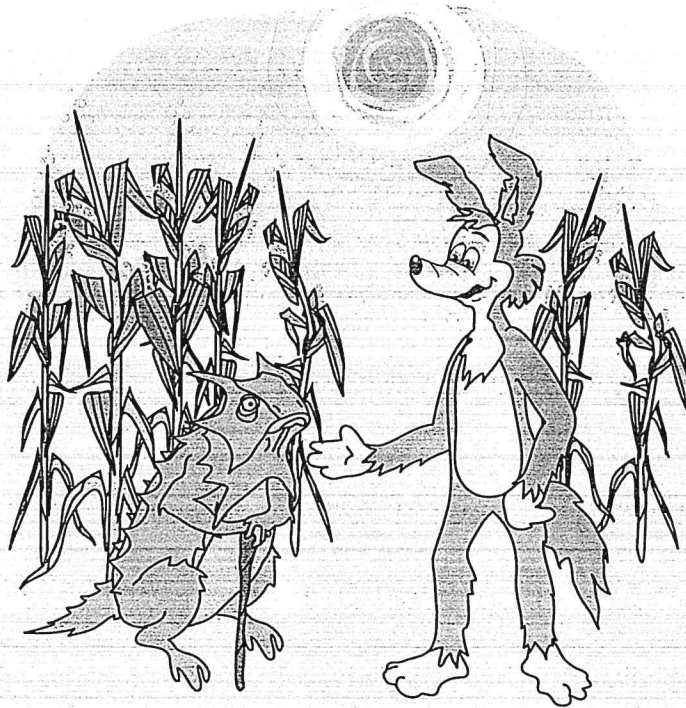


Ma'ii Dóó Na'ashó'ii Dich'ízhii



Don Mose, Jr.

Halne'

Molly Trainor

Na'azh'aa'

Don Mose

Na'azhch'aa'áá Bik'ehgo

Lucille Hunt

Clayton Long

'Ata'halne'



It was a hot summer day, and Horned Toad had just finished tending his corn field, when Coyote came along.

Na'ashó'ii Dich'ízhii, 'acheii dabijinígíí, shí'íílníí'go háahgóóshíí bidá'ák'ehdi naadáá' yinaalnish nít'ée' Ma'ii beilwod.



Ma'ii háágóóshíí
 Na'ashó'ii
 Dich'ízhii yaahaniih
 'áhodil'íigo dóó
 bizéé' hałkaahgo
 'íítníí lá, "Shít
 naa'aash, dooládó'
 naadáá' náníníł'áa
 lá. 'Áyóo baa
 dadzólní dóó
 daalkan nidahalin."

Coyote complimented Horned

Toad on his beautiful corn

field, "You have done

so well with your

corn field. Oh,

my, the ears

look so big and

juicy. They look

just right for

picking and

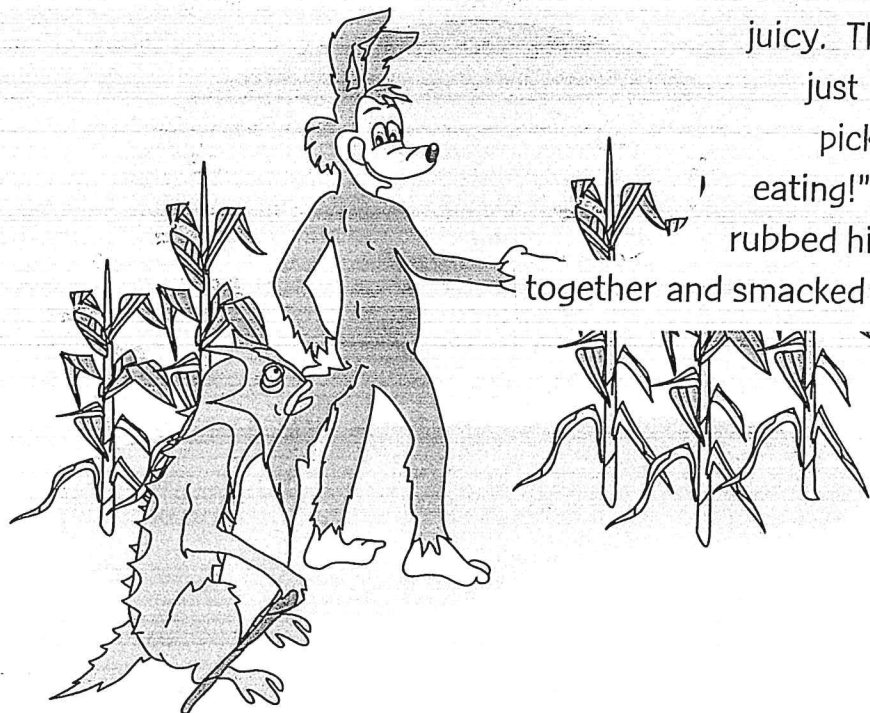
eating!" Coyote

rubbed his hands

together and smacked his lips.

"Cousin Horned Toad,"
 said Coyote, "I have
 come a long way, and
 I am very hungry.
 Could you please
 roast me some
 of your corn?"

'Áádóó Ma'ii
 Na'ashó'ii Dich'ízhii
 'ánáanéítníí lá,
 "Shít naa'aash,
 'ayóó 'ánízáádéé'
 naaníyá, dichin
 shi'niíłhí. Ninaadáá'
 łá' tsíídkáá' nítł'ees,
 t'áashóqódí."





Horned Toad had learned to be kind and polite, so he got busy and roasted some corn, just as Coyote had asked.

Na'ashó'ii Dich'ízhii 'ayóo bá'áhwiinít'íí' dóo 'ayóo jooba'. 'Éí shíí biniinaa t'áá 'áko naadáá' ta' yiyíiti' dóo Ma'ii yáyist'é.



As soon as the ears were roasted, Coyote grabbed them and gobbled them down greedily. When he had his fill, he walked off, not even bothering to thank Horned Toad or to clean up after himself.

Naadąą' t'áa sit'éhí Ma'ii ła' yit nídiilwod dóo yiyíyąą'. 'Áádóo ła'í yooldéel dóo nániichxaad léi' bibid bits'ání'áago 'anáálwod. Naadąą' bit'ąą' dóo bitsiin t'áa 'ákóq nideeztaądgo 'áyiilaa. T'áadoo ndi 'ahéhee' díiniid da.

Later that afternoon, Coyote came back for more corn. This time, he was even more demanding. Horned Toad was annoyed, and he refused to give Coyote any more corn. "Look, Coyote," he said, "it's hard work to grow corn, and it takes a long time to get a good harvest."



Yaa'adeez'ąągo Ma'ii dichin bináá'niithíí léí' dá'ák'ehdi Na'ashó'ii Dich'ízhii yaa náánálwod háágóóshííh bóhólnííhgo yádíftih. Na'ashó'ii Dich'ízhii t'óó bik'ee nitseedzáago 'ábílníí lá, "Shíł naa'aash, díigi' 'át'áo naadáá' ninázhníft'ííhgo 'ayóo baa naanish hasin. Yéigo baa 'áhojilyąągo t'éiyá bits'áádóó 'ajiyééh."



"It takes hours of hoeing and watering, and I have to sit out here to shoo away the birds and rodents." Coyote paid no attention to what Horned Toad was saying. Instead, he threatened him by saying, "You do what I say, or I'll eat you and your corn both."

"Náhojigod dóó tó bit nijiizíidgo t'éiyá hanaadáá' haleeh. Dóó hadá'ák'eh bijísdáago tsídii dóó na'ats'qosí dóó gólízhii nahgóó 'anázhníłka'go hanaadáá' t'óó 'ahayóí yileeh." Ma'ii doo bíists'áá'góó t'óó 'ádáhalchí' dóó 'ádééhoolzjídgo 'áníí lá, "Doo shik'eh honíł'íí'góó nideeshghał dóó ninaadáá' 'altso nits'áá' deeshíłt."



Horned Toad responded, "I am not giving you my crop. Now go away. Get out of here. Find someone else to beg corn from." Coyote stomped his feet in anger and ran right up to Horned Toad.

'Áádóó Na'ashó'ii Dich'ízhii Ma'ii 'íílníí lá, "Shidá'ák'eh doo naadiní'ąą da. Nílááh t'áá háida binaadąą' bíínkeed." 'Áádóó Ma'ii báhoodchíí'd dóó Na'ashó'ii Dich'ízhii yich'í' nideeldiz.

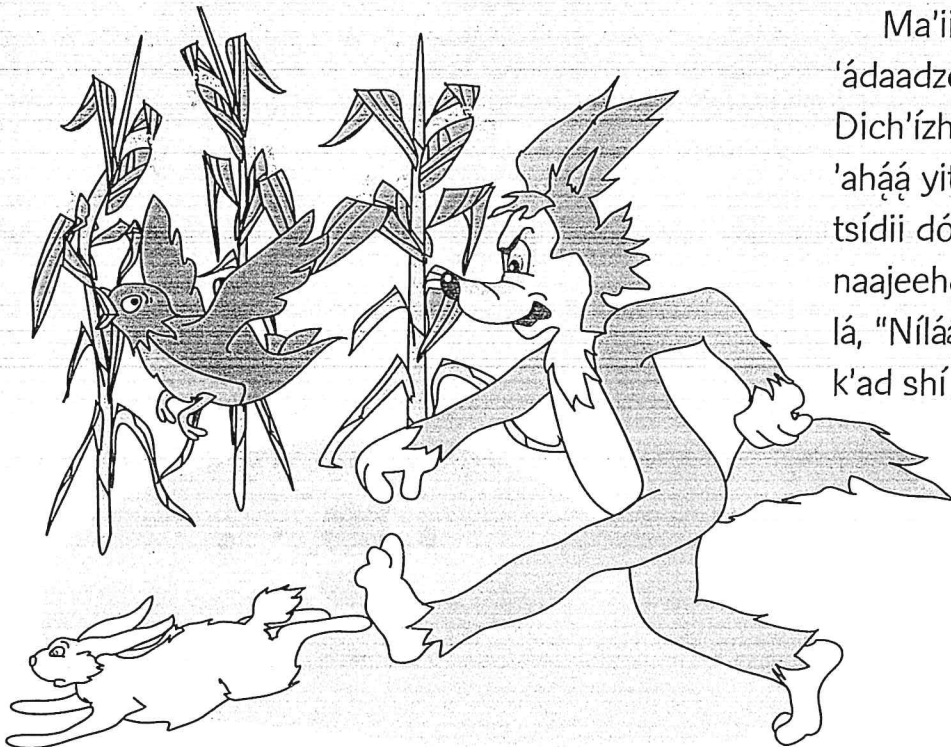
'Áádóó Ma'ii Na'ashó'ii
 Dich'ízhii yich'í' dahdiilwod
 dóó yik'osgónaa 'at'ch'í' yisił
 dóó 'ííłnii lá, "K'ad ni'niishghal
 dóó ninaadąą' 'attso deeshíłł."
 'Áádóó Na'ashó'ii Dich'ízhii
 'ayíłna'.

He said, "Since you
 on't give me what I
 ant, I'm going to eat you
 d your corn!" Then he
 abbed Horned Toad by
 e neck, shoved him into
 mouth, and swallowed
 n whole. Poor old
 rned Toad didn't have a
 ance.

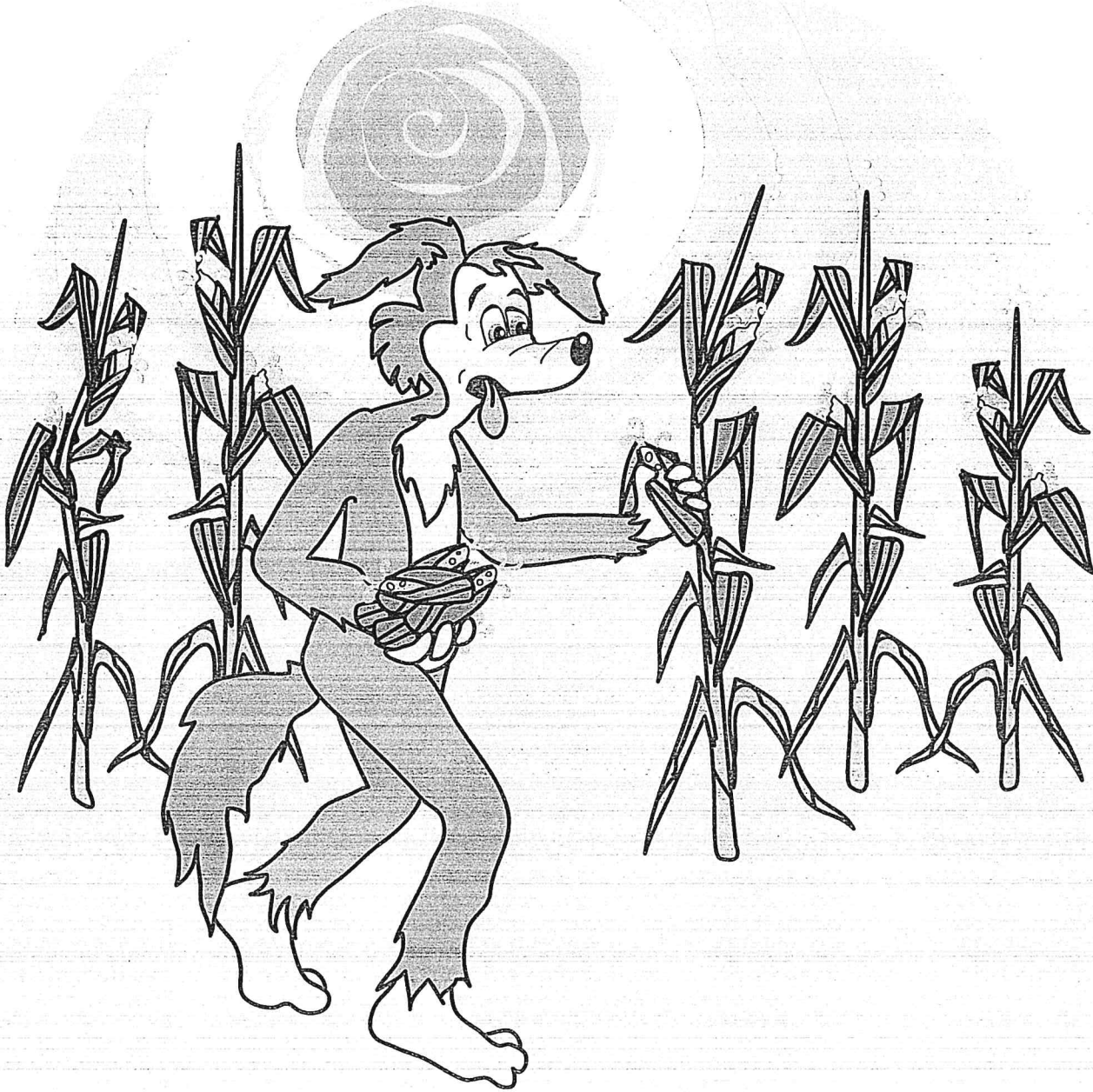


Ma'ii háahgóóshíł
 'ádaadzódlíigo Na'ashó'ii
 Dich'ízhii binaadąą' t'áa
 'ahąą yitah naanáalwoł
 tsídii dóó gah baa
 naajeelgo. Dóó 'áníł
 lá, "Níłáadi nidaojeel díł
 k'ad shí shidá'ák'eh."

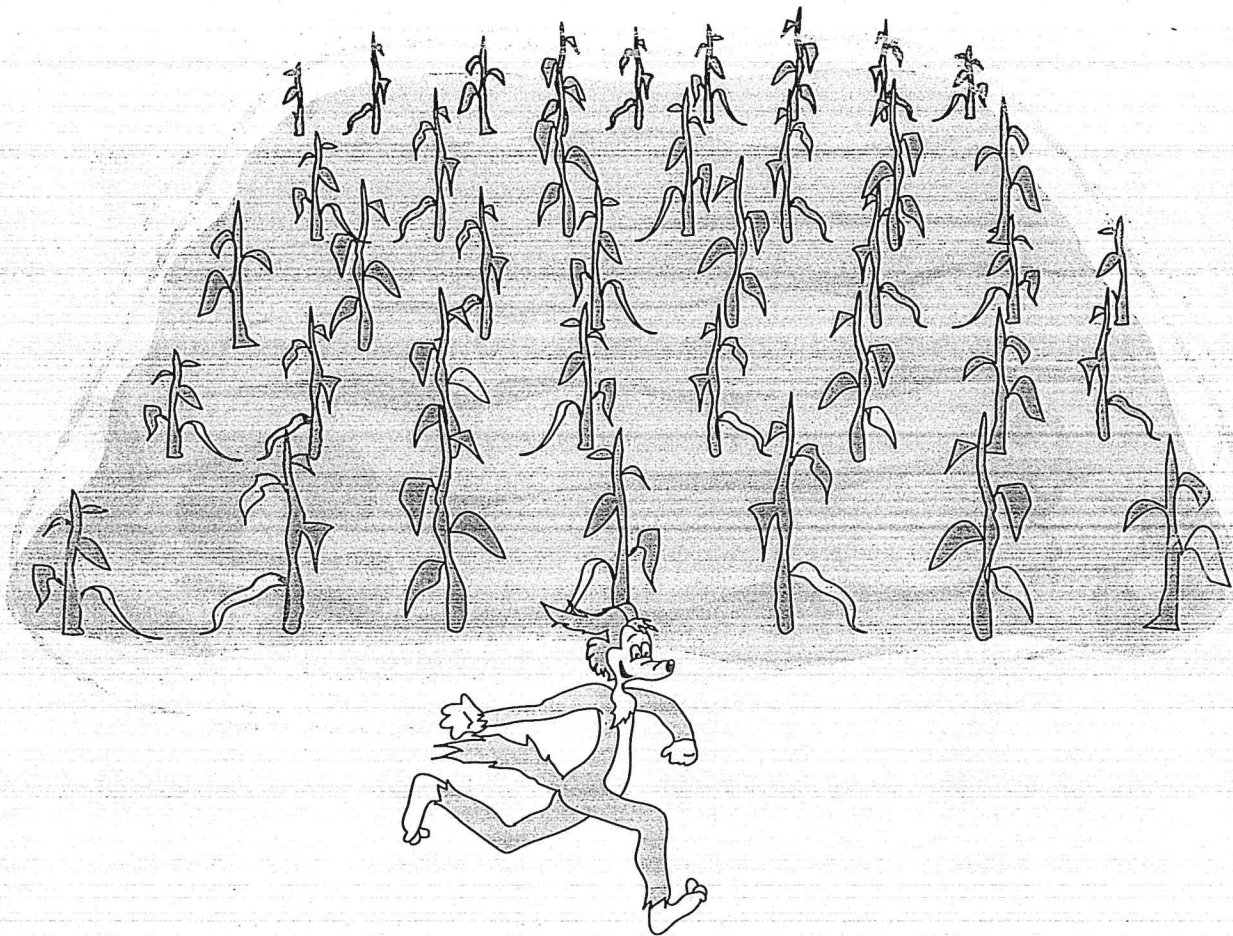
Coyote looked around
 and surveyed the corn
 field proudly. "You birds,
 get away from my corn
 field!" he said. "You
 rabbits, you go away
 too. This is my corn
 field now. I worked hard
 for this corn."



"I watered and hoed and took care of it in the hot sun. You're not welcome here!" He went into the field and picked some more corn to roast for himself. As he picked the corn, Coyote began to worry about all the animals sneaking into his field while his back was turned. He was afraid they might take some of his delicious corn.



"Nílaádi nidaahkai t'ádoo koji' náadadoohjahí. Díí naadáá' t'áa shí tó bá nahasheeh dóó baa 'áháshyá 'azhá deesdoi ndi." Ma'ii naadáá' ta' nááyíiti' deest'is nízingo. 'Áko 'iinízin, "'Ei shíí yah 'anídant'ííhgo shinaadáá' sheedeinííh dooleet koji' naashnishgo."



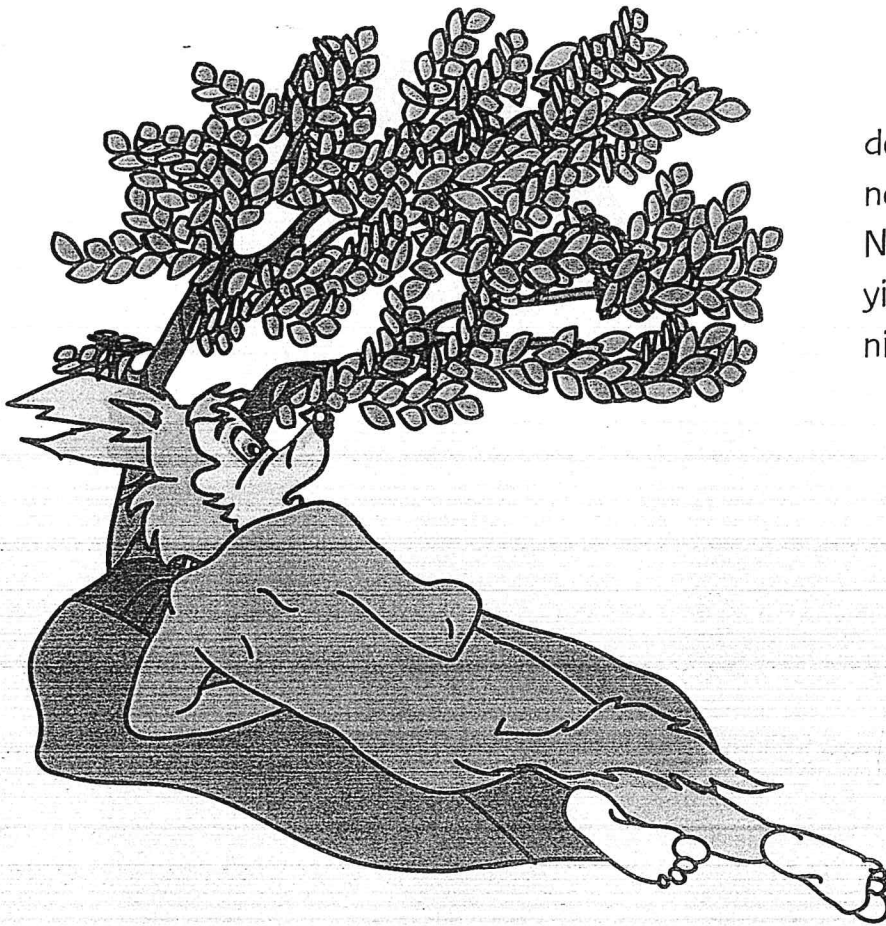
He came up with a plan. Like dogs, wolves, foxes, and other coyotes do, he went all around the corn field and marked his territory with his awful scent. Then he congratulated himself. "That ought to do it," he said.

'Áádóó háálá yit'áo shida'ák'ehji' doo nidaakai da doo nízin. Da'ák'eh yiláahdjí 'athénálwod doo yik'i naazhlizh. Hááhgóóshíí yaa bit hózhóogo 'áníí lá, "K'ad doo t'áá háída shidá'ák'ehji' naagháa da doo."

And he was right. Nobody wanted to go near his smelly cornfield and eat the corn he had spoiled by marking it with his scent.



Da'ák'ehyée 'ayóo nitchxon silíí' dóó naadáá'yée t'óó baa'ih silíí'. Ma'ii t'áá binízinígi' 'át'áo naadáá' yee nániichxaad.

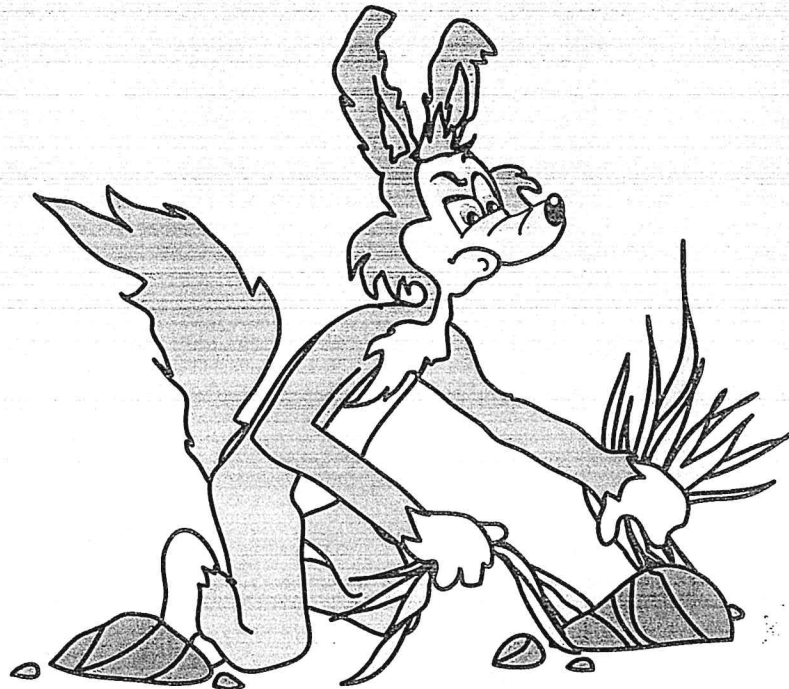


'Áádóó Ma'ii ch'ééh
deeyá dóó tsin yaadóó
neezdá dóó naa'i'ííthaazh.
Nít'éé' ła', "Shiid," jiníigo
yidiizts'áá'. Ma'ii t'áa bił
niłíí ndi naazghal.

When Coyote had finished
marking his field and had his
fill of corn, he decided to take
a nice, long nap in the shade.
He was almost asleep when
he heard a soft, "Shhhi'di" He
raised he head, looked around
suspiciously, and listened again.

He tried to find where the
sound was coming from,
but no one was in sight.
He lay back down again, only
to hear the same, "Shhhi'di,"
a little louder this time.

Nít'éé', "Shiid,"
náanéists'áá'. Ma'ii
ch'énádzid dóó binaagóó
nináánázgal. 'Áko
doo naagháhi da.
T'óó nááníteeh nít'éé'
'áyóó'íits'a'go, "Shiid",
náázhdoo'niid.





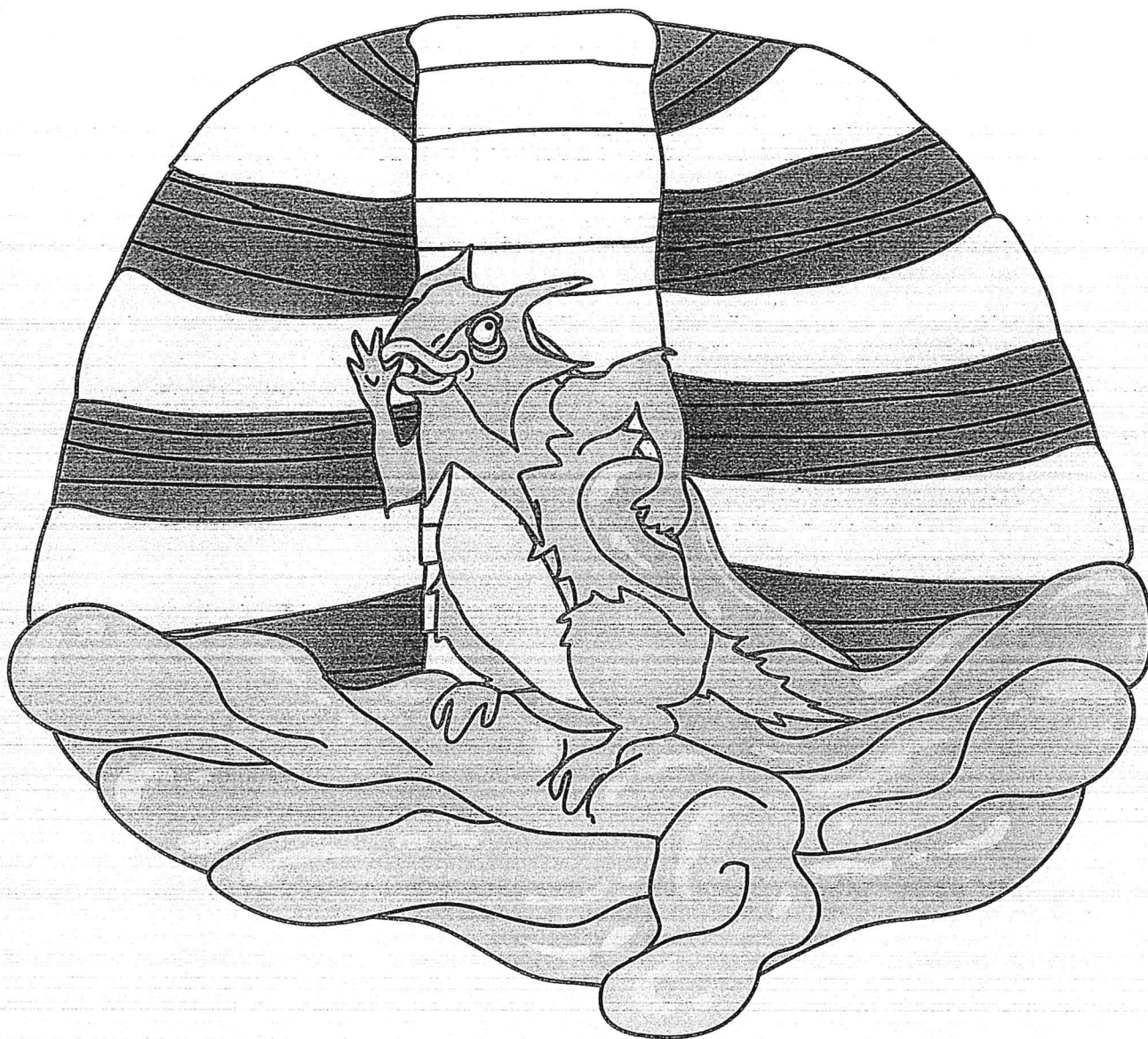
Coyote was annoyed. He sat up and yelled, "Who are you, and where are you?" Again, no one was in sight. He lay back down, and this time the "Shhhi'di" came again, loud and clear. The sound seemed so close.

'Áádóó Ma'ii neezdáádóó doo bił haldengóó 'áyóó'íits'a'go 'áníí lá, "Háish shiid shił ní? Háásh nanináago 'ádíní? Kodi shich'í' ninínááh." 'Áko doo 'iits'a'í da. 'Áádóó Ma'ii t'óó náneeztí. Nít'ée' t'áá áhanjì 'áyóó'íists'áá', "Shiid!"



He heard it again, this time too close for comfort. "Shhhi'di." Coyote panicked. He jumped up and looked down at his stomach. His eyes bulged and he broke out into a cold sweat. "Is that you in there, Cousin Horned Toad?" he asked.

'Áádóó Ma'ii t'óó tsídoolyiz dóó náhidiitah dóó bibid yini'í. Bináá'yéé t'óó hóníłtsxoh silí' dóó násdzíid dóó 'ání lá, "Níísh 'ádíní shíł naa'aash, Na'ashó'ii Dich'ízhii?"



There was no answer. Only silence. Coyote shook and his mind raced. Finally, after a long silence, Horned Toad answered, "Yes, it's me. The one you swallowed. The one whose corn field you stole."

Doo 'íists'á'í da. Ma'ii 'ídoogáád dóó bitsiits'iin yiyígháád. 'Áádóó Na'ashó'ii Dich'ízhii haadzíí' dóó 'áníí lá, "'Aoo', shí 'ádíshní, 'áshííní'na'yéé, shidá'ák'eh sheeniní'í'í'yéé."



"Ohhhhhhh," yelled Coyote. "Oouuuch! Stop that! Leave that alone! That's tender. If you don't quit doing that, I'm going to jump into the river and drink lots of water until you drown."

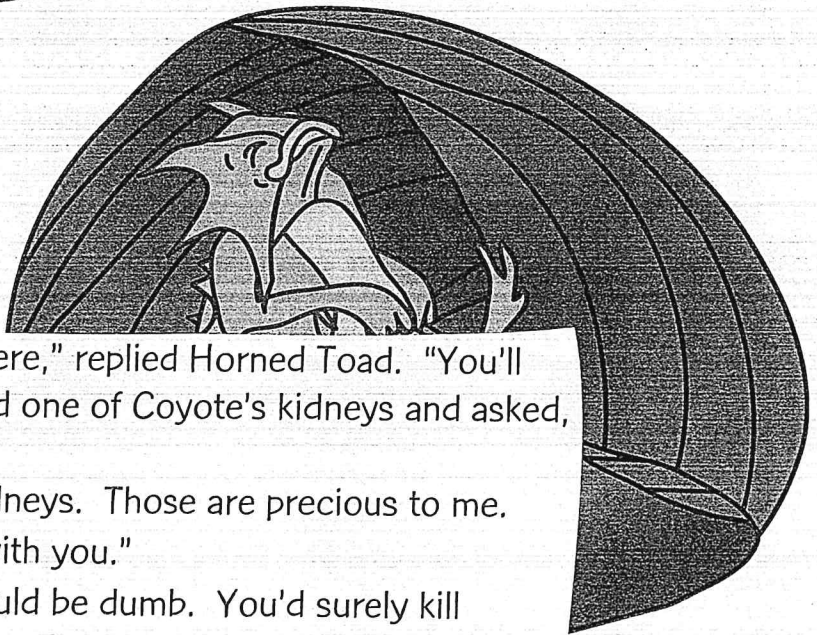
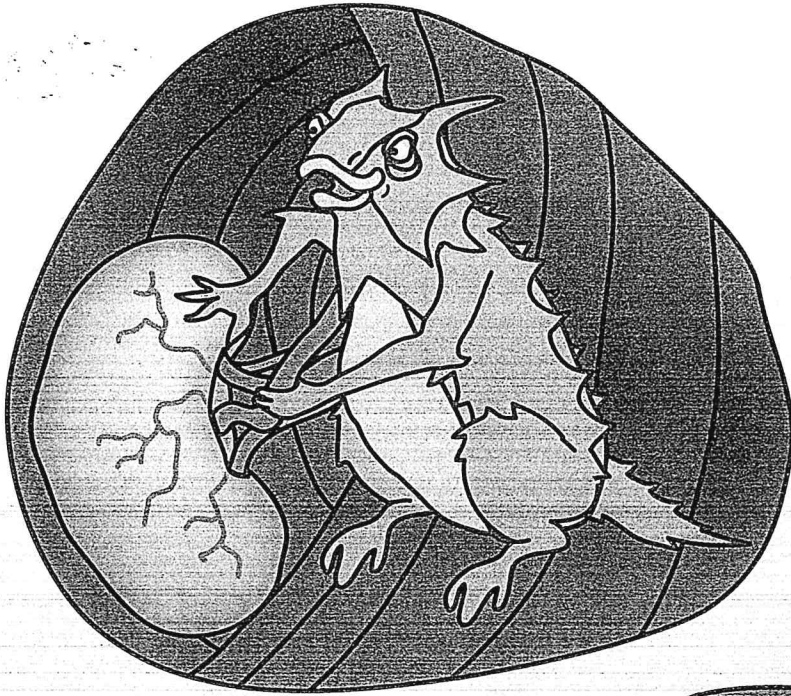
'Áádóó Ma'ii hadoolghaazh, "Ayóóó, k'adí, k'adí, 'ei shich'íí' 'át'é, t'áádóó baa nánít'íní. Tó lą'ągo niniyé deeshdlííł 'áko nít nidoogoh."

'Áádóó Ma'ii t'óó bijéí
d'itsizgo dóó báhách'í'go 'áníí lá,
"Shiyi'déé' háándááh, t'áá k'ad!"
'Áádóó Na'ashó'ii Dich'ízhii 'áníí
lá, "Dooda doo háádeeshdáát
da, díí 'óólyéhígíí bee shít
hwíínilne'go 'índa." Dóó Ma'ii
bich'íí' yideests'óóđ.

"You get out of there," demanded Coyote nervously. Right now, I say."

"I don't know about that," answered Horned Toad. "Not until you tell me what this is." He grabbed Coyote's intestines and began stretching and pulling at them.





"You can't drown me while I'm in here," replied Horned Toad. "You'll only drown yourself." Then he grabbed one of Coyote's kidneys and asked, "What's this funny round thing?"

"Ohhhhhh, please don't poke my kidneys. Those are precious to me. Stop doing that, or I'll jump off a cliff with you."

Horned Toad laughed, "Oh, that would be dumb. You'd surely kill yourself if you tried such a foolish thing."

'Áádóó Na'ashó'ii Dich'ízhii 'áníí lá, "Doo tó shíł nidoogoh da kóne'. T'áá shíí ni 'ádiyíílyéet, tó nít nidoogoh. 'Áádóó Ma'ii bichá'áshk'azhí yisít dóó 'íílníí lá, "Díísh ha'át'íí át'é? T'óó yilzhólíyee' dóó dahnímaz." Ma'ii 'áníí lá, "Dooda, dooda, 'eii t'áádóó baa nanít'íní, shichá'áshk'azhí 'át'é, 'eii bee hinishná. Doo bidíchíídgóó nít 'adah ch'ídiishwoł." Na'ashó'ii Dich'ízhii ch'ídeeldlo' dóó 'áníí lá, "T'óó dingsis lá, t'áá shíí ni 'ádiyíílyéet 'adah ch'íínlwodgo."



'Áádóó Na'ashó'ii
Dich'ízhii Ma'ii bijéí díshjool
yisít dóó néíneests'in. Ma'ii
'ayóó 'ííst'a'go hááchxa dóó
na'ookaah, "T'áashqodí
shijéí díshjool t'áádóó baa
nánít'íní. 'Eii bee hinishná.
T'áa baa nánít'íigo kọ' bii'
dahdínéeshjít dóó 'adidíík'áát."

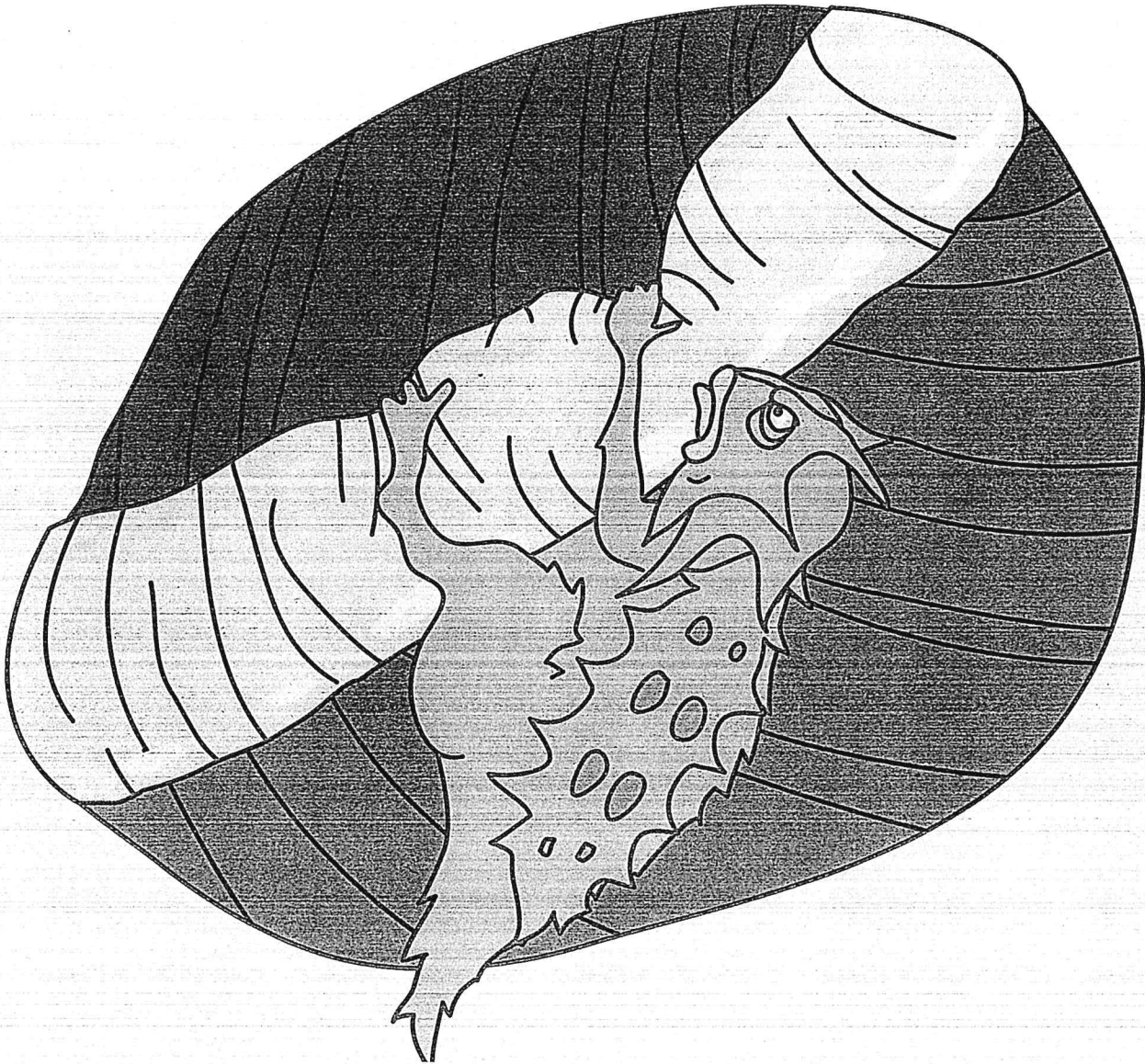
"Ohhhhh, please, not that,"
begged Coyote. Horned Toad
had grabbed Coyote's heart
and was thumping on it with his
fists. "Please, stop thumping my
heart. You're interfering with
my heartbeat. Get out of there,
or I'll jump into the fire with you.
You'll be burned to a crisp."

"That's a stupid thing to do,"
responded Horned Toad. Then he
grabbed Coyote's liver and asked,
"What is this big soft brown thing?"

"Oh, don't bother my liver. I
need that," begged Coyote.

Na'ashó'ii Dich'ízhii 'áníí
lá, "Ni shíí 'atdó' 'adidíík'áát."
'Áádóó Ma'ii bizid yisít
dóó 'áníí lá, "Díísh ha'át'íí
'át'é? 'Ayóo la' 'áníítsxoh
dóó yilzhólí yee!" 'Áádóó
Ma'ii ná'ookaahgo 'áníí lá,
"T'áashqodí 'eii t'áadoo baa
nánít'íní, 'eii bee hinishná."





Finally, Horned Toad grabbed Coyote's windpipe and squeezed with all his might. Coyote wheezed and coughed. He passed out and fell to the ground. That's when Horned Toad decided he had tortured Coyote enough.

'Áádóó Na'ashó'ii Dich'ízhii Ma'ii bizoot t'áá 'awotíbee 'at'ch'i' yiztih. Ma'ii yéé 'i'di'niilkééz dóó ch'ééh hanázhíí'tgo bini'ásdijid dóó naa'íitl'izh. Jó k'ad Ma'ii 'ayóo ti'hooz'nii' k'ad háádeeshdáál nizin Na'ashó'ii Dich'ízhii.



He crawled out of Coyote's mouth, looked at him lying there on the ground and gloated, "That will teach you to mess around with me and my corn field."

Na'ashó'ii Dich'ízhii Ma'ii yizéé'déé' hanás'na'. Ma'ii doo naha'náágóó t'óó t'áá 'ákóq k'íhineezláago yiní'í. Dóó 'áníí lá, "K'ad shíí doo shaa nínáázhdóót'íí da dóó shinaadáá' dó' shí nídoodleet."

Horned Toad looked around at his corn field. It was ruined; it smelled of Coyote's awful stench. Coyote had destroyed what Horned Toad had labored so diligently to produce. Horned Toad turned away, left in disgust, and never returned to his stinky, ruined field. To this day, Horned Toads eats only insects, and Coyote will not swallow a horned toad.



Na'ashó'ii Dich'ízhii bidá'ák'eh yaa naneetztáá' nít'ée' binaadáá'yéé 'altso t'óo baa'ih silí' lá dóó 'áyóo Ma'ii bilizh t'eiyá halchxin. "Wé' wé' Ma'ii bilizh t'eiyá halchxin. Dooládó' nítchxon da," níigo bidá'ák'eh yits'áajj' dahdiilwod. 'Éí shí' biniinaa k'ad Na'ashó'ii Dich'ízhii doo k'ée'dídlééh da. Ch'osh t'eiyá yildeet. Ma'ii 'aldó' doo Na'ashó'ii Dich'ízhii yildeet da.

'Kót'éego Ma'ii dóó Na'ashó'ii Dich'ízhii baa hane'.