

Little Ghost Bull

The Indian Reading Series

and

The Story Of Firemaker

THE INDIAN READING SERIES: Stories and Legends of the Northwest is a collection of authentic material cooperatively developed by Indian people from twelve reservations. Development activities are guided by a Policy Board which represents the Indian community of the Pacific Northwest. The Pacific Northwest Indian Reading and Language Development Program Policy Board members are:

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THE INDIAN READING SERIES
Stories and Legends of the Northwest

Little Ghost Bull

Firemaker

Level V Book1

By members of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe

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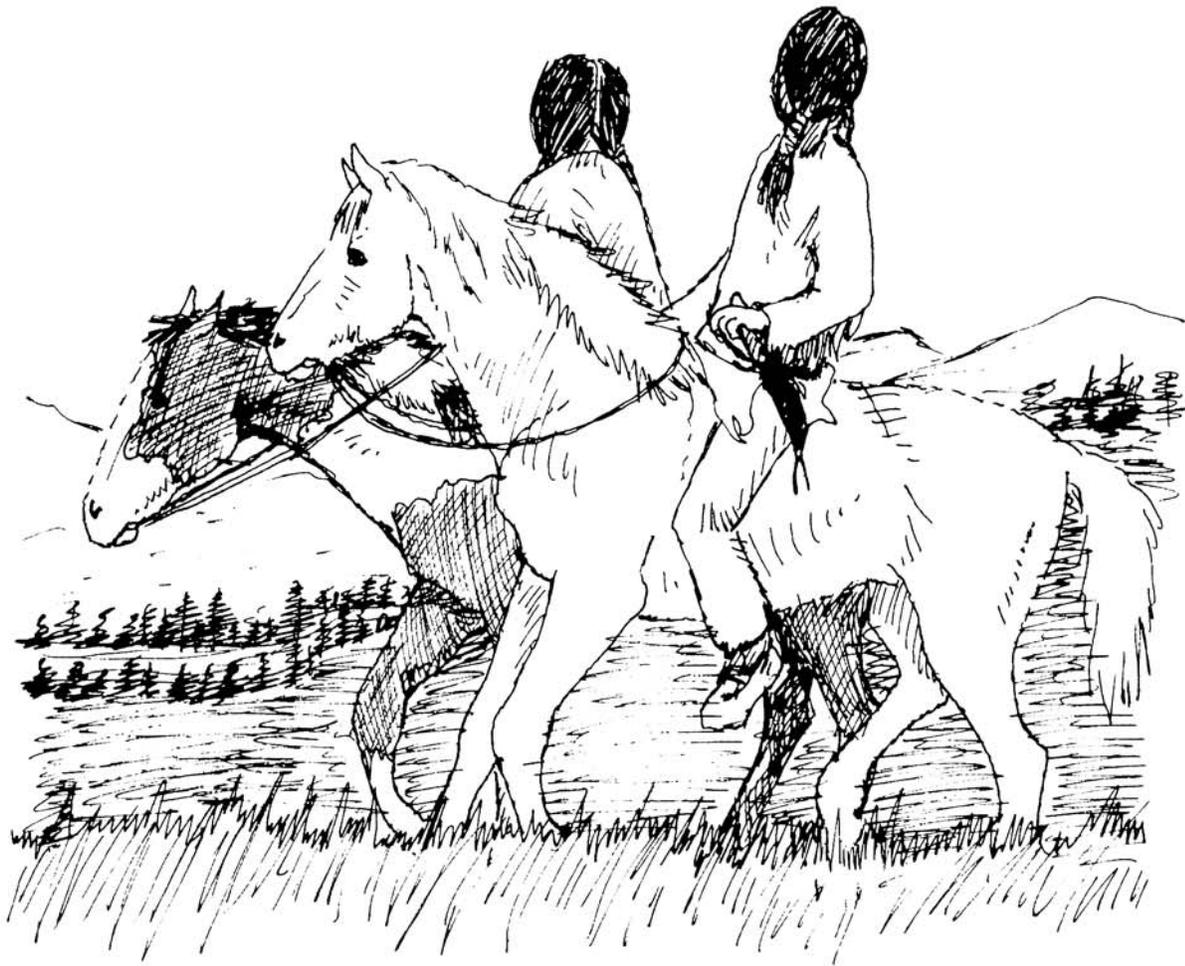
Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory
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Portland, Oregon 97204

Firemaker

Told by Julia Pine
Written by Leroy Pine



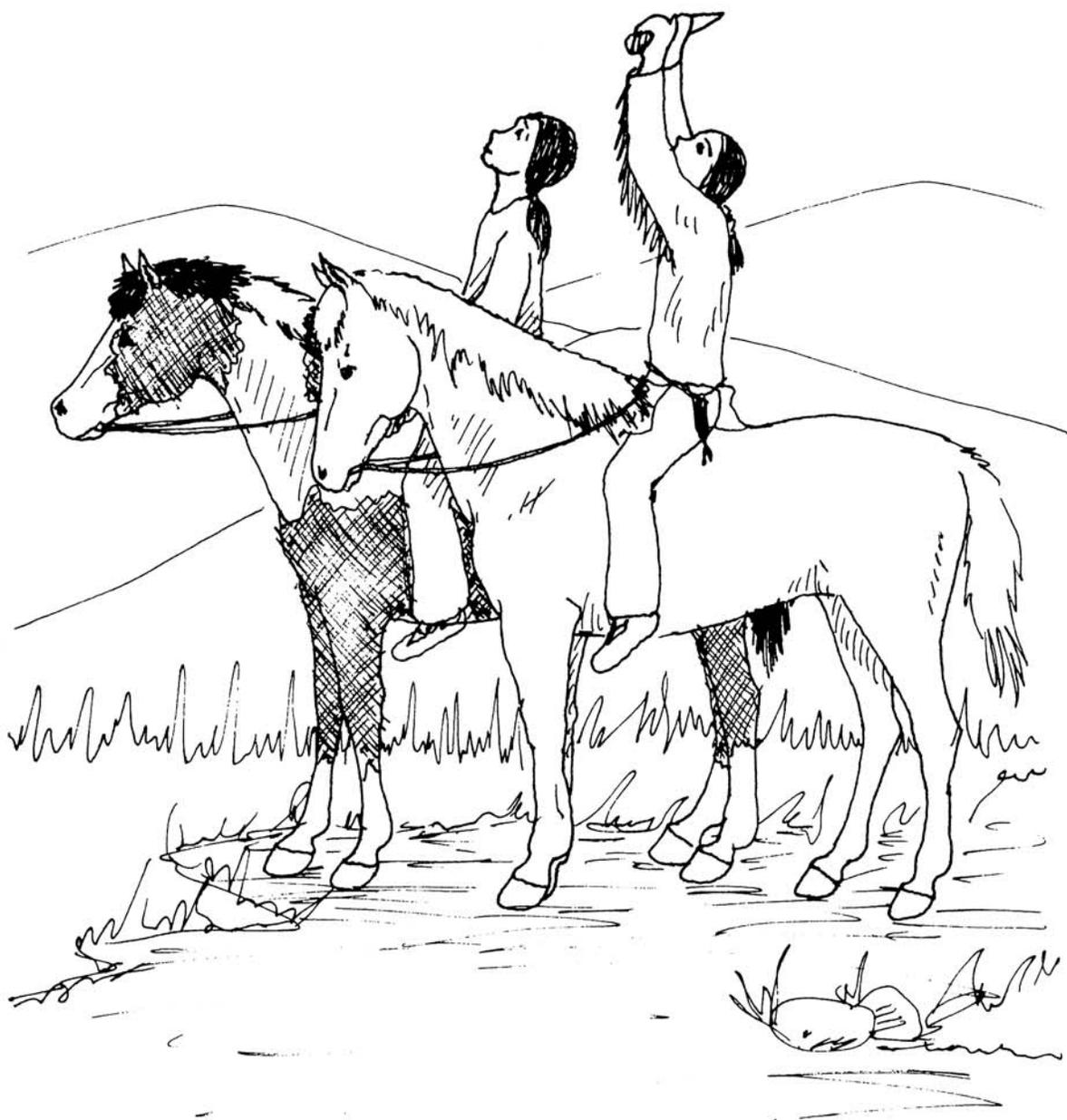
Firemaker asked his friend, "Would you come along on a journey to search for food?" Then he said, "But I must warn you about the dangers of this trip. I was told we must be careful about crossing the big river, or the water serpent might catch us. I hope he is not around when we cross the river. Anyway, I will ask the Thunderbird in the sky to watch over us. Besides, we have fast horses and I have my ceremonial knife with me to protect us."



Firemaker and his friend both rode for many miles on their journey for food. When they came to the big river they remembered the warning and looked for a safe crossing.



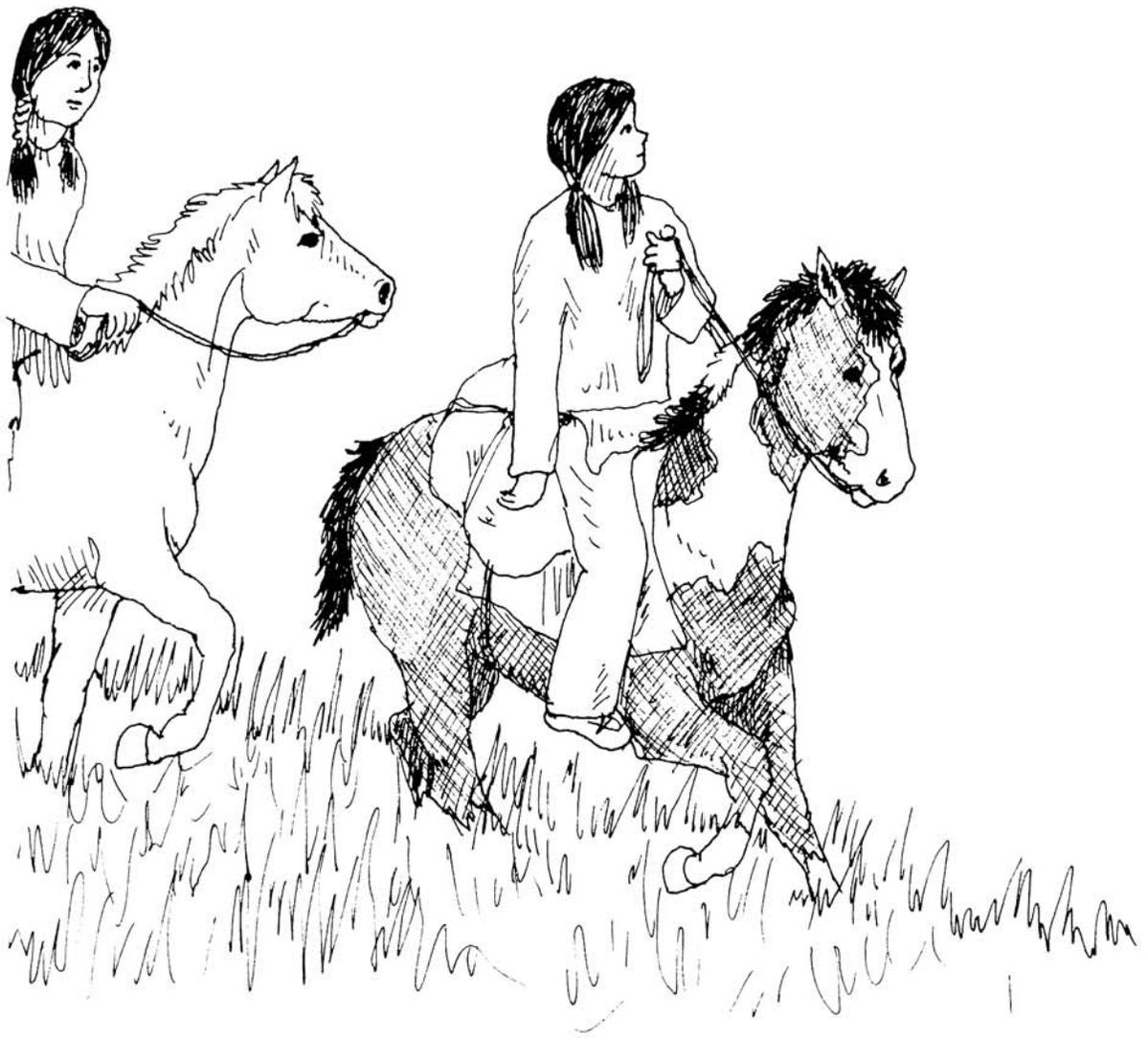
They rode alongside the river and saw a place where the water was not deep and carefully rode across to the other side.



After they crossed the river safely they thanked the Thunderbird in the sky for watching over them and continued on their journey.

Finally, they met a friendly trader and bought some food. The friends packed the food on their horses and started back home. They wanted to be home before it was dark because they knew it would be dangerous to cross the river at night. They had heard that the water serpent is usually out at night.



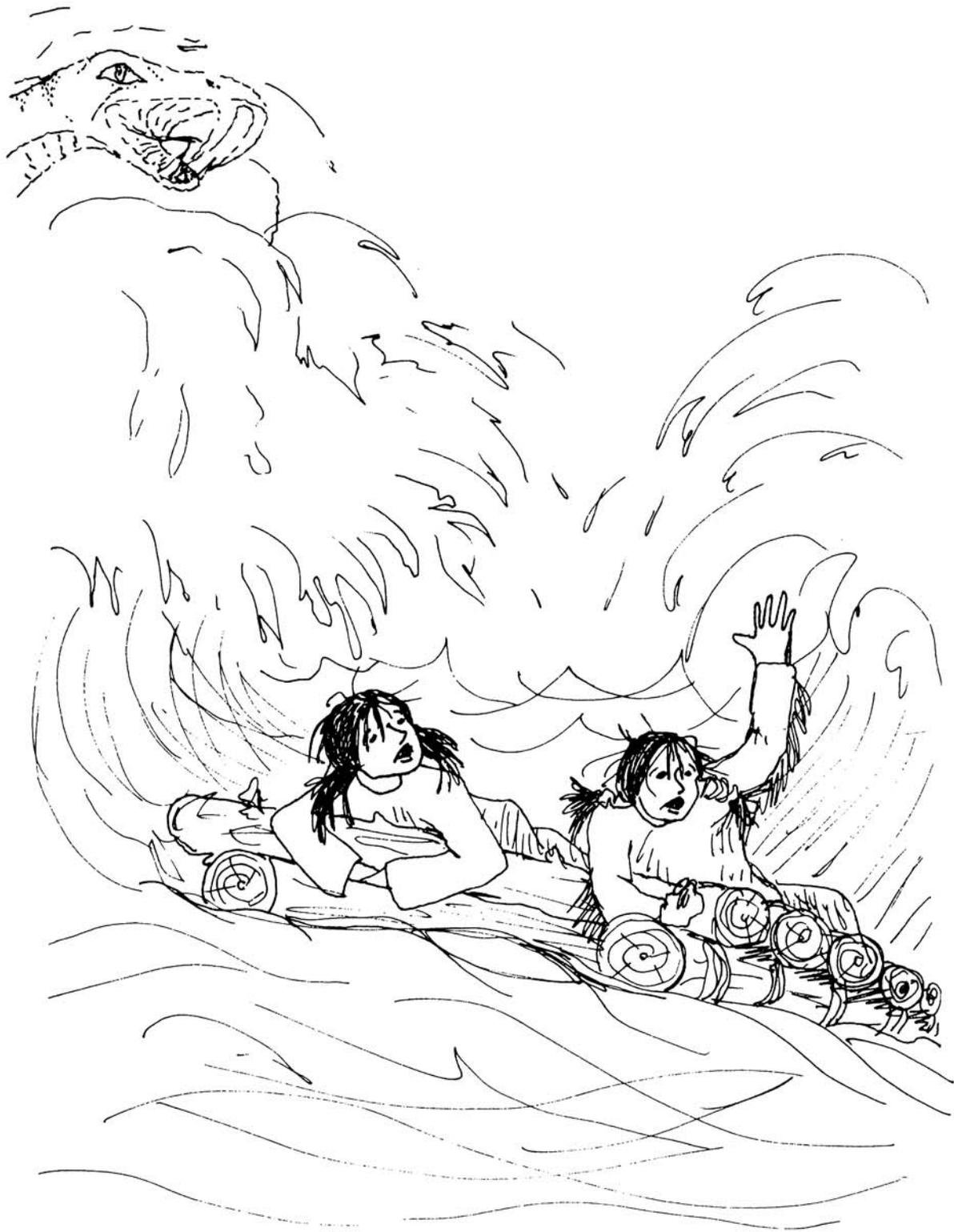


Firemaker and his friend rode toward their home and decided to take a short cut. They decided to cross the deep water because they did not want to cross the river at night.



Firemaker said to his friend, "It is safer to cross this place by a raft." So they made a raft. They were not worried about horses because the horses could cross on their own.

When they started to row across the deep water they heard strange noises coming from underneath them . The raft started swaying back and forth. "Watch out! We are in great danger!" they shouted. Firemaker and his friend both cried out, "Please do something. The water serpent is going to get us!" They noticed that the water was rising on both sides, coming closer and closer. It looked like the wall of water was going to come down on them.

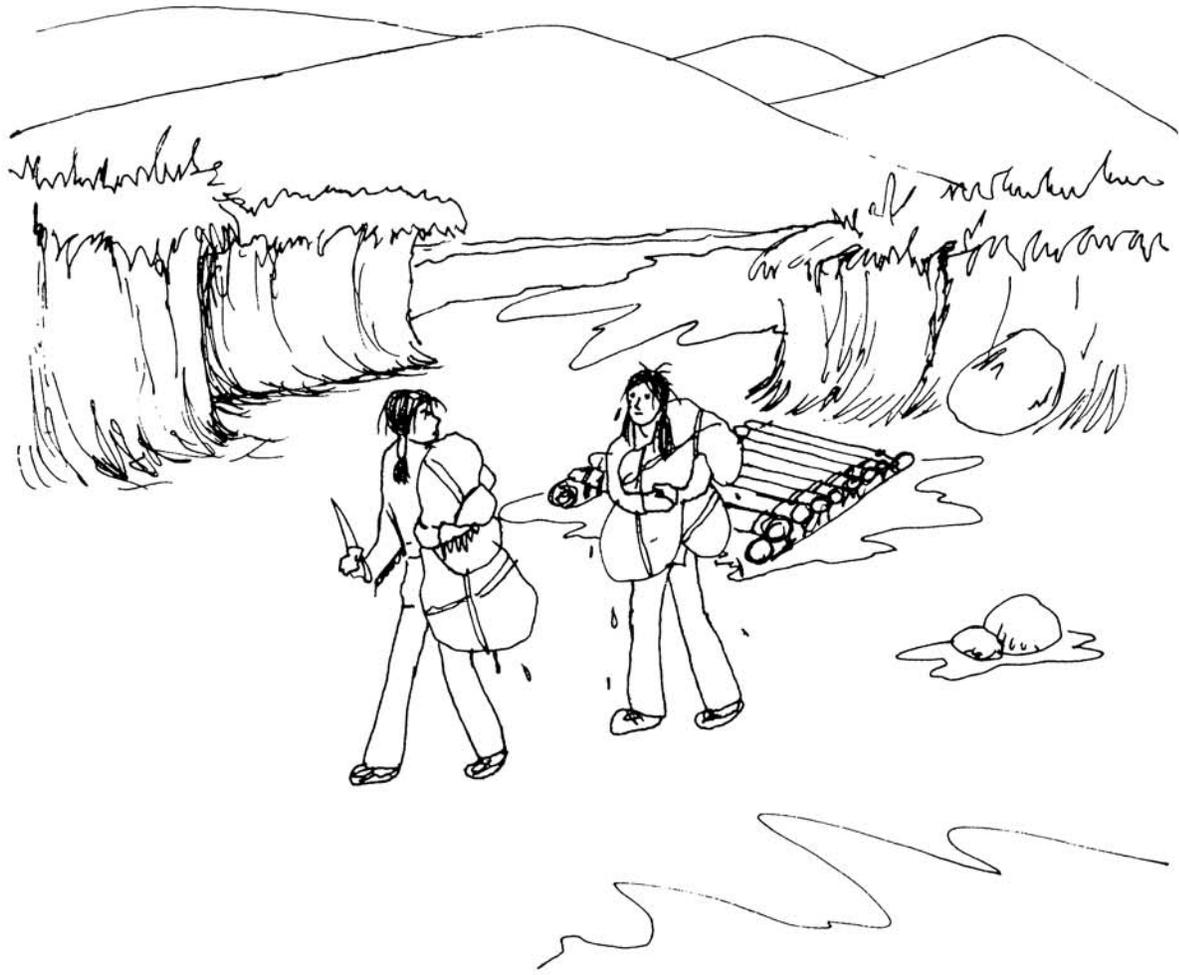


Firemaker was so scared he did not know what to do for awhile. Finally, he took his ceremonial knife out and put it across his mouth. Then he asked the Great Thunderbird and his messengers in the sky for help and protection.





Luckily, the Great Thunderbird responded to his call for help. Suddenly a small rain cloud appeared above them and bolts of lightning came pounding down. Loud thunder voices were heard from the sky for a few minutes. They could not see anything for awhile. The water was splashing around them where the lightning kept on striking.



Everything became quiet. The two friends thought they were sinking. All at once they hit the bottom of the deep river. The water was gone so they started to walk across where the river had been.

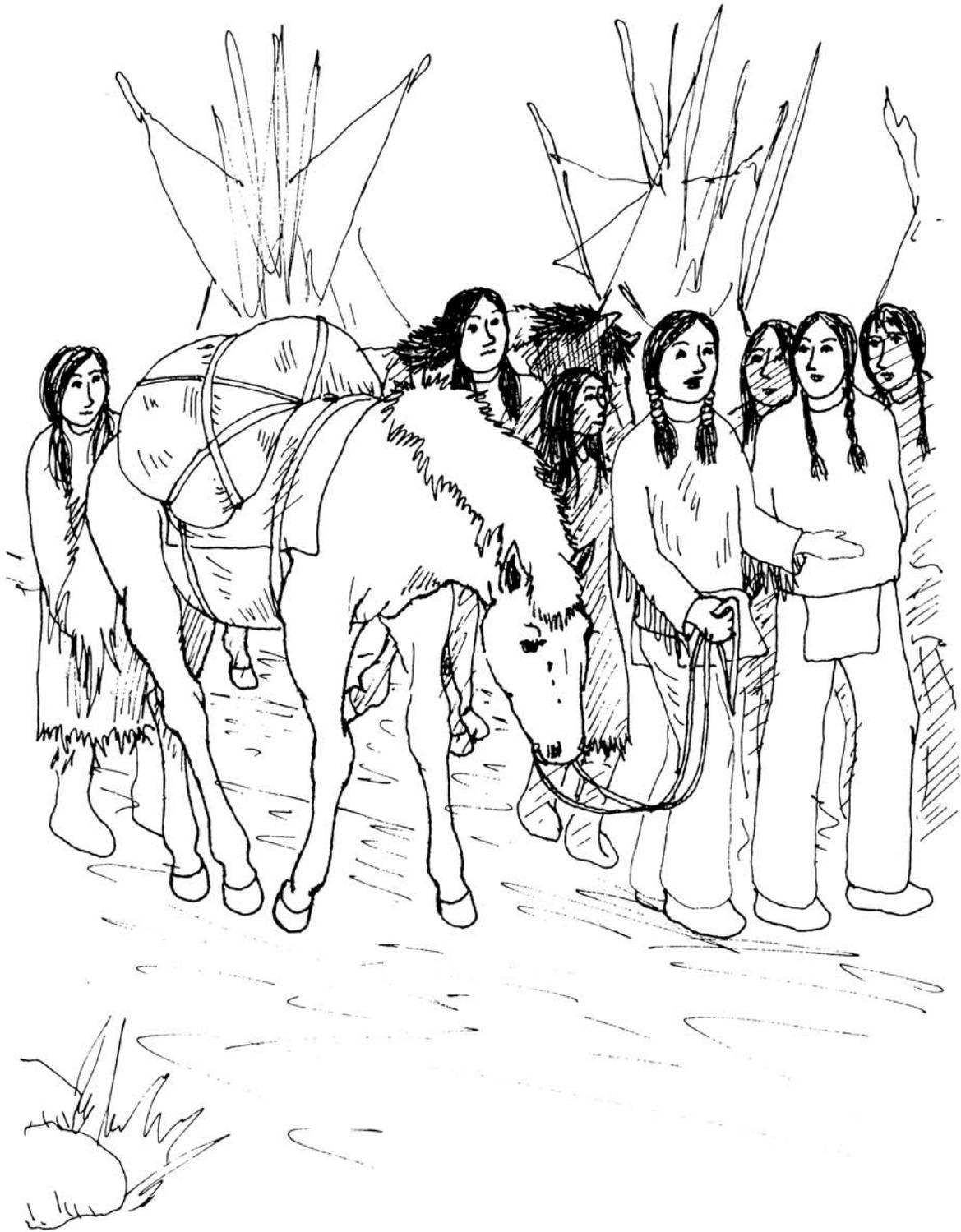


Firemaker and his friend looked up in the sky after they got across the river. "Look something is flying away," said Firemaker. What they saw looked like a huge bird with his claws on the huge ugly serpent. The serpent was squirming trying to free itself. They both disappeared.

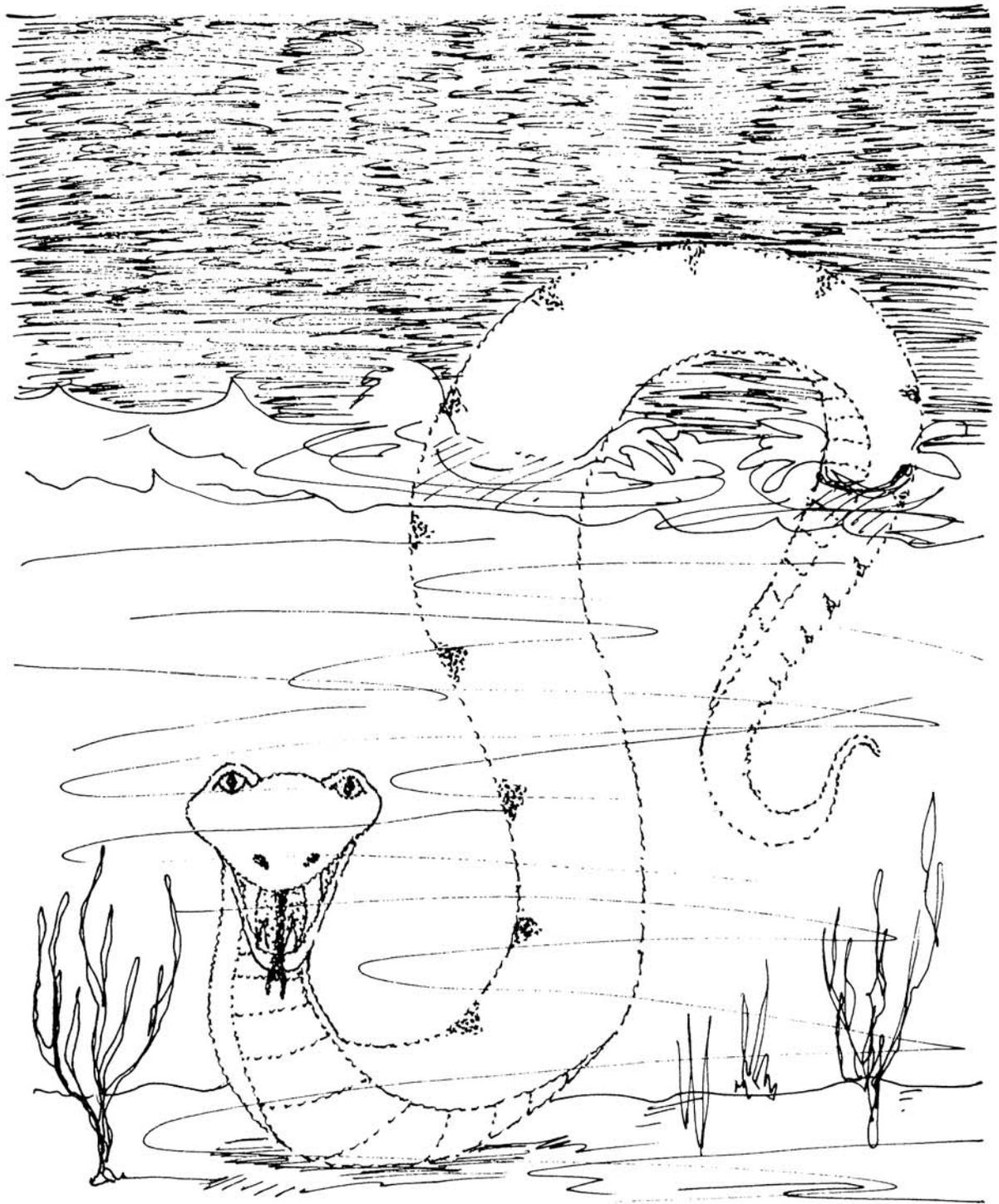
The two friends knew they were safe and both called out, "Thanks" to the Great Thunderbird.



As they rode away they looked back once again and saw four riders and two hounds. They looked like they were watching them from the sky and then they disappeared once more.



When they reached their home they told everybody about their experiences and about how the huge water serpent almost caught them. Everybody was glad that they were safe and home at last.



Will anyone ever see the serpent monster again? Who knows?

Little Ghost Bull

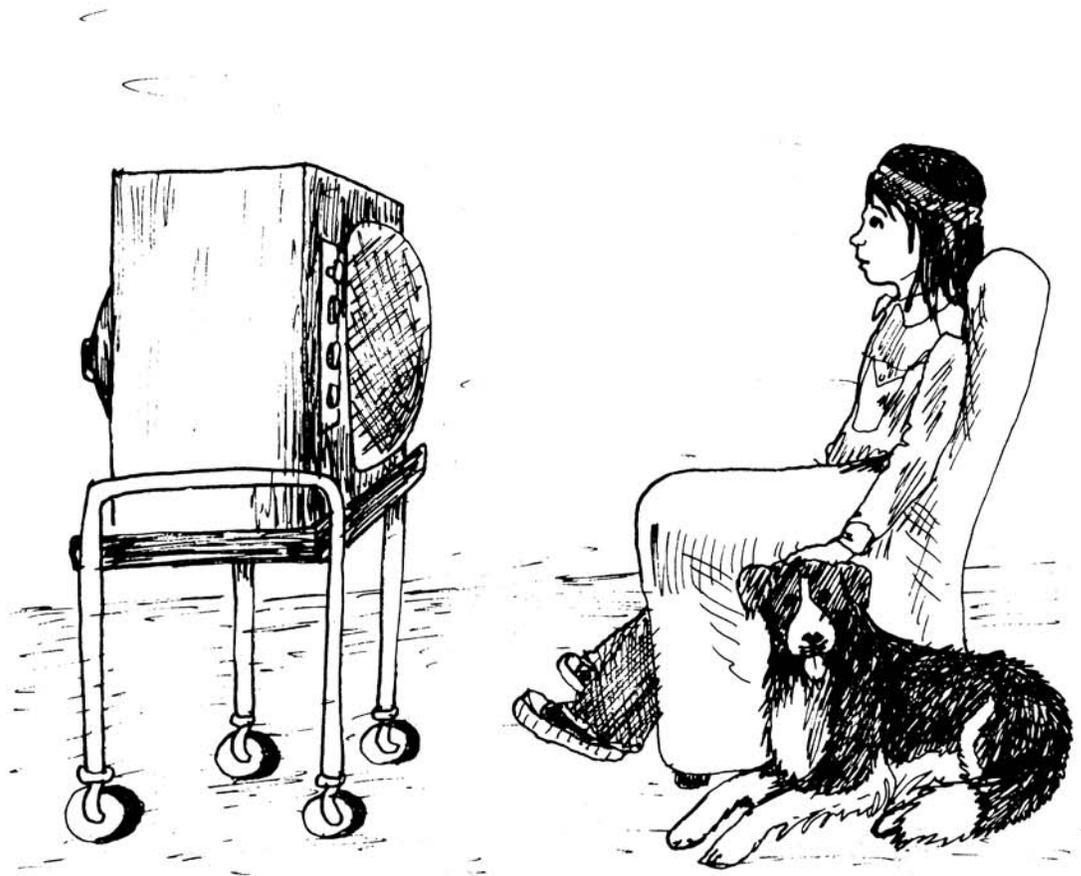
Written by Leroy Pine



Little Ghost Bull lives on the Northern Cheyenne reservatio
Like many boys on the reservation Little Ghost Bull is happy and
enjoys each day. Two of Little Ghost Bull's favorite activities are
school and weekend adventures.



Little Ghost Bull lives at home with his family. Besides his mother and father Little Ghost Bull has three sisters and a baby brother. Little Ghost Bull also has a pet dog whose name is Disco.



After school Little Ghost Bull often watches cartoons on TV. He also enjoys staying up on school nights to watch the late movies. When Little Ghost Bull stays up late he often has trouble getting up in the mornings.



Playing basketball in the hallway after supper is another favorite past time of Little Ghost Bull. Sometimes he will play with his sisters or friends. Many times his younger sisters or baby brother will watch and cheer.

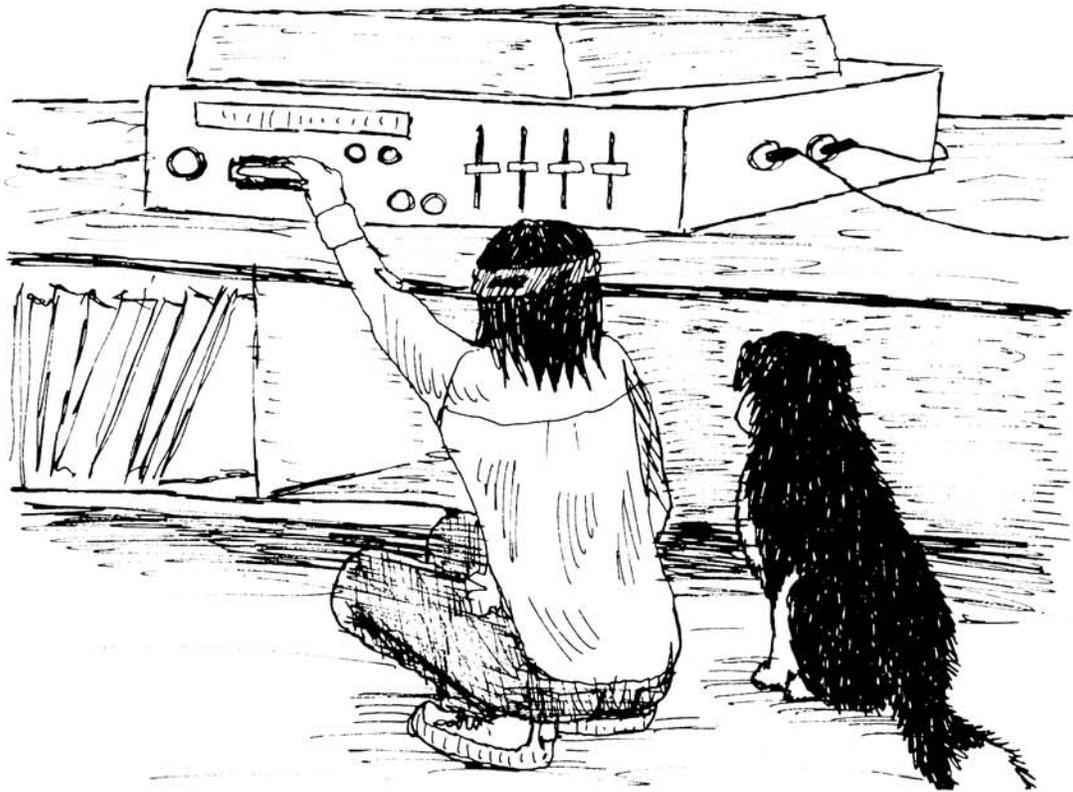


Little Ghost Bull has an older brother who is now married. Little Ghost Bull's older brother was fun but sometimes he was hard to get along with. Many times Little Ghost Bull and his older brother would argue and disagree over football teams or basketball players. Often Little Ghost Bull would lose these arguments because his older brother knew many things.



Because Little Ghost Bull's older brother has his own family and no longer lives at home, Little Ghost Bull is now the oldest boy in his household.

Little Ghost Bull likes to tease his teenage sister. Sometimes he will tell his sister he doesn't like her boyfriends or he only likes certain ones. Once in awhile Little Ghost Bull and his sister will get into a shouting match because of his teasing.



One thing Little Ghost Bull is not supposed to do is bother his sister's stereo. But when his sister is gone Little Ghost Bull likes to go into her room and play his favorite rock and roll tapes. Sometimes Little Ghost Bull will snoop and read his sister's notes from boy-friends. Every now and then Little Ghost Bull will forget to put things away and he will leave his sister's room a mess. When this happens, Little Ghost Bull's sister will get angry and accuse Little Ghost Bull of messing her room up. Little Ghost Bull will deny ever bothering her things and soon a big argument will take place.



Whenever Little Ghost Bull and his sister are mad at each other, their father will interrupt them and make them stop yelling. Father will tell them to behave and to remember no matter how much they might be upset with one another, they should always try to love each other.



Little Ghost Bull is almost a teenager and during the day while he is at school he daydreams about many things. Sometimes Little Ghost Bull dreams of becoming a football or a basketball player like his big brother. Little Ghost Bull would also like to be a musician like his father. Little Ghost Bull would like to someday own nice things like many other teenagers.

Even though Little Ghost Bull daydreams in school, he likes doing his school work and realizes school will help him as he is growing up. Little Ghost Bull wants to learn and wants to do many things while he is in school.

Little Ghost Bull participates in sports activities. He also plays in the school's beginning band and he is learning many arts and crafts.

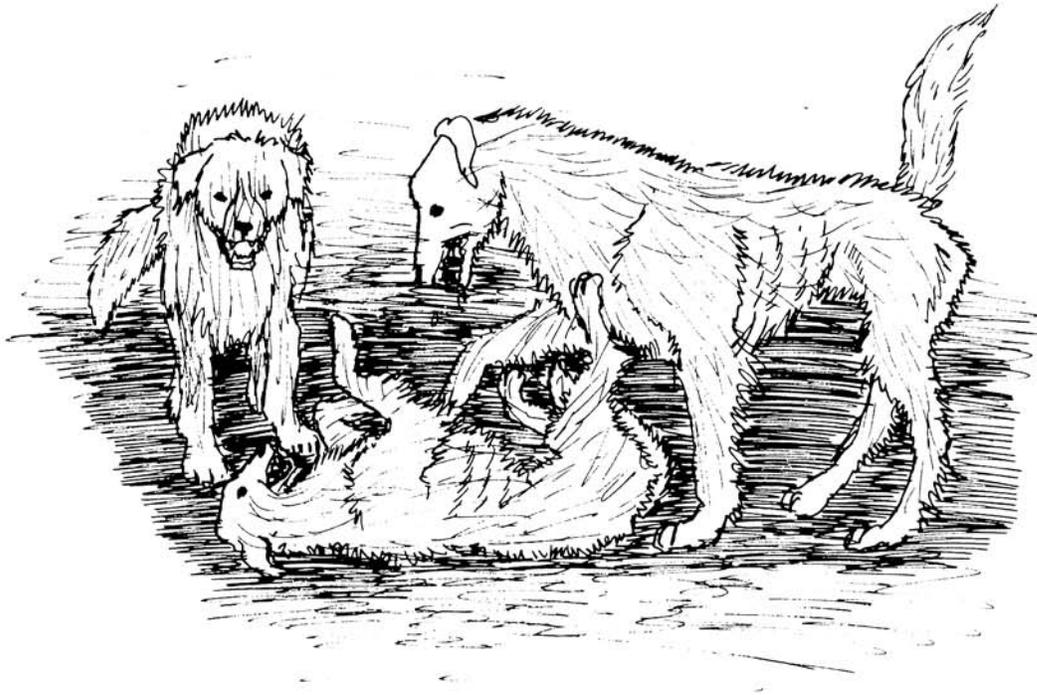


When Little Ghost Bull gets home from school he always remembers to do his daily chores. He always listens to his parents when they teach him to respect others and to pray to the Great Spirit to bless their food.

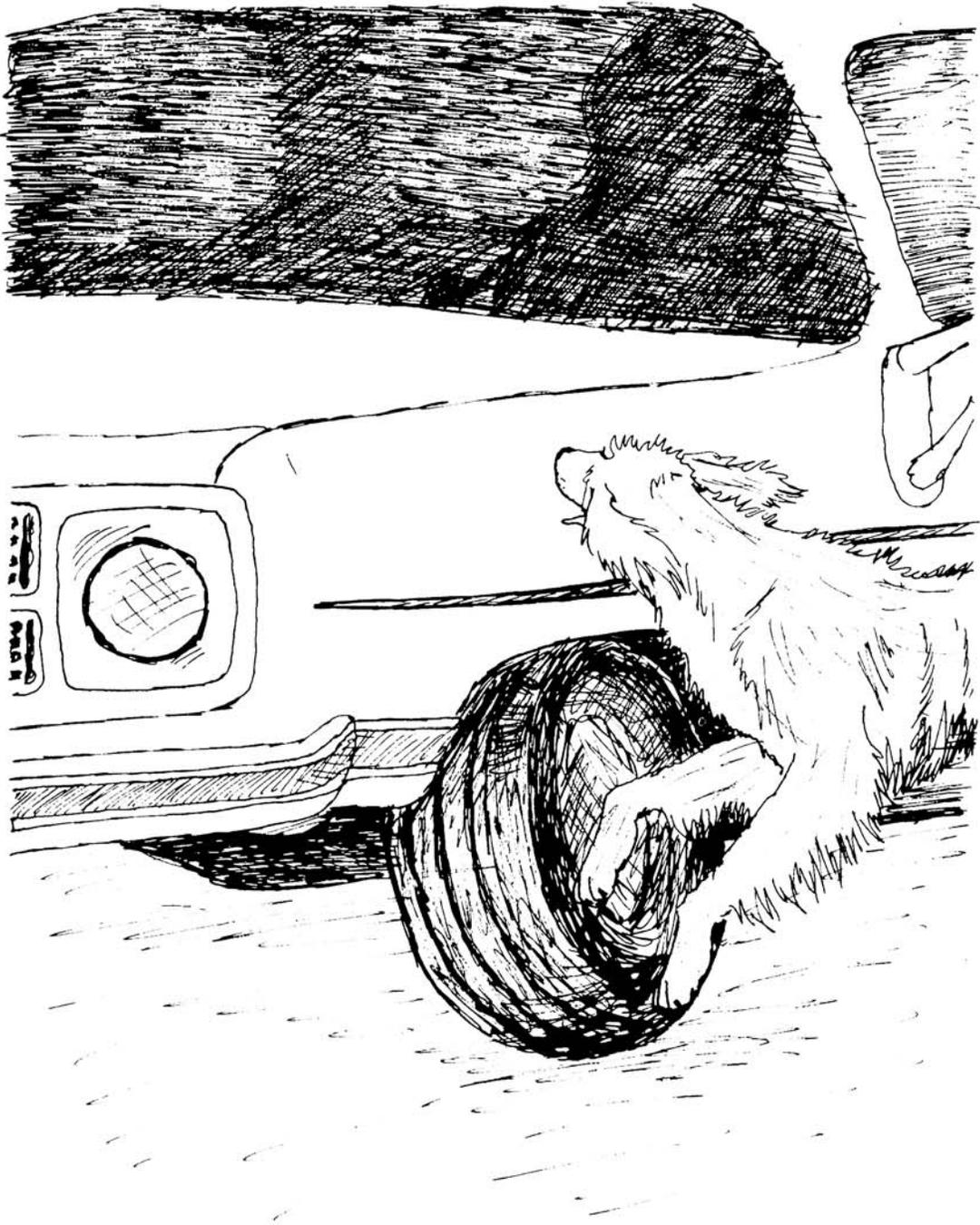
Little Ghost Bull is very happy when he feeds his dog Disco. He knows Disco needs care and Little Ghost Bull plays with him often.



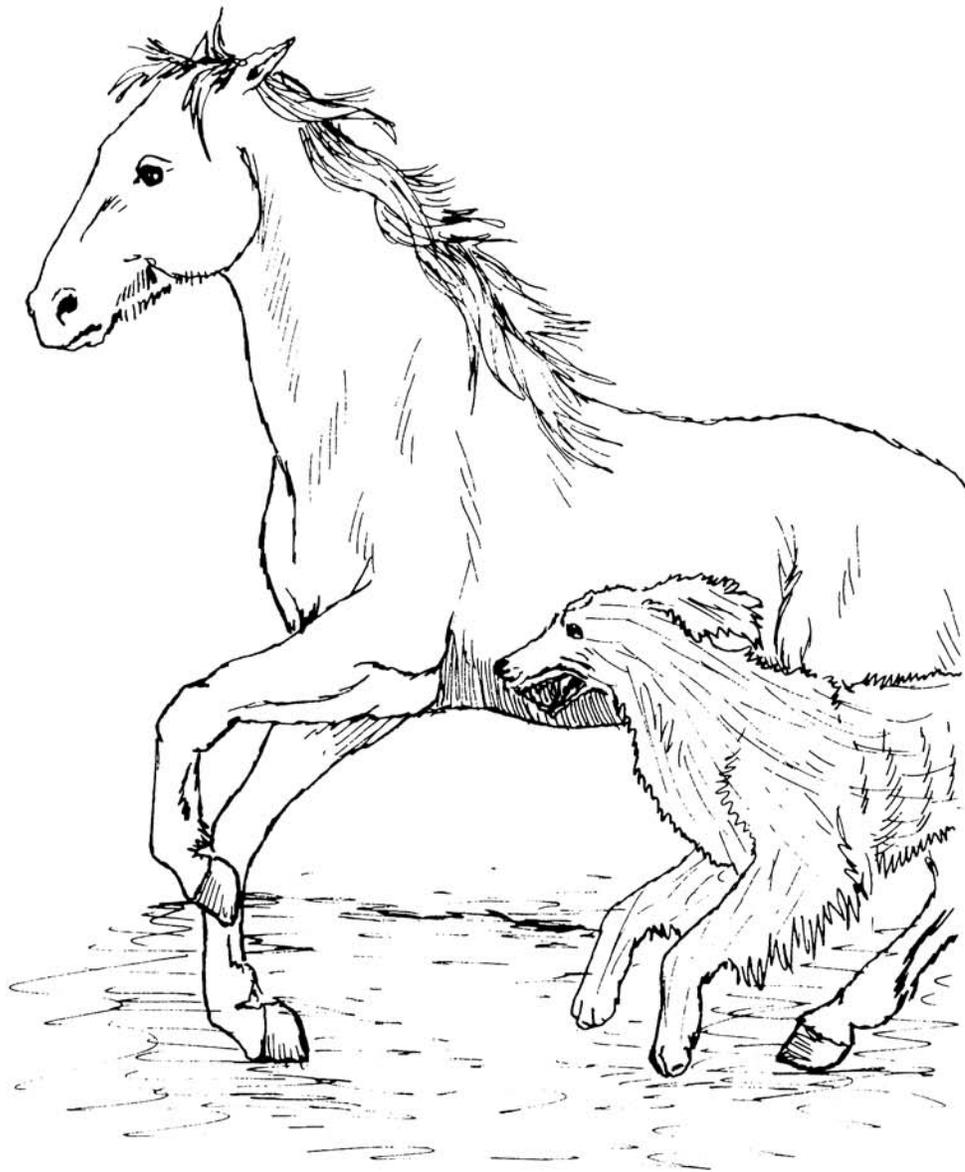
Little Ghost Bull has noticed there are many dogs on the reservation that no one takes care of. The dogs eat out of garbage cans. They always seem to be so skinny.



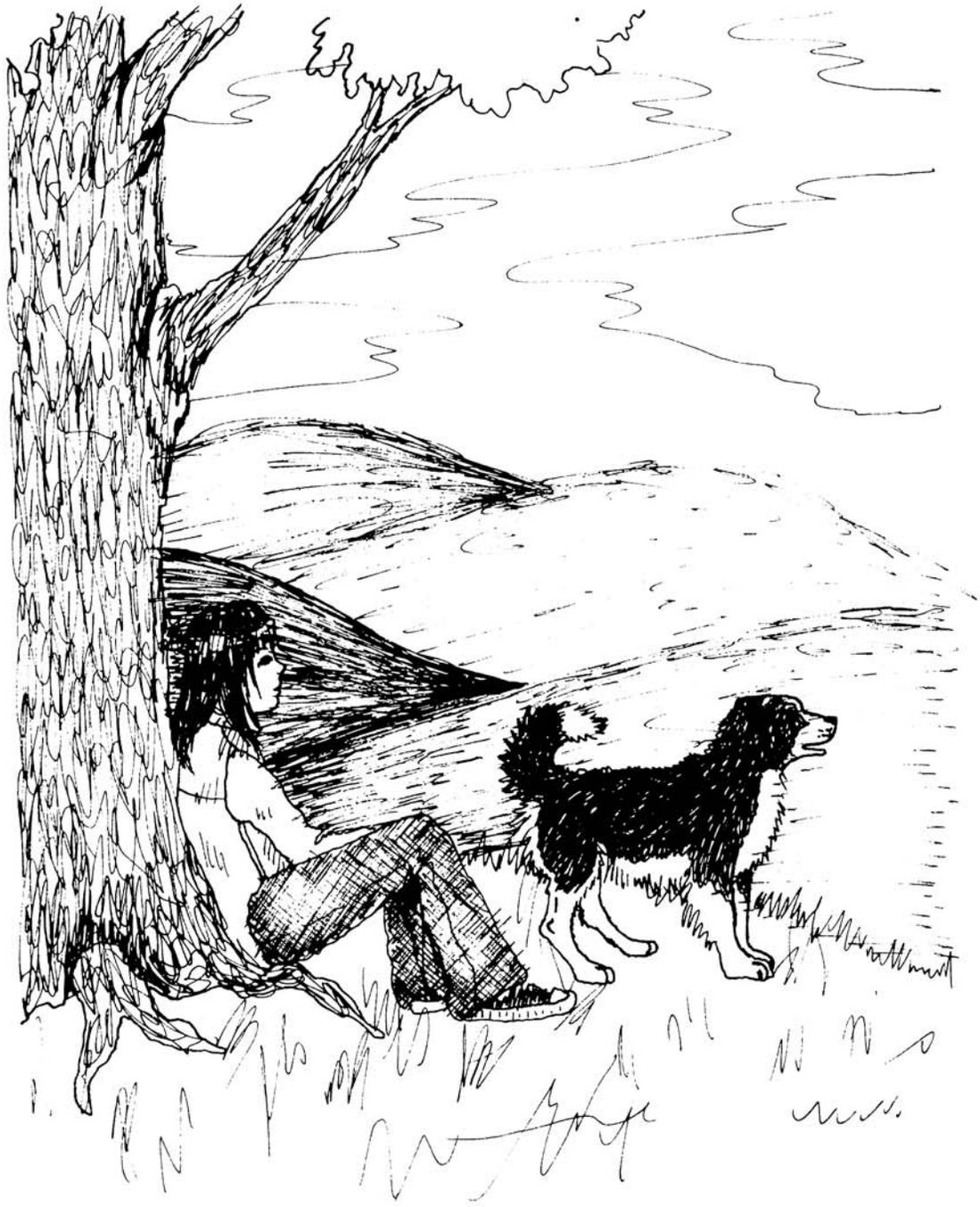
Many times the dogs will gang up on other dogs. Because no one owns the dogs they just run loose.



Often the stray dogs will chase cars which annoys everyone.



When someone rides through the village on horseback the dogs will chase the horses and bark at them. Little Ghost Bull wishes people would take care of their dogs like he does.



Little Ghost Bull likes to sit with his dog and think of all the things he wants to do. Some day he would like to learn how to Indian dance and take part in all the pow-wows and celebrations that are held every year. Little Ghost Bull wants to finish school and go to college. Maybe some day Little Ghost Bull will have his own family. When that happens he wants to be like his father or grandfather.

Right now Little Ghost Bull enjoys living on the reservation. There are many things to do and Little Ghost Bull always has fun.



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