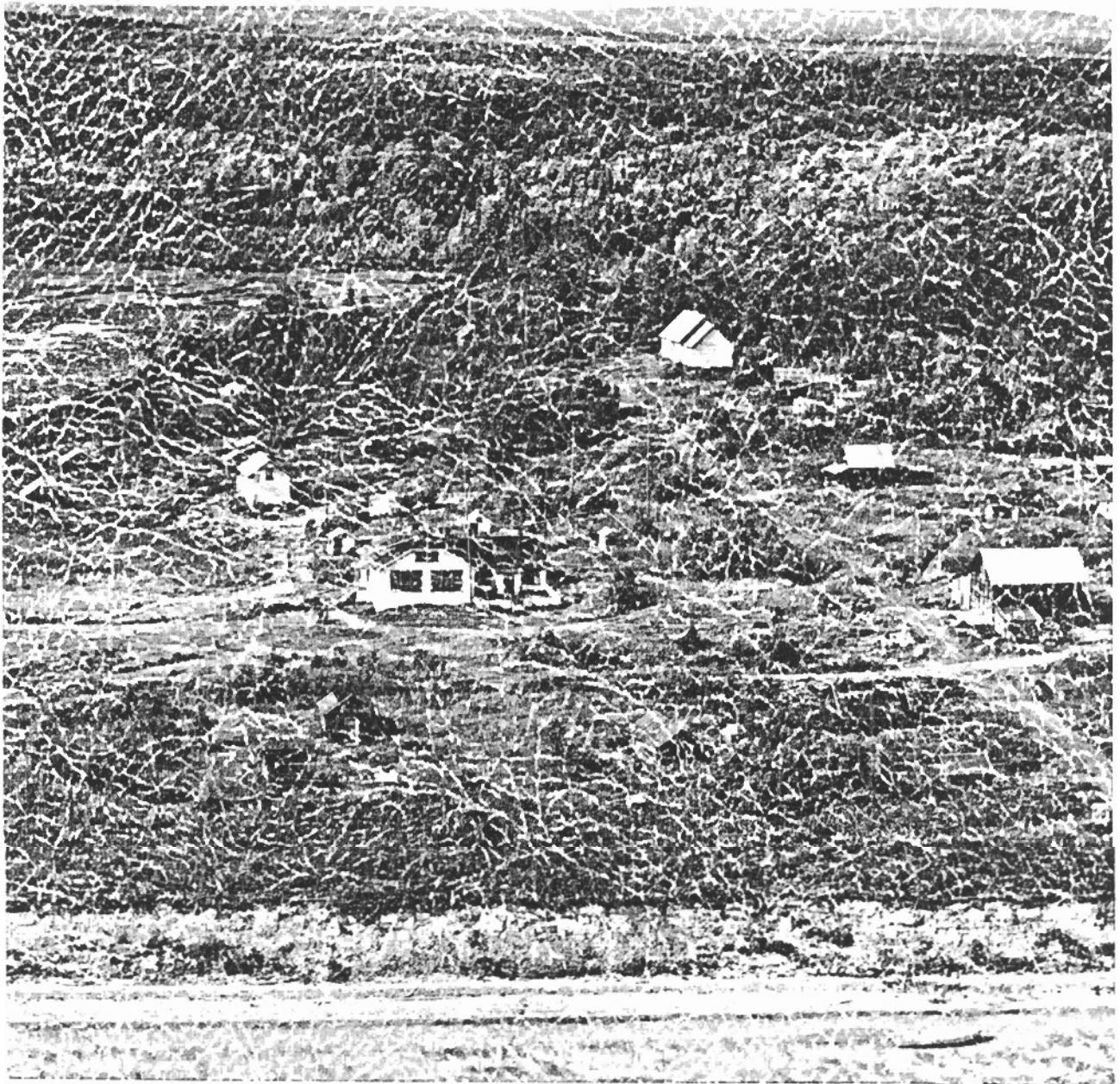


TUBUGHNA ELNENA



THE TYONEK PEOPLE'S COUNTRY

TUBUGHNA EŁNENA
The Tyonek People's
Country

by

Max and Nellie Chickalusion

Alaska Native Language Center
University of Alaska

1979

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The Tyonek People's Country

Written by Max and Nellie Chickalusion

Edited by Jim Kari

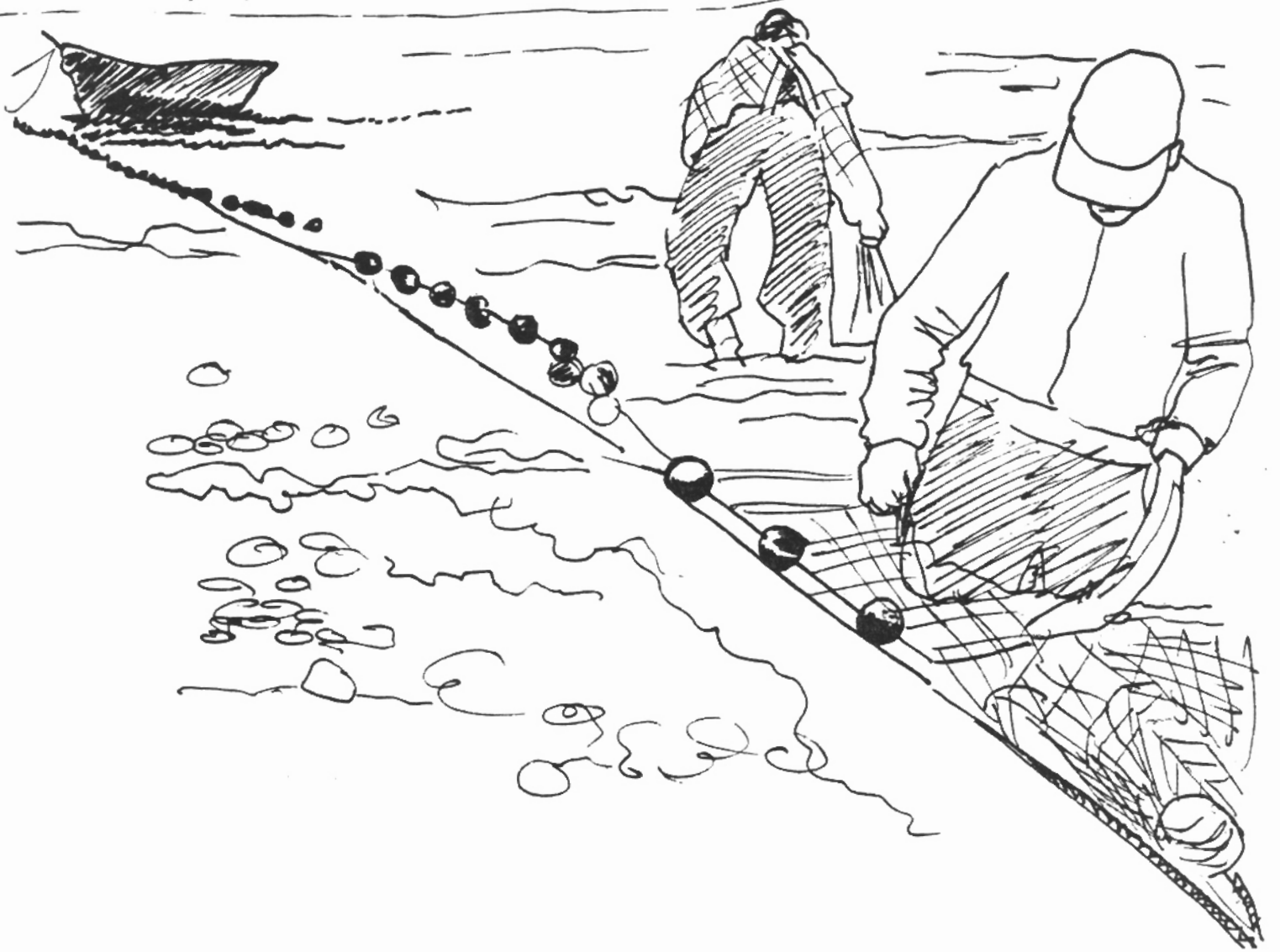
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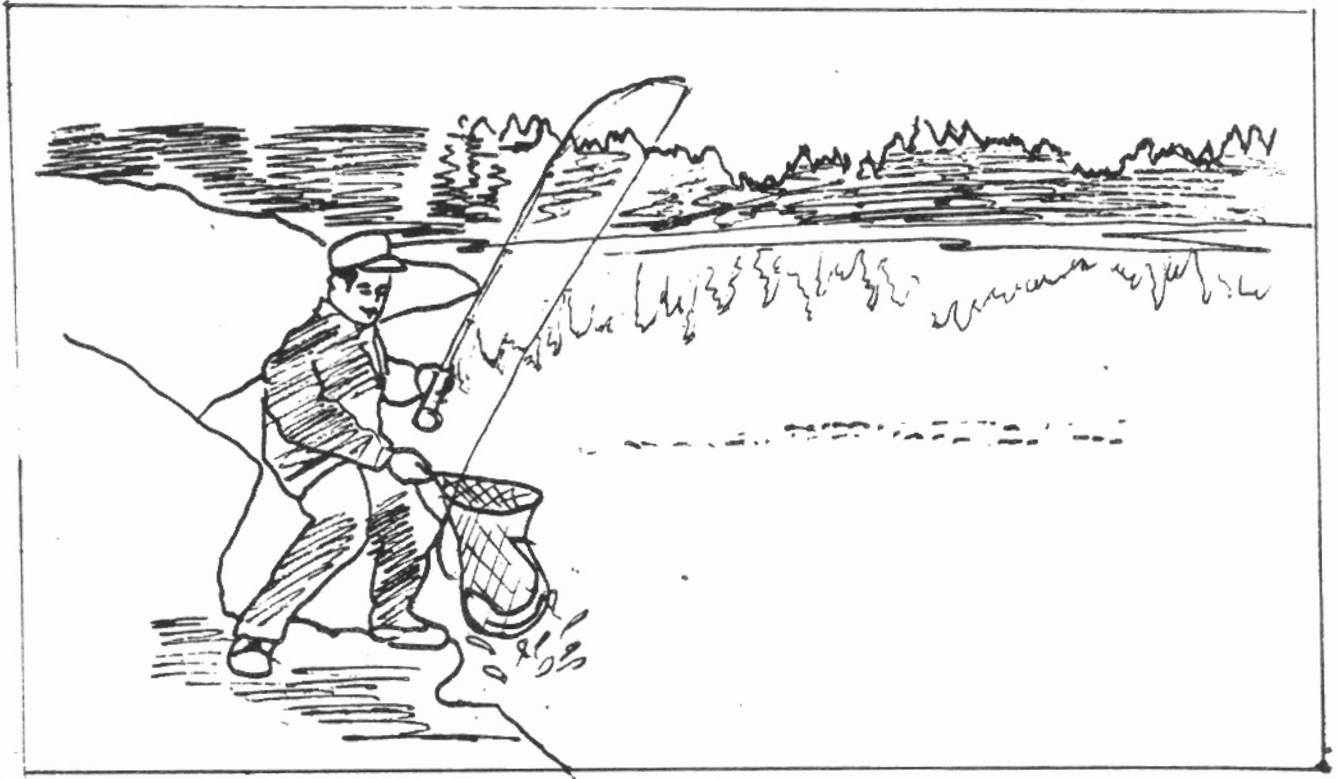
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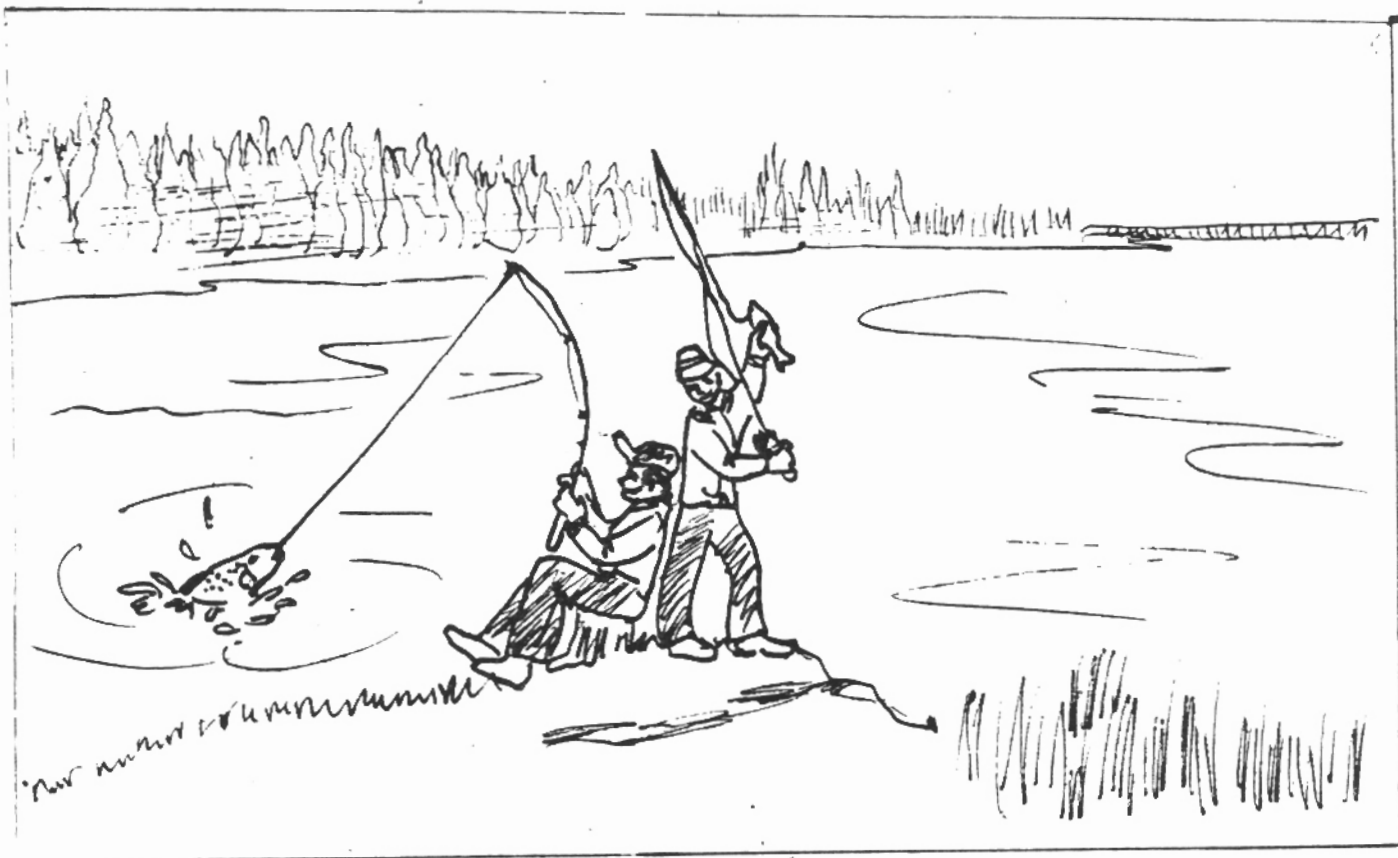
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Ndaha tiyush dit?
Ent'i Tubughnen tgheshuʔ, suk'i qayeh qighilat.
Una, Tubughnen ch'tudani.
Yada q'u ch'tuʔik?
Ent'i, tahbiʔ ch'tuʔik shit'i.
Yagheli shit'i ch'tudani.
Hhendeda ʔiq'a k'a chich'tuʔik.



Ndaha tiyush dit?
Benka'a tgheshuḥ shit'i, nenhti?
Aa' shi k'a Benka'a tgheshuḥ.
Yada q'u ihu tghil'it?
Shagela ihu tghel'it shit'i.
K'inaq'i ten natnaytun da?
Aa' k'inaq'i ten shatnaytun.
Yagheli ch'tudami.



Ndaha tiyush dit?

Tuk'eleh Bena tgheshuʔ shit'i, nenhti?

Aa' shi k'a Tuk'eleh Bena tgheshuʔ.

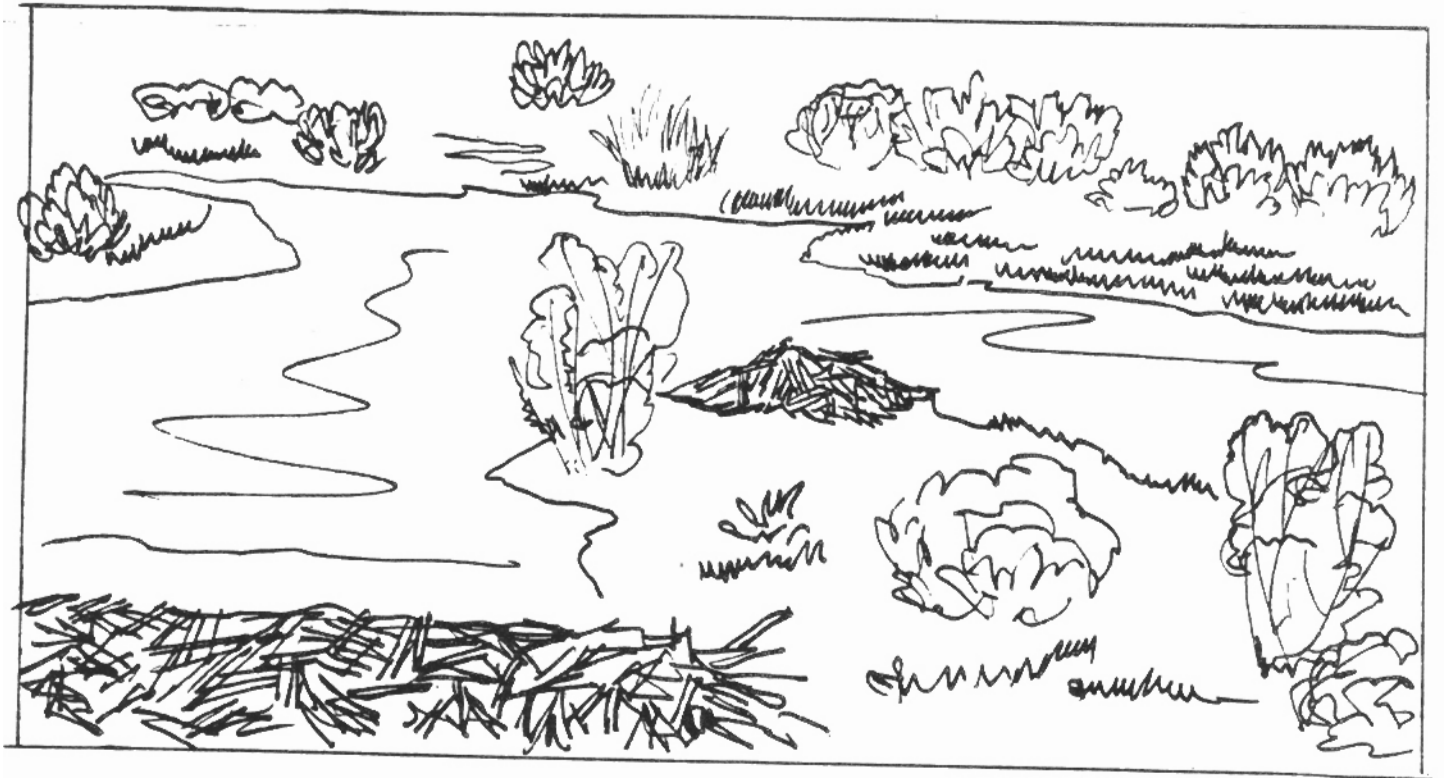
Yada q'u ihu tghil'ikʔ?

Telaghi ihu tghel'ikʔ shit'i.

K'inaq'i ten natnaytun da?

Aa' k'inaq'i ten shatnaytun.

Yagheli shit'i ch'tudaʔni.



Ndaha tiyush dit?

Chugan Baydli Bena tgheshuŕ shit'i, nenht i?

Aa'. Yada q'u ihu ch'tul'it'?

K'enuy'a ihu ch'tul'it' shit'i.

Iyni negh k'ilan da?

Aa' iyni shegh k'ilan.

Yagheli shit'i ch'tudaŕni.



Ndaha tiyush dit?

Ch'ubetnu tgheshuť shit'i, nenht i?

Aa' shi k'a Ch'ubetnu tgheshuť.

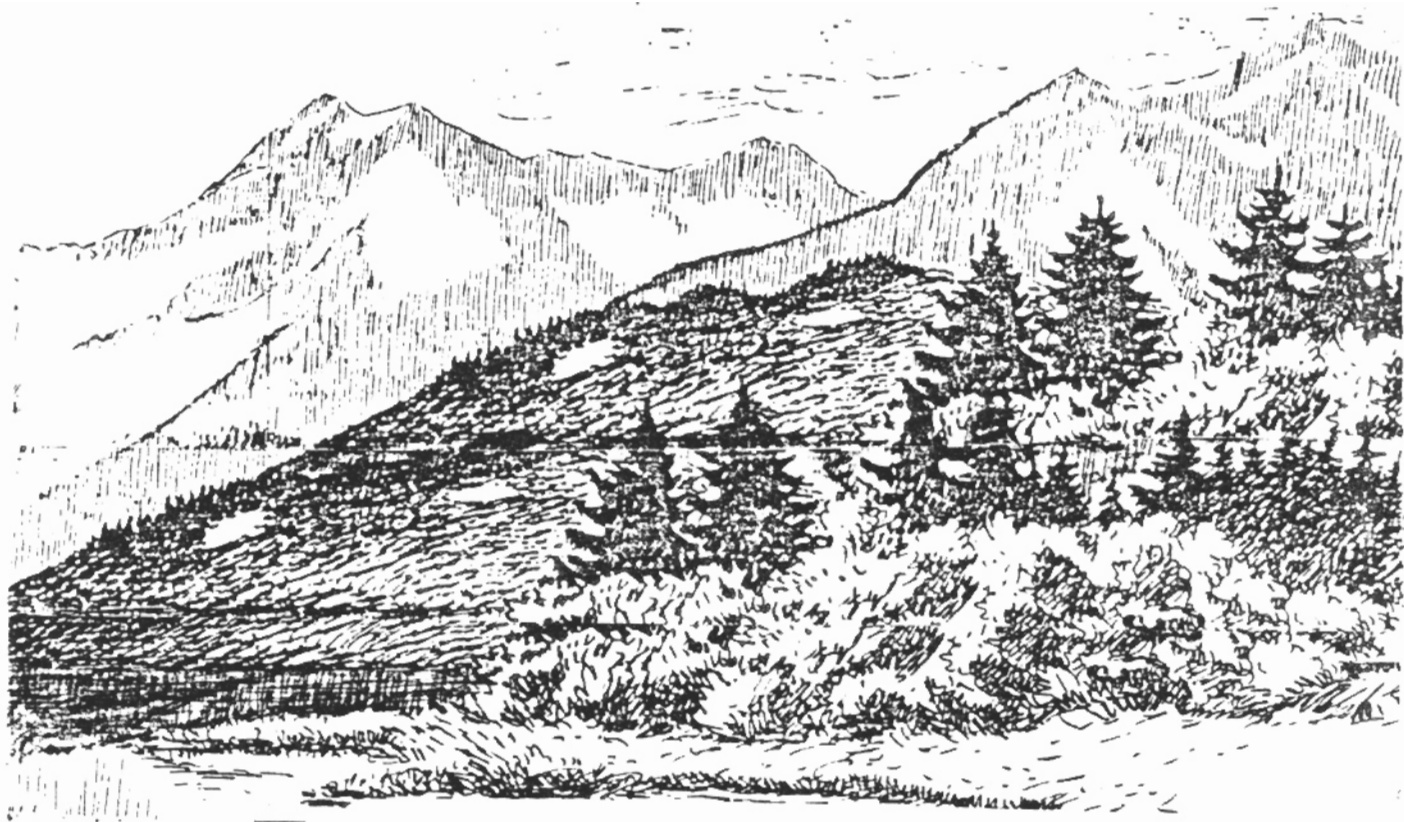
Yada q'u ihu tghiťil?

Łiq'aka'a ihu tghel'iť shit'i.

Tahbiť negh k'ilan da?

Aa' tahbiť shegh k'ilan.

Yagheli, ch'tudaťni.



Ndaha q'u tiyush?

Nt'i K'idazq'eni tgheshuł shit'i. Nenht i?

Aa', K'idazq'eni neł tgheshuł.

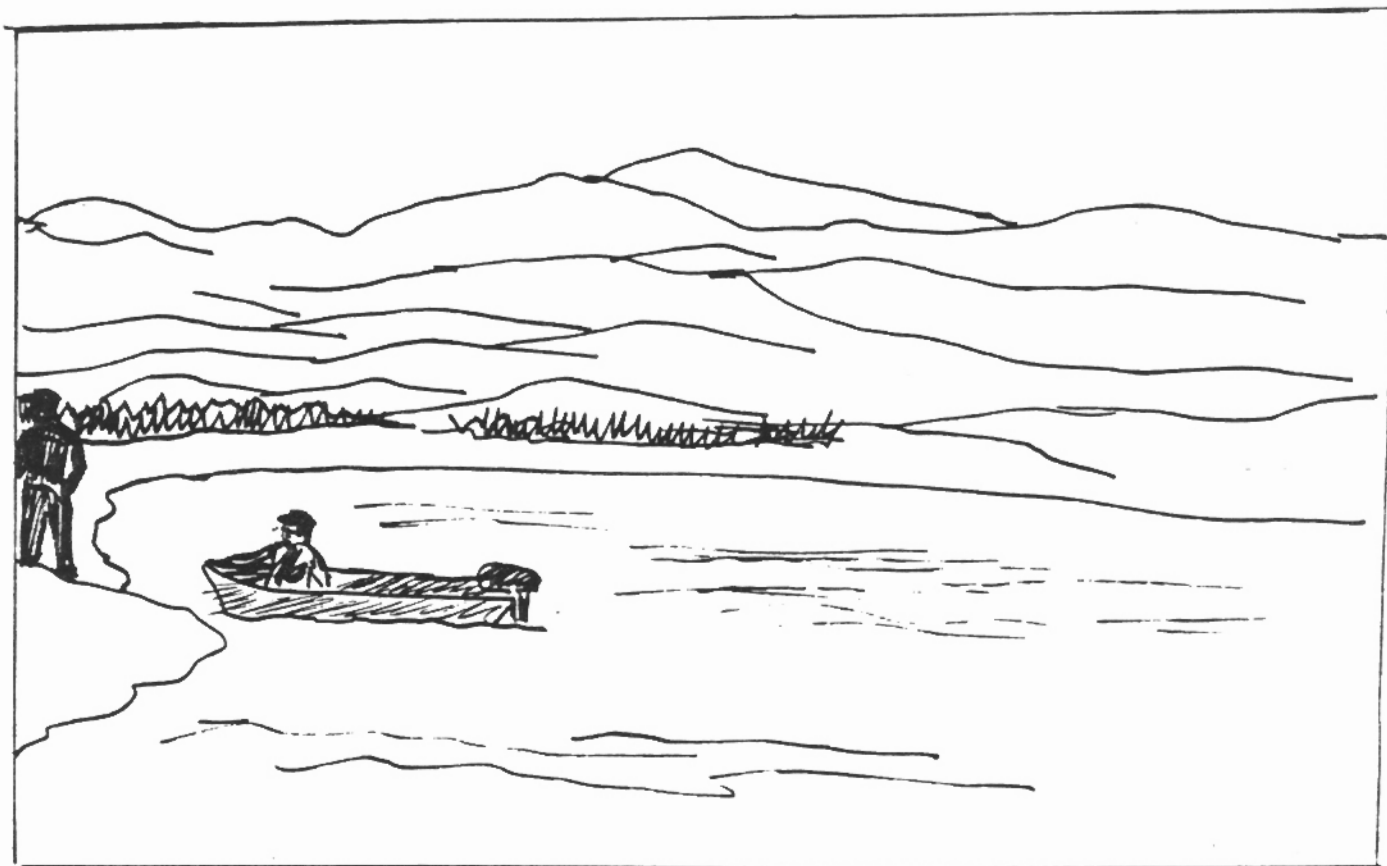
Yada ihu ch'tul'ił?

Qunsha ihu ch'tul'ił.

Quggił negh naydlu da?

Aa' quggił shegh naydlu.

Ugha, K'idazq'eni ch'tudałni.



Ndaha tiyush dit?

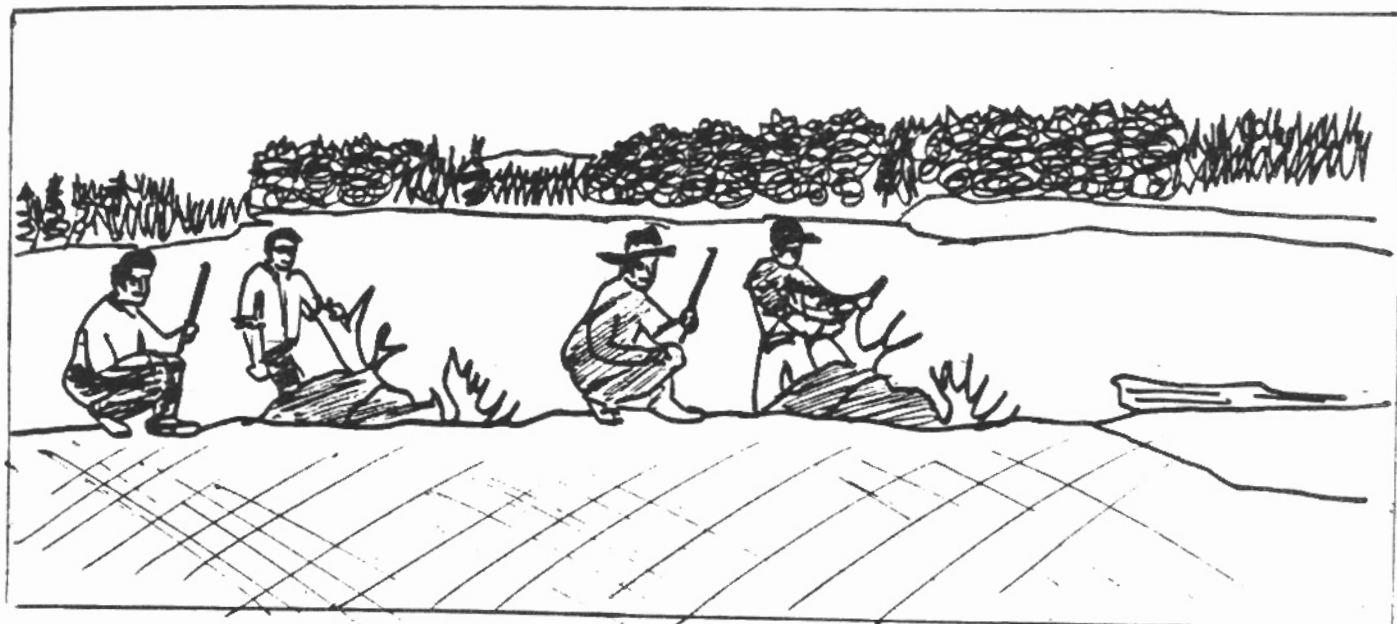
Ent'i Ch'elehtnu teshnash shit'i.

Una ch'tunani.

Yagheli, Ch'elehtnu ch'tunani. Yada q'u
ch'tu'it?

Liq'aka'a ihu ch'tul'it.

Yagheli shit'i.



Ndaha tiyush dit?

Ent'i Nadudiltnu teshnash shit'i, nenhti?

Aa' shi k'a Nadudiltnu teshnash shit'i.

Yada q'u ihu tghil'ix?

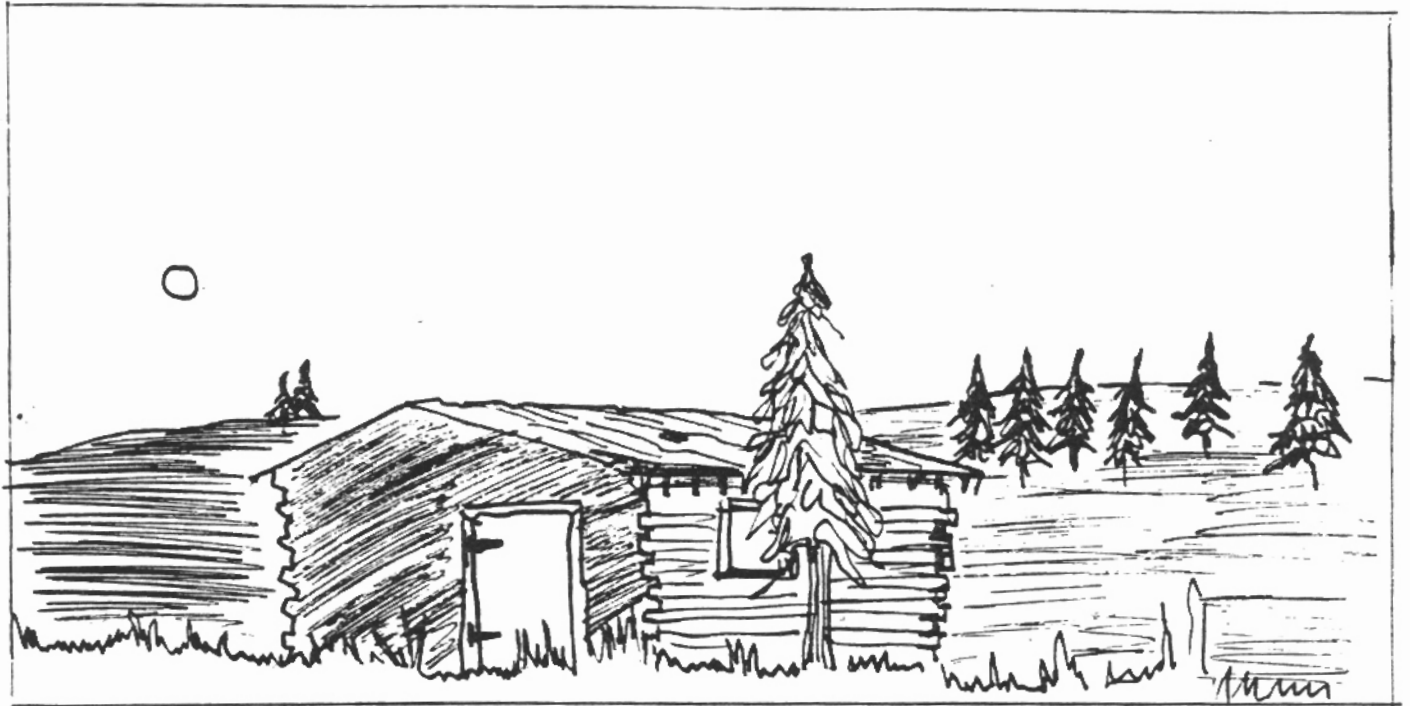
Dnigi ihu tghel'ix shit'i.

Yagheli Nadudiltnu ch'tunani.

Hhendeda dnigi chich'tuix'ix.

Iyni ch'u sbinit ch'u balgas ch'u mashina negh k'ilan da?

Aa' gas k'a shegh qilan.



Ndaha tinash dit?

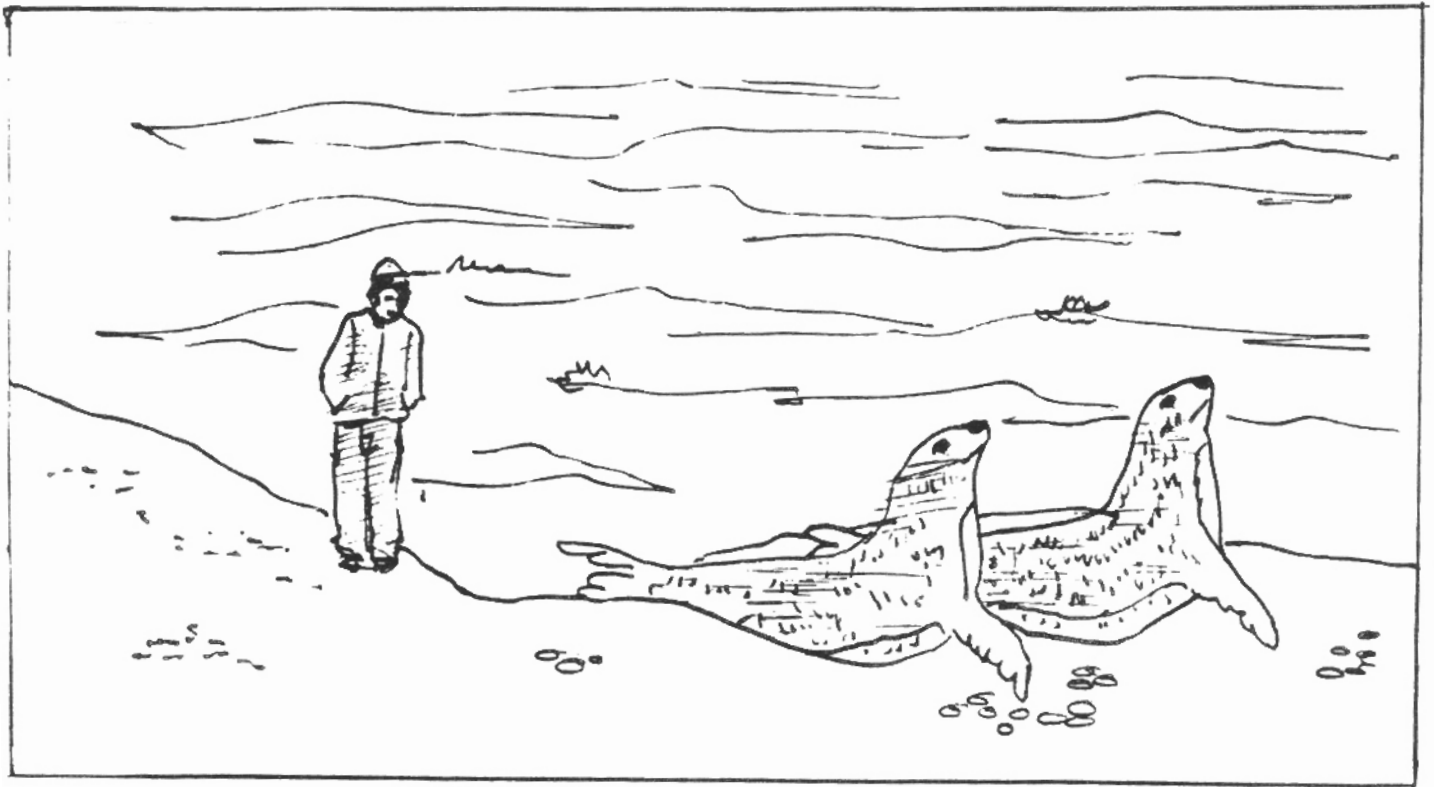
Qezdeghnen tgheshnał shit'i. Sheł tghinał da?

Aa' Qezdeghnen neł tgheshnał.

Yada q'u ihu ch'htnuł'ił?

Suk'i qayeh ihu ch'htnuł'ił.

Ugha, Qezdeghnen ch'tunani.



Ndaha tinash dit?

Nt'i Qelghin tgheshnał shit'i.

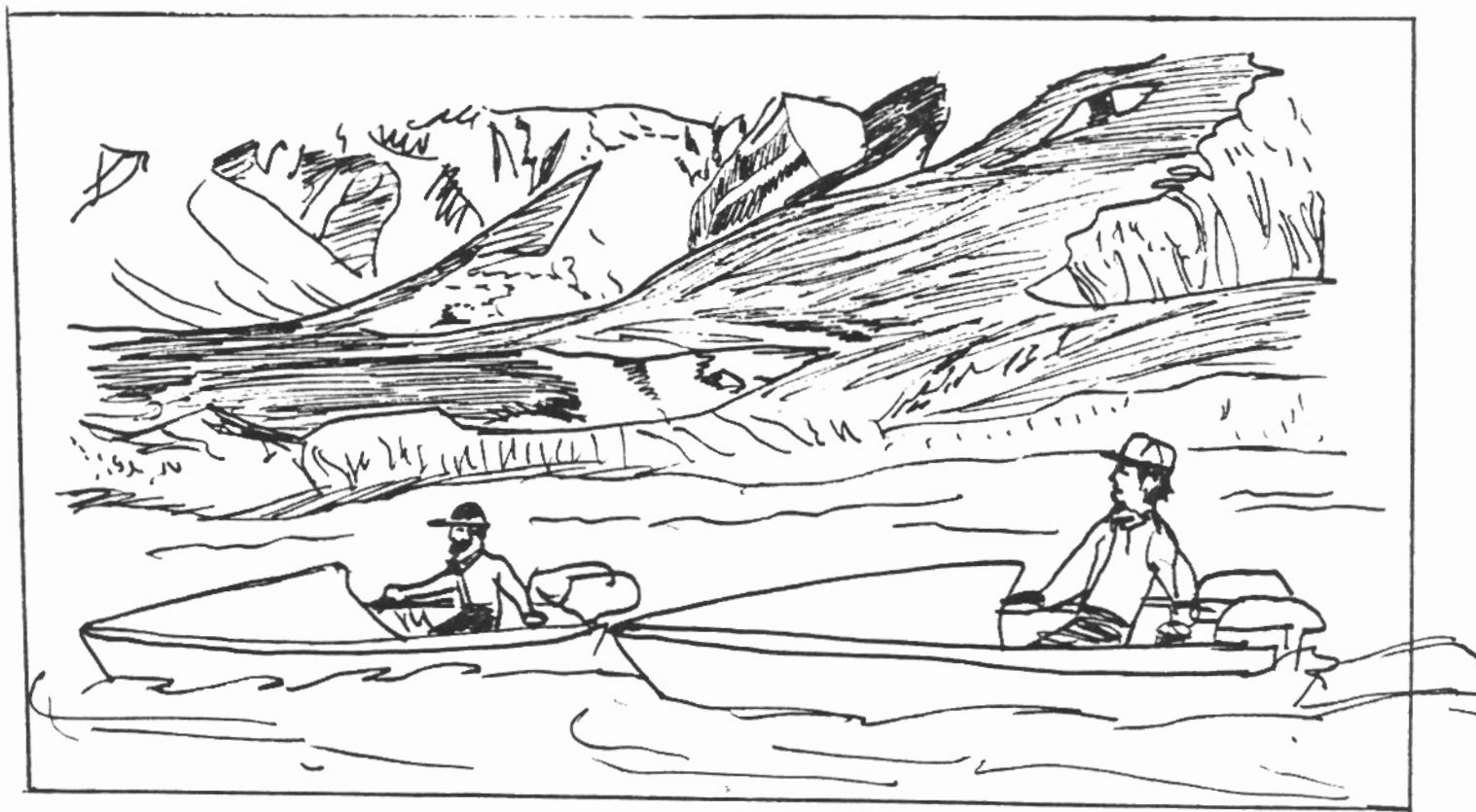
Nenhti, sheł tghinał da?

Aa' Qelghin neł tgheshnał.

Yada q'u ihu ch'tuł'ił?

Nt'i qutsagheł'i ihu ch'tuł'ił shit'i.

Yagheli Qelghin ch'tunani.



Ndaha tinash dit?

Ent'i Banqach'agh teshnash shit'i, nenhti?

Aa' shi k'a Banqach'agh teshnash shit'i.

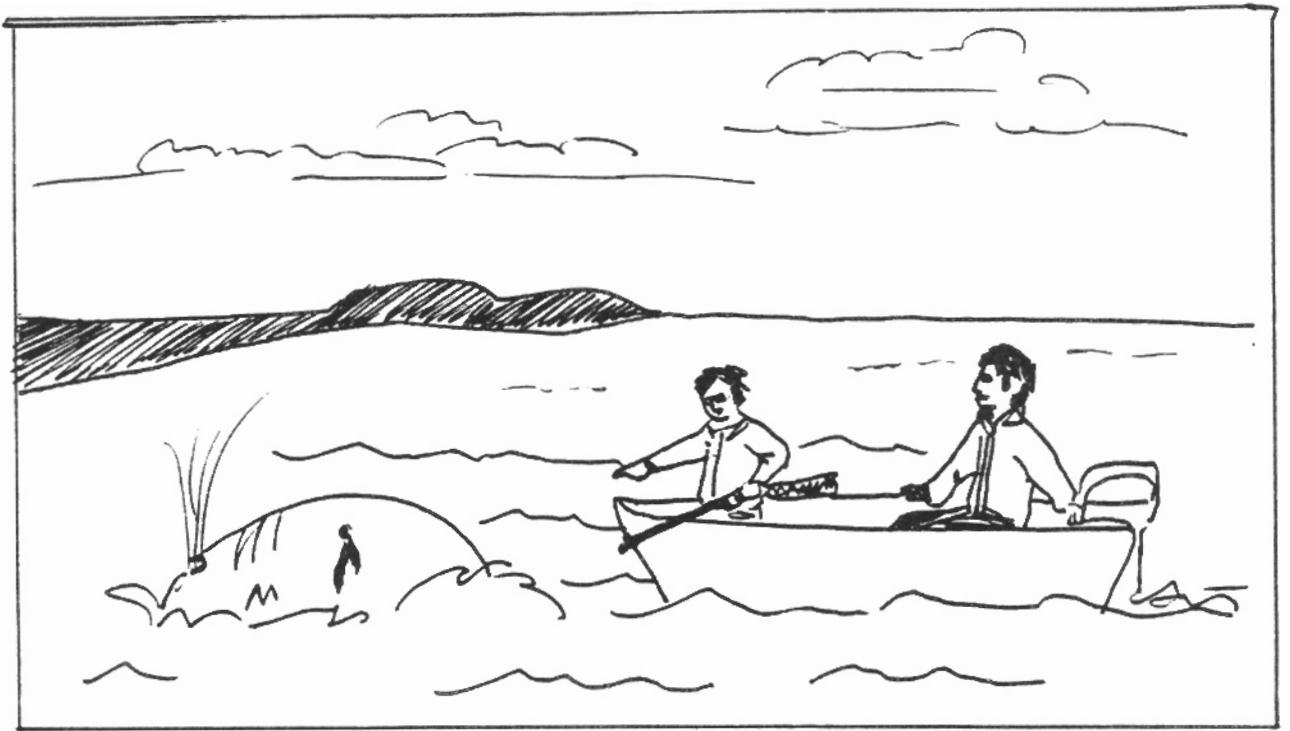
Yada q'u ch'tuǰ'iǰ?

Ent'i chuq'ush ch'u qiz'in ch'tuǰ'iǰ shit'i.

Yagheli balgas ch'u mashina negh k'ilan da?

Aa' gas k'a shegh qilan.

Yagheli Banqach'agh ch'tunani.



Ndaha tinash dit?

Ent'i Nughiltnu teshnash shit'i, nenhti?

Aa' shi k'a Nughiltnu teshnash shit'i.

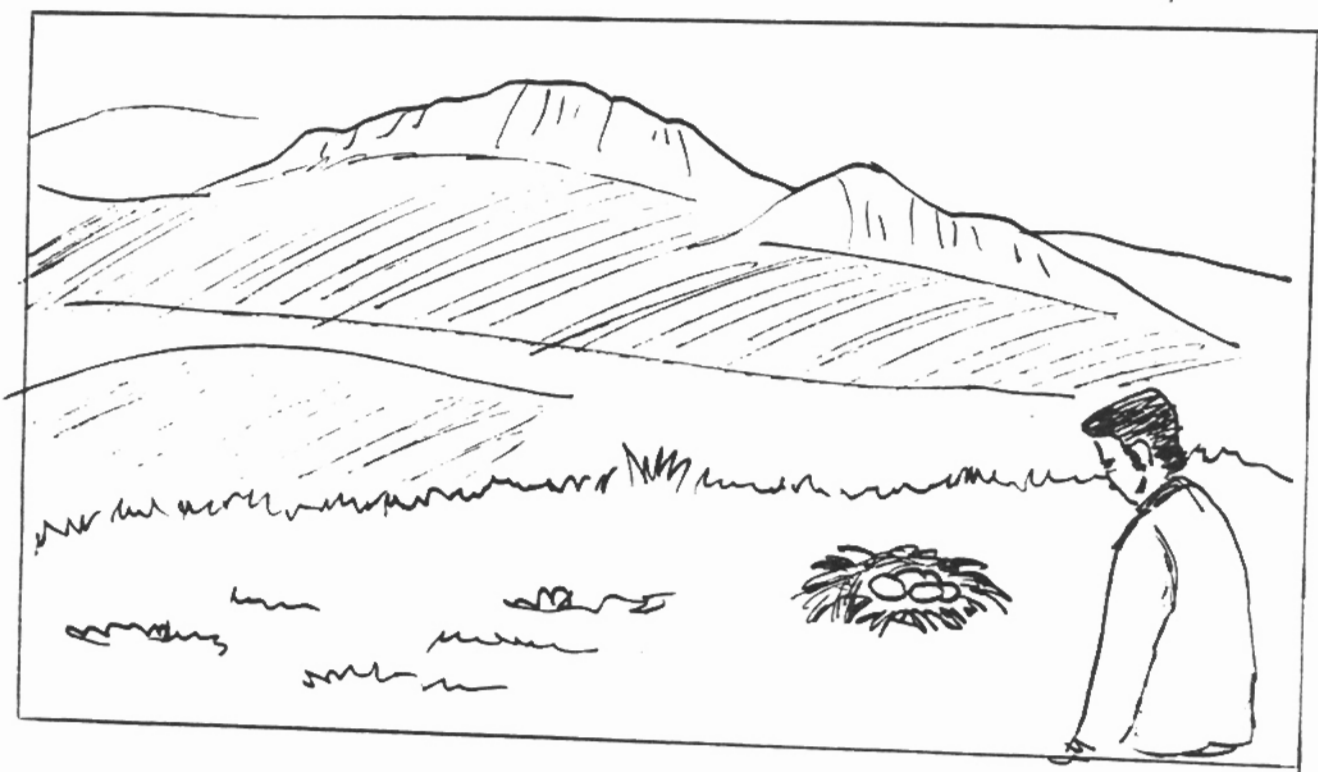
Yada q'u ihu tghil'iz?

Ent'i qunshi ihu tghel'iz.

Yagheli, iyni ch'u sbinits negh k'ilan da?

Aa' iyni ch'u sbinits shegh qilan.

Yagheli Nughiltnu ch'tunani.



Ndaha tinash dit?

Susnikaq' teshnash shit'i. N enhti, sheŕ tghinaŕ da?

Aa' Susnikaq' neŕ tgheshnaŕ.

Yada q'u ch'tuŕ'iŕ?

Nt'i k'eghaya ch'tuŕ'iŕ shit'i.

Yagheli Susnikaq' ch'tunani.



Ndaha q'u tiyush?

Nt'i Dghelishla teshush shit'i, nenhti?

Aa' neŋ tgheshuŋ.

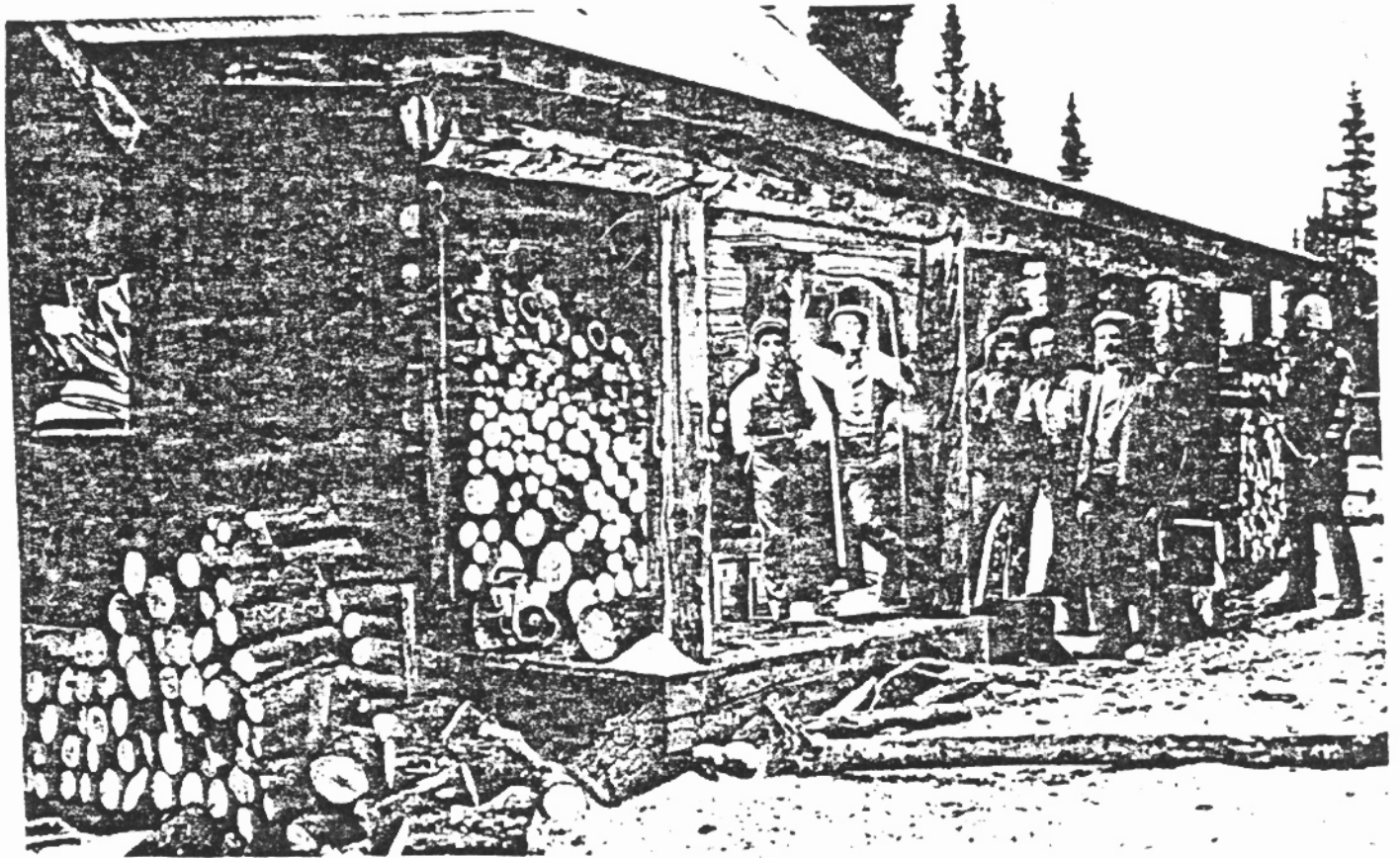
Yada ihu ch'tul'ix?

Shq'uŋa ihu ch'tul'ix.

N'iyna qilan da?

Sh'iyna qilan.

Yagheli. Dghelishla ch'tudaŋni.



Ndaha tinash dit?

Kahtnu teshnash shit'i. Sheĭ tghinaĭ du?

Aa' Kahtnu neĭ tgheshnaĭ.

Yada q'u ch'tuĭ iĭ ?

Nt'i naĭ dnayi nuch'dnul'iĭ.

Ugha, yagheli, Kahtnu ch'tunani.

DENA'INA PLACES

In this book we talk about fifteen Dena'ina placenames in the Tyonek area. So far we have recorded more than seventy-five placenames around Tyonek. These names are very ancient and they are a very important record of where and how the Dena'ina lived in Cook Inlet.

Here is an explanation of the names in this book. See how the words -tnu 'creek', ben or -bena 'lake', dghelay or dghili 'mountain' nen 'land', and -kaq' 'river' mouth' are very common in Dena'ina names.

Many Dena'ina placenames are so ancient that people now do not know what they mean. Ch'ubetnu, the name of the Chuit River, is one name like this.

A lot more could be said about each of these names. Tyonek elders know many fascinating stories that took place at some of these locations.

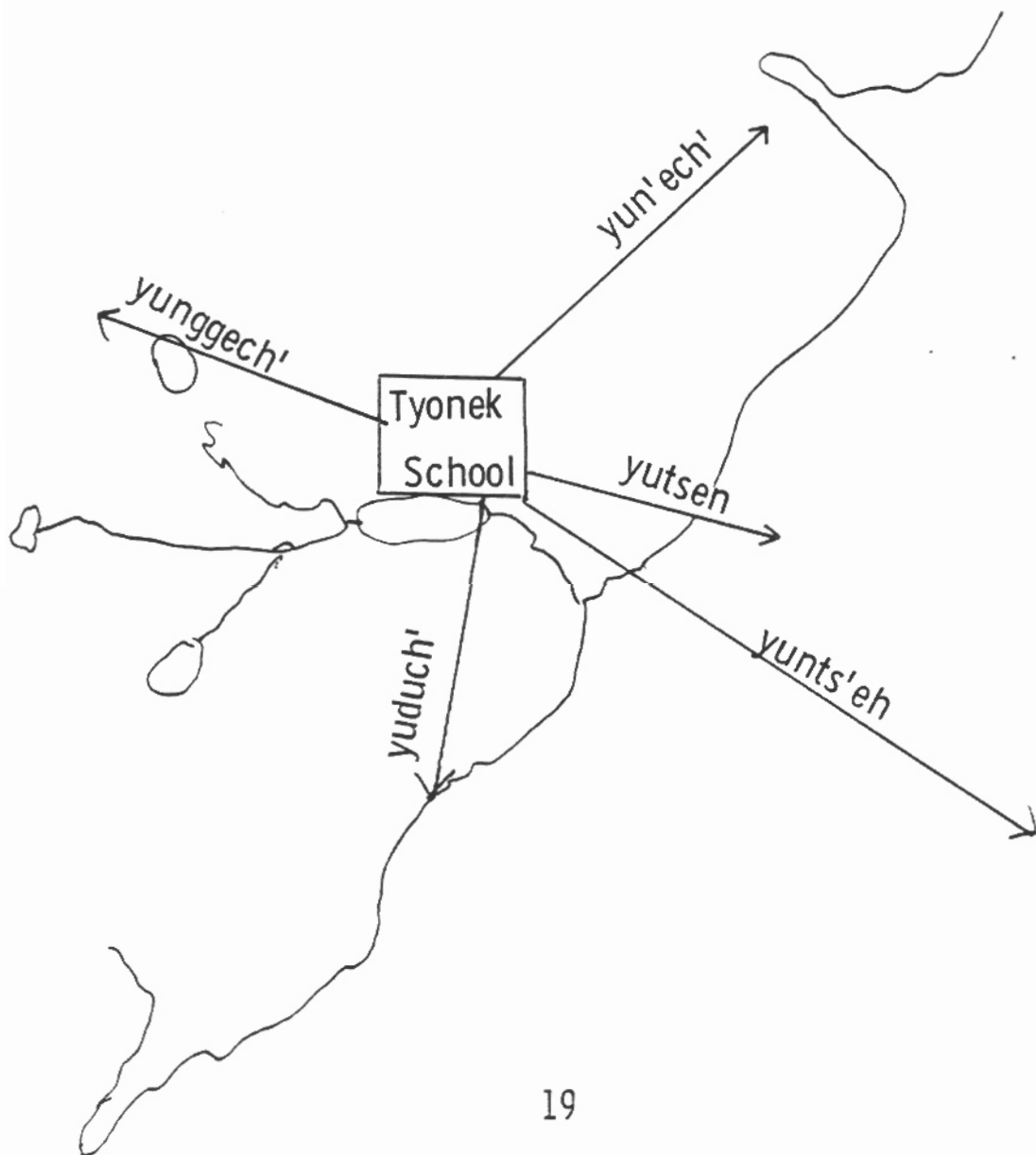
<u>Dena'ina Name</u>	<u>Translation</u>	<u>English Name</u>
-tnu	river, creek	
Nughiltnu	flows-down-river	Beluga River
Ch'elehtnu	fish-run-river	Roberts Creek
Nadudiltnu	forks-out-river	McArthur River
Ch'ubetnu	?-river	Chuit River
Kahtnu	river-mouth-river	Kenai River

<u>Dena'ina Name</u>	<u>translation</u>	<u>English Name</u>
ben	lake	
Benka'a	lake-big	Bunka Lake
Tuk'eleh Bena	fish-run-water lake	Second Lake
Chuqan Baydli Bena	beaver house in it Lake	small unnamed lake east of second lake
nen	land	
Tubughnen	beach land	Old Tyonek
Qezdeghnen	point land	Kustatan
-kaq'	river mouth	
Susnikaq'	sand river mouth	Susitna River
Kahtnu	river-mouth- river	Kenai River
dghili, dghelay	mountain	
Dghelishla	mountain-little	Mt, Susitna
other names in Tubughna Ełnena:		
Banqach'agh	? open-bay	Little Jack Slough
Qelghin	popped up	Kalgin Island
K'idazq'eni	burning-inside	Mt. Spurr



DIRECTIONS

Dena'ina words that tell directions and locations are called LOCATIVES. This map shows five locatives for directions from the Bartlett School in Tyonek.



To ask "Where is Qezdeghnen?" (or some other place) in Dena'ina, we say,

Qezdeghnen ndaha q'u qilan?

Qezdeghnen (or Kustatan) is down Cook Inlet from Tyonek, so a good answer would be:

Qezdeghnen yuduch' qilan.

(Kustatan is down the Inlet.)

Here is a chart of the fifteen Dena'ina placenames in this book according to their direction from New Tyonek.

yuduch' (down the Inlet)

Tubughnen

Ch'elehtnu

Nadudiltnu

Qezdeghnen

Qelghin

Banqach'agh

yun'ech' (up the Inlet)

Ch'ubetnu

Nughiltnu

Dghelishla

Susnikaq'

yunggech' (inland from the Inlet, up in back of the village)

Benka'a

Chuqan Baydli Bena

Tuk'eleh Bena

K'idazq'eni

yunts'eh (across the Inlet)

Kahtnu

Ask each other this question:

(A Dena'ina location) ndaha q'u qilan?

Answer with one of the locative words in this sentence:

(A Dena 'ina location) (locative word) q'u qilan.

TRANSLATION

- 1 Where are you going?
 Well, I'm going to Old Tyonek where the old village was.
 Come on, let's go to Old Tyonek.
 What will we do?
 Well, we'll set a fish net.
 Good, let's go.
 Maybe we'll catch a salmon.
- 2 Where are you going?
 I'm going to Bunka Lake, how about you?
 What will you go after?
 I'll go for trout.
 Do you have a fishing pole?
 Yes, I have a pole.
 Good, let's go.
- 3 Where are you going?
 I'm going to Second Lake, how about you?
 Yes, I'll go to Second Lake too.
 What will you go after?
 I'll go for rainbow trout.
 Do you have a fishing pole?
 Yes, I have a pole.
 Good, let's go.
- 4 Where are you going?
 I'm going to Chuqan Baydli Bena, how about you?
 Yes. What will we go for?
 We'll go for beaver.
 Do you have a gun?
 Yes, I have a gun.
 Good, let's go.
- 5 Where are you going?
 I'm going to Chuit River, how about you?
 Yes, I'll go to Chuit River too.
 What will you go for?
 I'll go for king salmon.
 Do you have a net?
 Yes, I have a net.
 Good, let's go.
- 6 Where are you going?
 Well, I'm going to Mt. Spurr, how about you?
 Yes, I'll go with you to Mt. Spurr.
 What will be go for?
 We'll go for ground squirrel.
 Do you have snares?
 Yes, I have snares.
 Come on, let's go to Mt. Spurr.

- 7 Where are you going?
Well, I'm going to Roberts Creek.
Come on, let's go (by boat).
Good, let's go to Roberts Creek. What will we do?
We'll go for king salmon.
That's good.
- 8 Where are you going?
Well, I'm going to McArthur River, how about you?
Yes, I am going to McArthur River too.
What are you going for?
I'll go for a moose.
Good, let's go to McArthur River.
Maybe we'll catch a moose.
Do you have a gun, shells, boat, and motor?
Yes, and I have gas.
- 9 Where are you going?
I'll go to Kustatan. Will you go with me?
Yes, I'll go to Kustatan with you.
What will we look for?
We'll look for the old village.
Come on, let's go to Kustatan.
- 10 Where are you going?
I'll go to Kalgin Island.
How about you, will you go with me?
Yes, I'll go to Kalgin Island with you.
What will we go for?
We'll go for seals.
Good, let's go to Kalgin Island.
- 11 Where are you going?
I'm going to Little Jack Slough, how about you?
Yes, I too am going to Little Jack Slough.
What will we do?
We'll gather butter clams and razor clams.
Good, do you have a boat and motor?
Yes, and I have gas too.
Good, let's go to Little Jack Slough.
- 12 Where are you going?
I'm going to Beluga River, how about you?
Yes, I too am going to Beluga River.
What will you go for?
I'll go for beluga.
Good, do you have a gun and shells?
Yes, I have a gun and shells.
Good, let's go to Beluga River.

- 13 Where are you going?
 I'm going to the mouth of the Susitna, will you go with me?
 Yes, I'll go to the Susitna with you.
 What will we do?
 We'll gather eggs.
 Good, let's go to the Susitna.
- 14 Where are you going?
 I'm going to Mt. Susitna, how about you?
 Yes, I'll go with you.
 What will we go for?
 We'll go for whistlers.
 Do you have your gun?
 I have my gun.
 Good, let's go to Mt. Susitna.
- 15 Where are you going?
 I'm going to Kenai, will you go with me?
 Yes, I'll go to Kenai with you.
 What will we do?
 We'll see our relatives again.
 Come on, good, let's go to Kenai.