

# Ma'ii

# dóó

# Gah



**Don Mose**

Halne'

**Lucille Hunt**  
**Clayton Long**

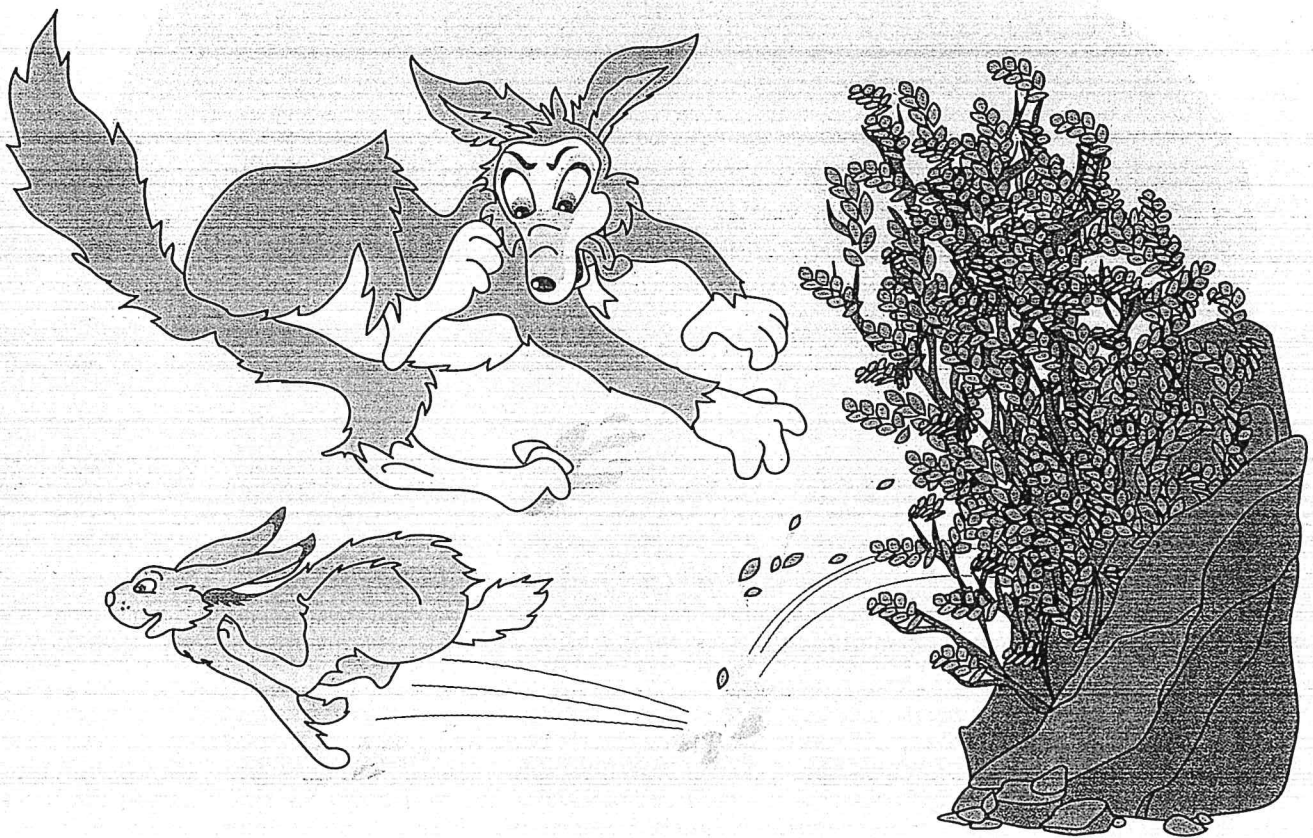
Ata'halne'

**Molly Trainor**

Na'azhch'aa'

**Don Mose**

Na'azhch'aa'áá Bik'ehgo



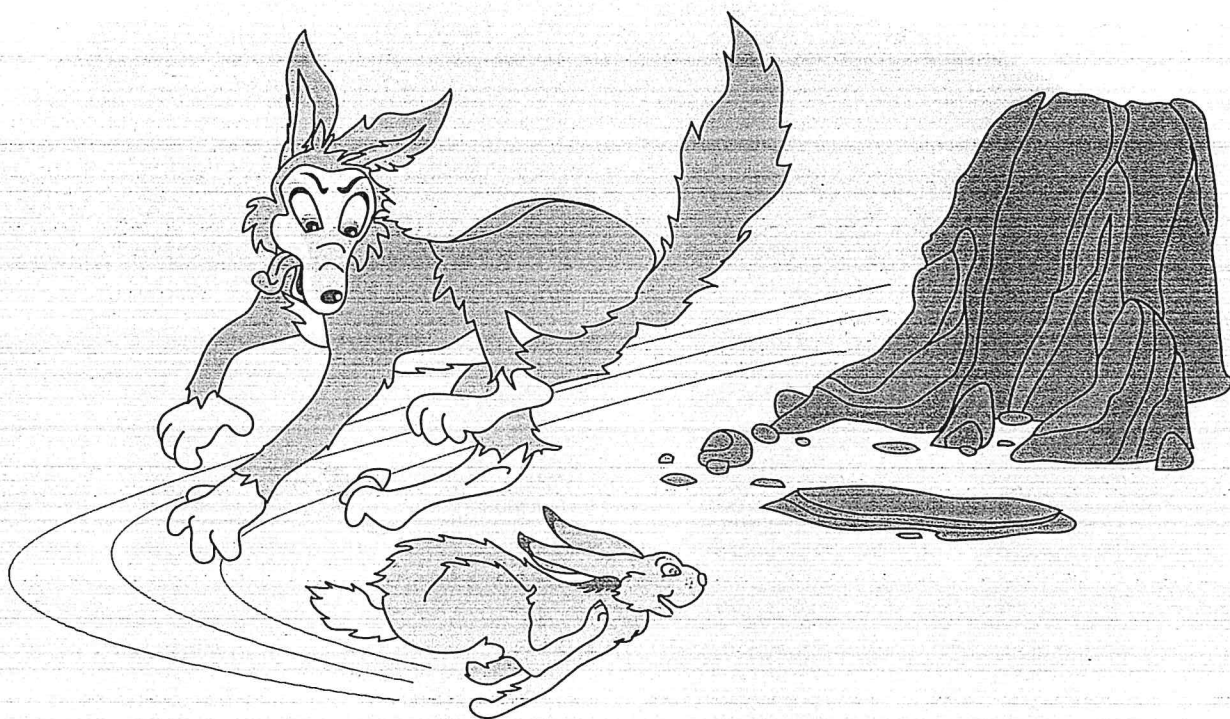
Coyote was at the end of another day of unsuccessful hunting, and he was hungry and grouchy. On his way home, he unexpectedly scared Rabbit out of some brush.

Atk'idáá' Ma'ii bighangóó náálwoł nt'ée' Gah ch'il biyaadóó haswod jiní.



Coyote chased Rabbit, but each time, just as Coyote was about to catch him, Rabbit ran in the opposite direction around a rock. Rabbit knew he was faster than Coyote. As he ran, he mocked Coyote, "You can't catch me! I'm too fast for you!"

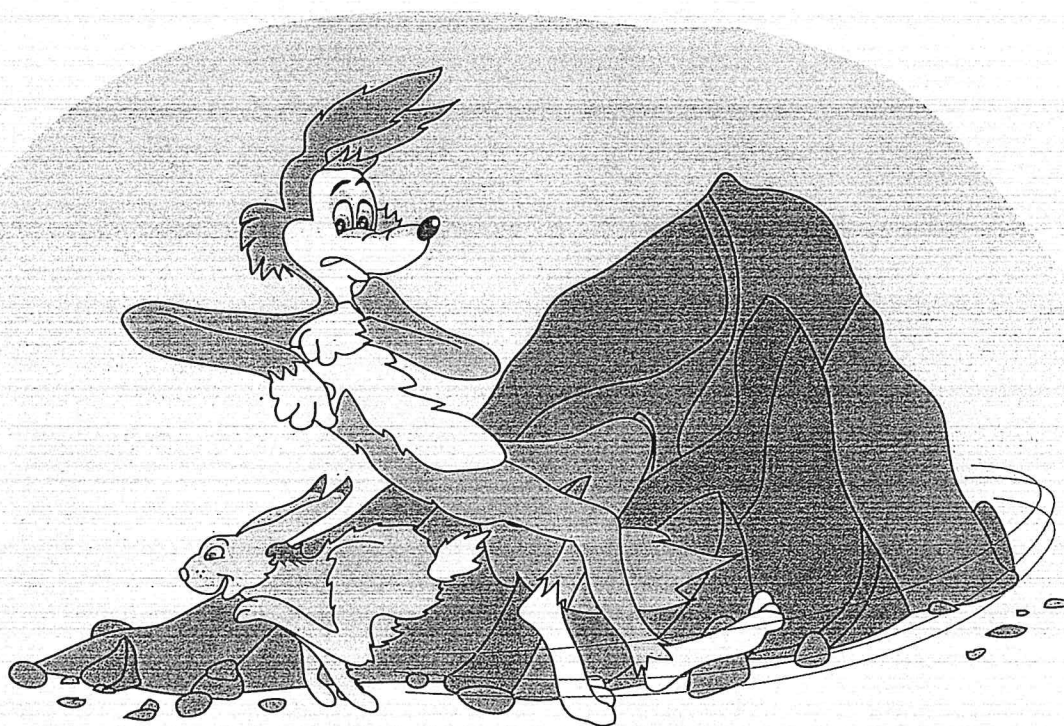
Áádóó shíí Ma'ii Gah yikéé' nídiilwod. K'adéę yélyeedgo Gah yéę bidinínáajigo tsé s'áá lei' bitsíígóó dahyiite'. Gah Ma'ii baa dideeshwoł nizin. Dóó Ma'ii ílníí lá, "Doo diníjáád da. Doo shídíilwoł da."



They ran in circles. As he chased Rabbit, Coyote threatened, "When I catch you, I'm going to eat you!"

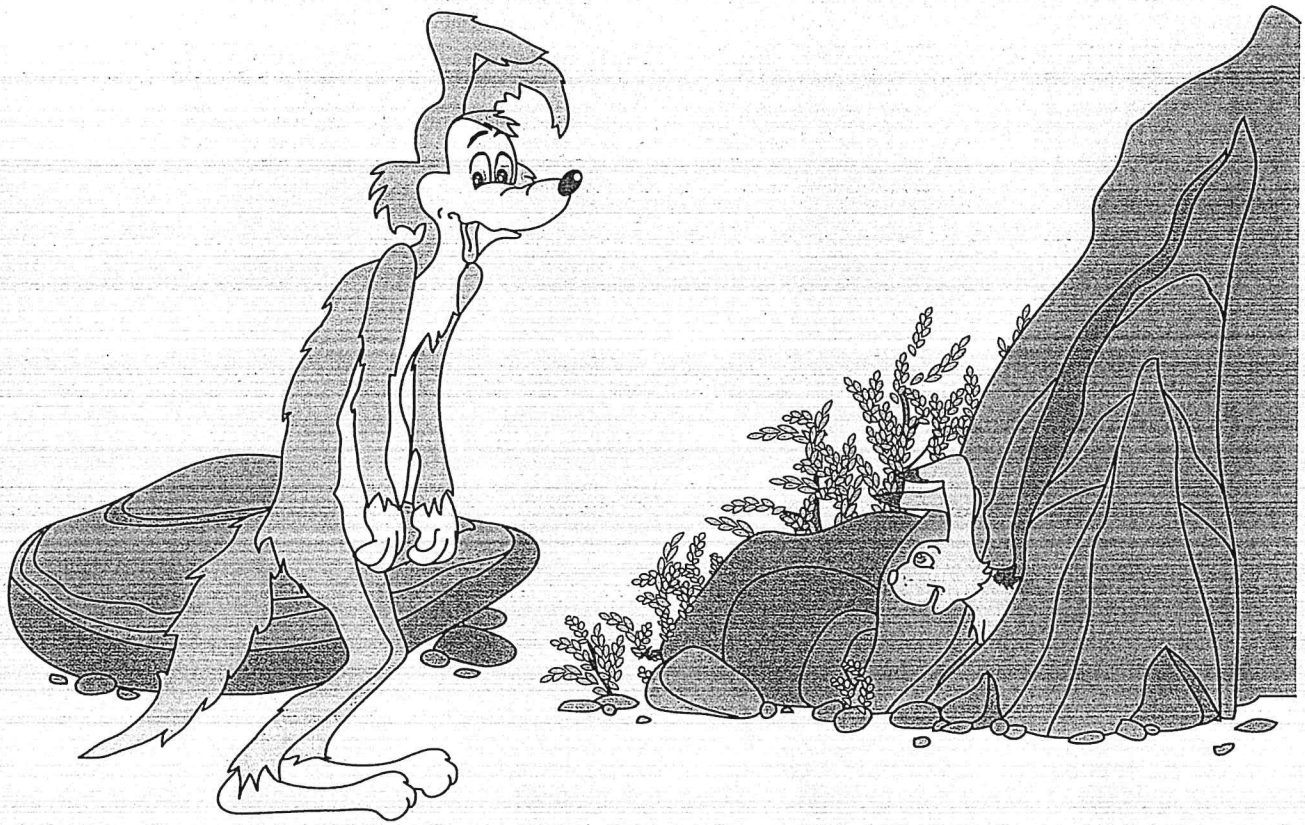
Ma'ii t'áá'awotíbee Gah tsé yinéinootchéet dóó íítní, "T'áá nił dídelí ní'niishghał."





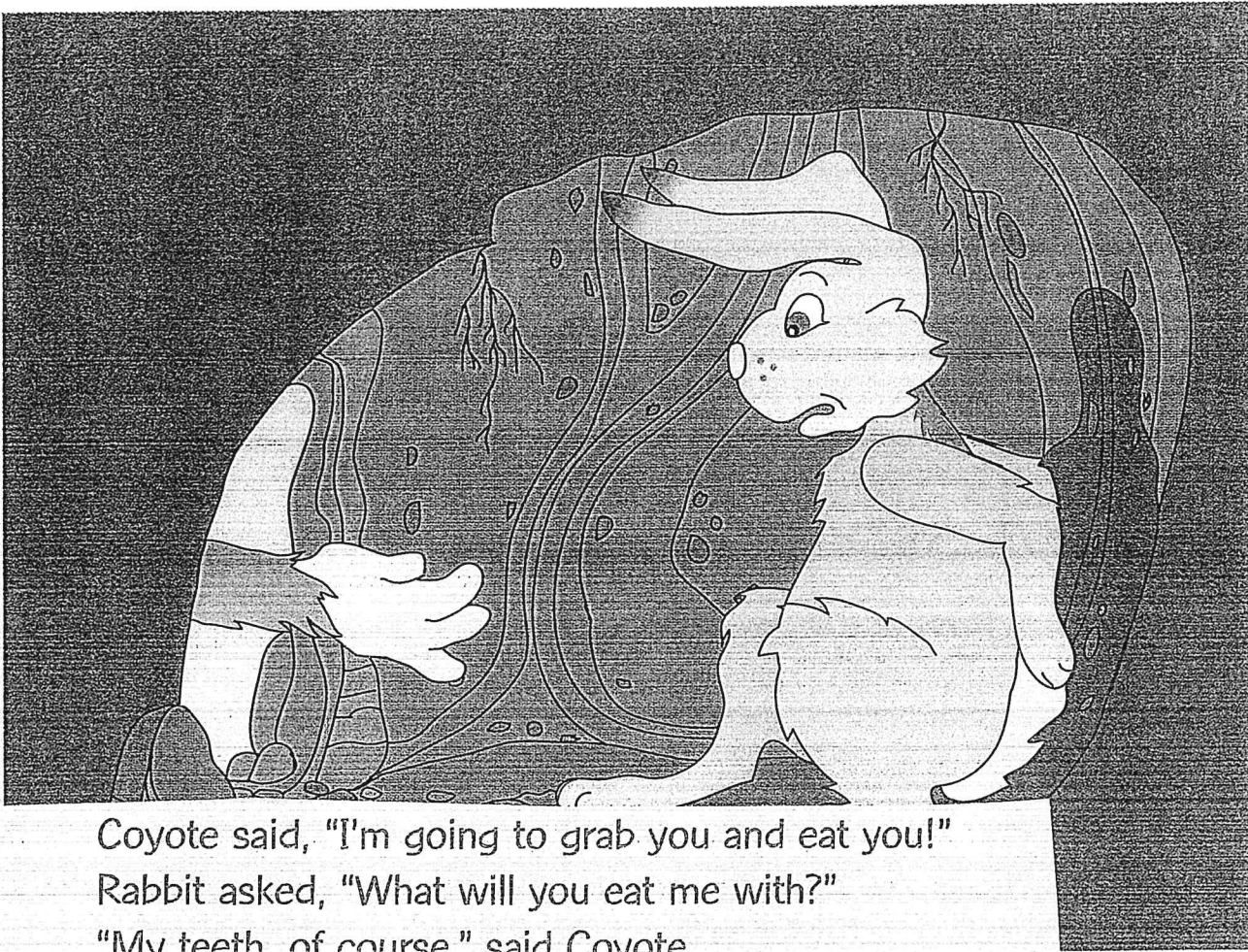
They ran around yet another rock, and Rabbit mocked Coyote, "How are you going to catch me when I'm so fast and you're so slow? You can't catch me!"

Gah t'óó Ma'ii yá tsé yináálwoł dóó t'óó yeidlohgo íłní,  
"Doo shíí shít didíídił da. Doo yee' diníjáád da! Haayéé'yit'áo  
shít didíídił?"



Rabbit kept running around and around until Coyote was exhausted. Then he ran into his hole to see what Coyote would do next.

Nínáásdóó Ma'ii yéé ch'ééh deeyáá dóó naniít'na'. Gah  
a'áángóyaa eelwod dóó áádéé' Ma'ii yiniít'í, jini.



Coyote said, "I'm going to grab you and eat you!"

Rabbit asked, "What will you eat me with?"

"My teeth, of course," said Coyote.

"Well, you're going to have to catch me first," said Rabbit. "How are you going to do that?"

"I'm going to get my stick. I'll use that to twist around your fur and pull you out. Or maybe I'll just smoke you out."

"What will you burn to smoke me out with?" asked Rabbit.

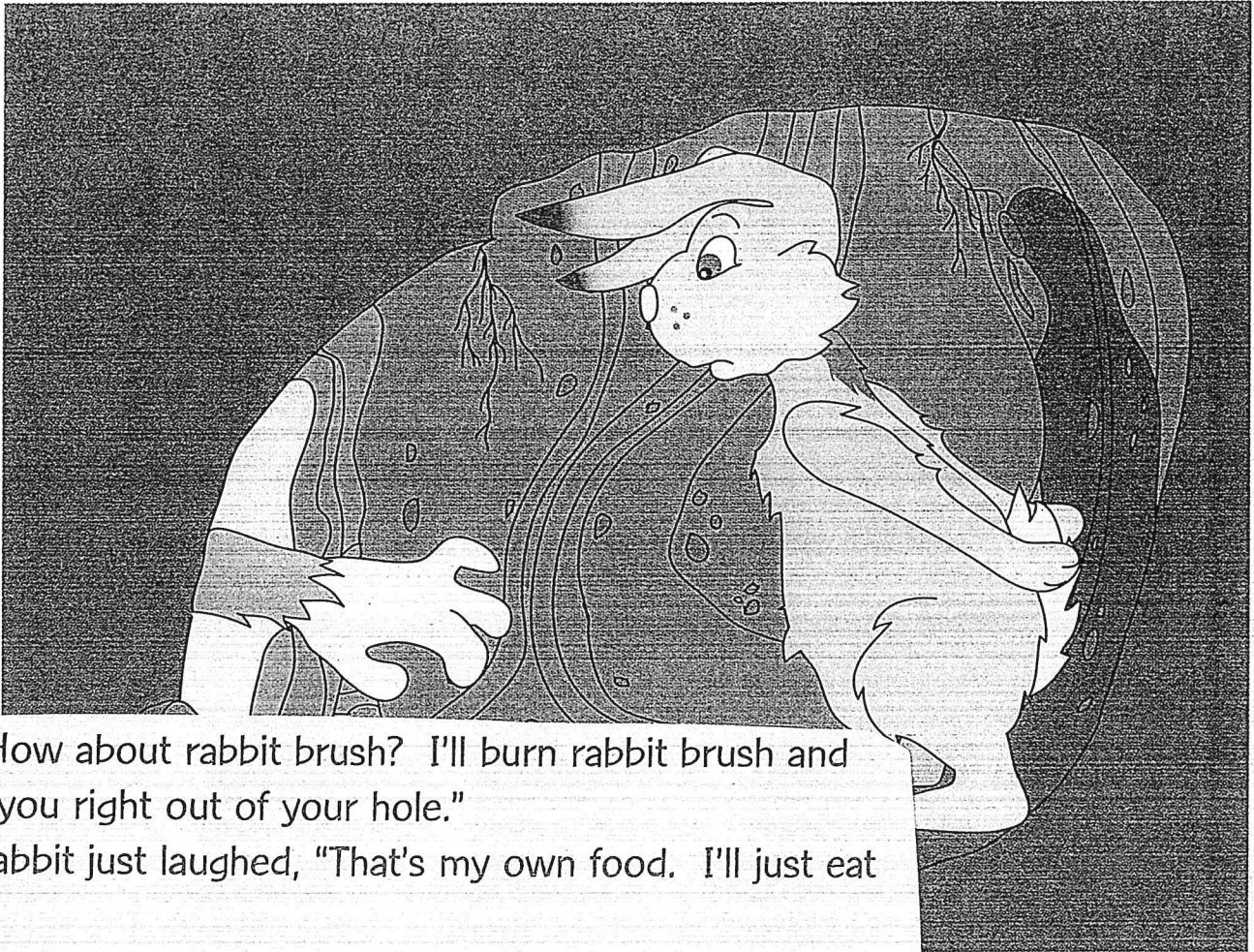
Áádóó Ma'ii ání, "Handeesdzíís dóó nideeshghał."

"Ha'át'íish bee shidíílgah?" níí lá Gah. Áádóó Ma'ii ánáád'íní,

"Shiwoo' ayóo deení, éí bee nidishghał."

Áádóó Gah áníí lá, "Áłtsé shíł dínéeelgo shíí t'éiyá.  
Haashyit'aó shíł didííł?"





"How about rabbit brush? I'll burn rabbit brush and smoke you right out of your hole."

Rabbit just laughed, "That's my own food. I'll just eat that."

"Well, then, I'll burn wild grass."

"Oh, yummy! That's my food too," replied Rabbit.

Each time Coyote told Rabbit what plant he would burn to smoke him out, Rabbit just told him, "I eat that. You can't get me with that."

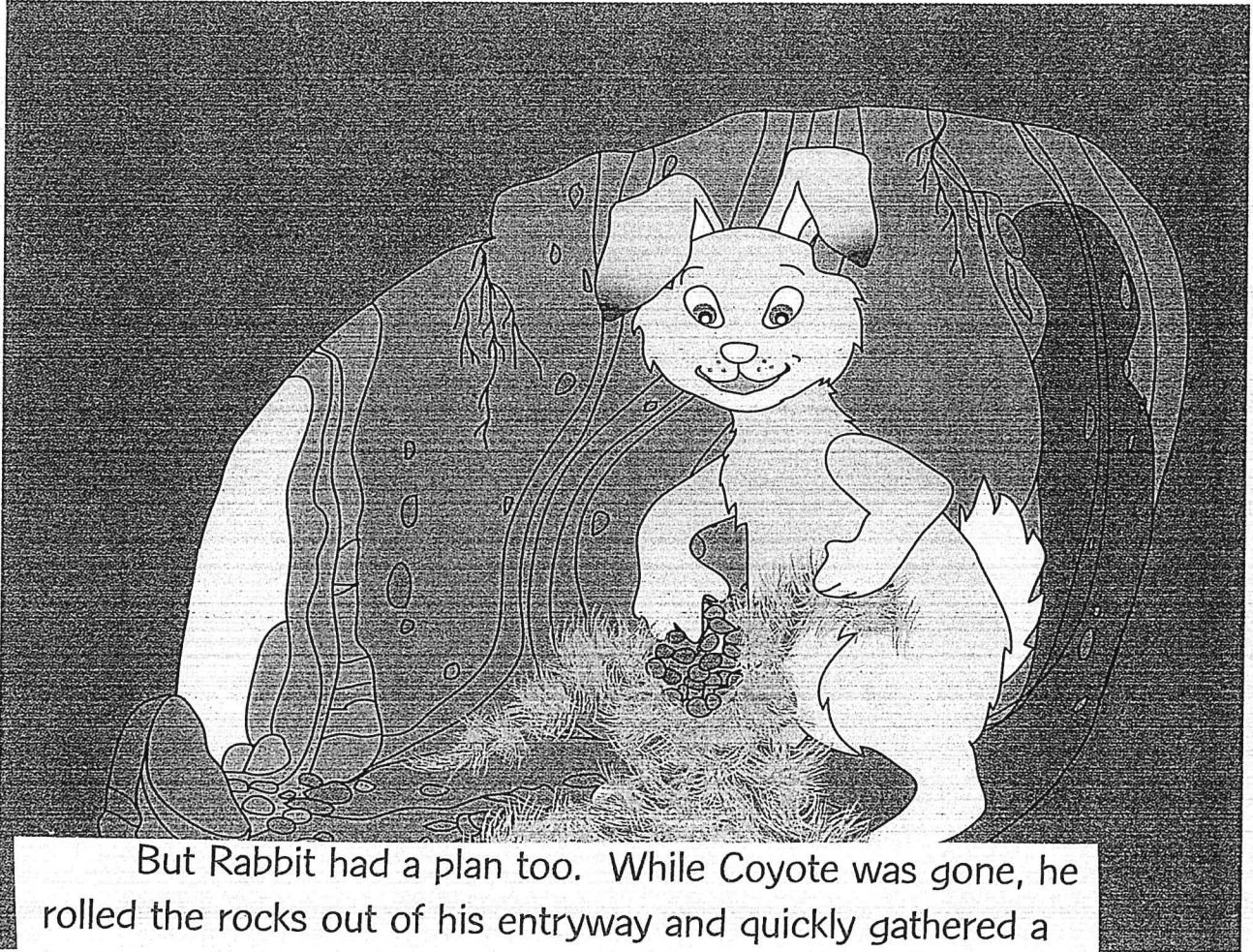
Áádóó Ma'ii ání, "Tsin bee handeesdis éí doodago nik'idji' didideeshjáḥ dóó t'íd bee handíneeshchéét." Áádóó shíí Ma'ii ch'il yitaa'ózhí dóó Gah íítní, "Gah bidáá' ta' nídeeshjot. Díwózhii dóó ch'il aḅe'é do' ta' nídeeshjot. Díí dideeshliḡgo bee handíneeshchéét." Áádóó Gah yidlohgo áníí lá, "Éí t'áá altso bitaa'íínzhi'ígíí shich'iiaḡ' ádaat'é. Altso nits'áá' deeshchosh."





"I guess I won't smoke you out, then. I have another idea. I'm going after a stick and some pine gum, and don't you even think about trying to get out while I'm gone. I'm piling these rocks up in front of your hole," said Coyote.

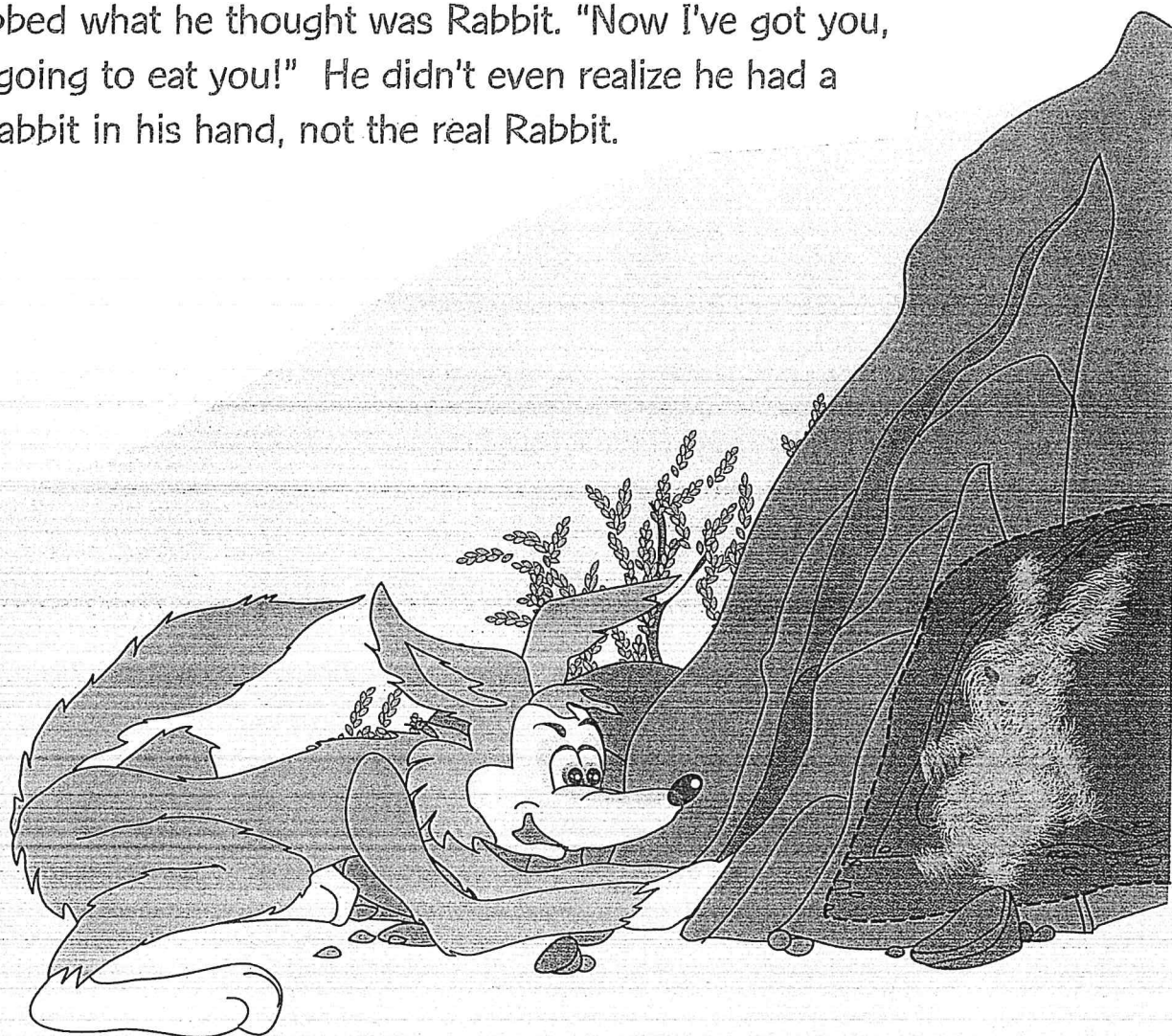
Áádóó Ma'ii ání, "Ákoláá k'ad tsé nidádinishníít áko doo ch'idíílwot da. Nahgóó tsin dóó deestsiin bijeeh bíká déshwod. Jó éí doo nich'iya' át'ée da."



But Rabbit had a plan too. While Coyote was gone, he rolled the rocks out of his entryway and quickly gathered a bunch of small pebbles. Then he took off his extra coat and stuffed it with them. Finally, he placed the stuffed rabbit fur right at the entrance of his burrow where Coyote could easily see it.

Gah t'áá íídáá' tsídeezkééz dóó nahaz'á. Ma'ii eelwodgo tsé yéé nahji' ayismááz dóó honeetehé tsé yázhí náyiiizláá' dóó bí'éétsoh ádeidiigí. Bí'éétsoh biyi' tsé áwózí háidííłbjiid dóó ch'é'étigi gah be'elyaago yineesdá.

Coyote returned with his stick. He had put pine gum on the end to stick on Rabbit's fur and pull him out. But when he looked into the hole, he saw the stuffed rabbit. Instead of using the stick, he just reached his arm right inside the burrow and grabbed what he thought was Rabbit. "Now I've got you, and I'm going to eat you!" He didn't even realize he had a stuffed rabbit in his hand, not the real Rabbit.



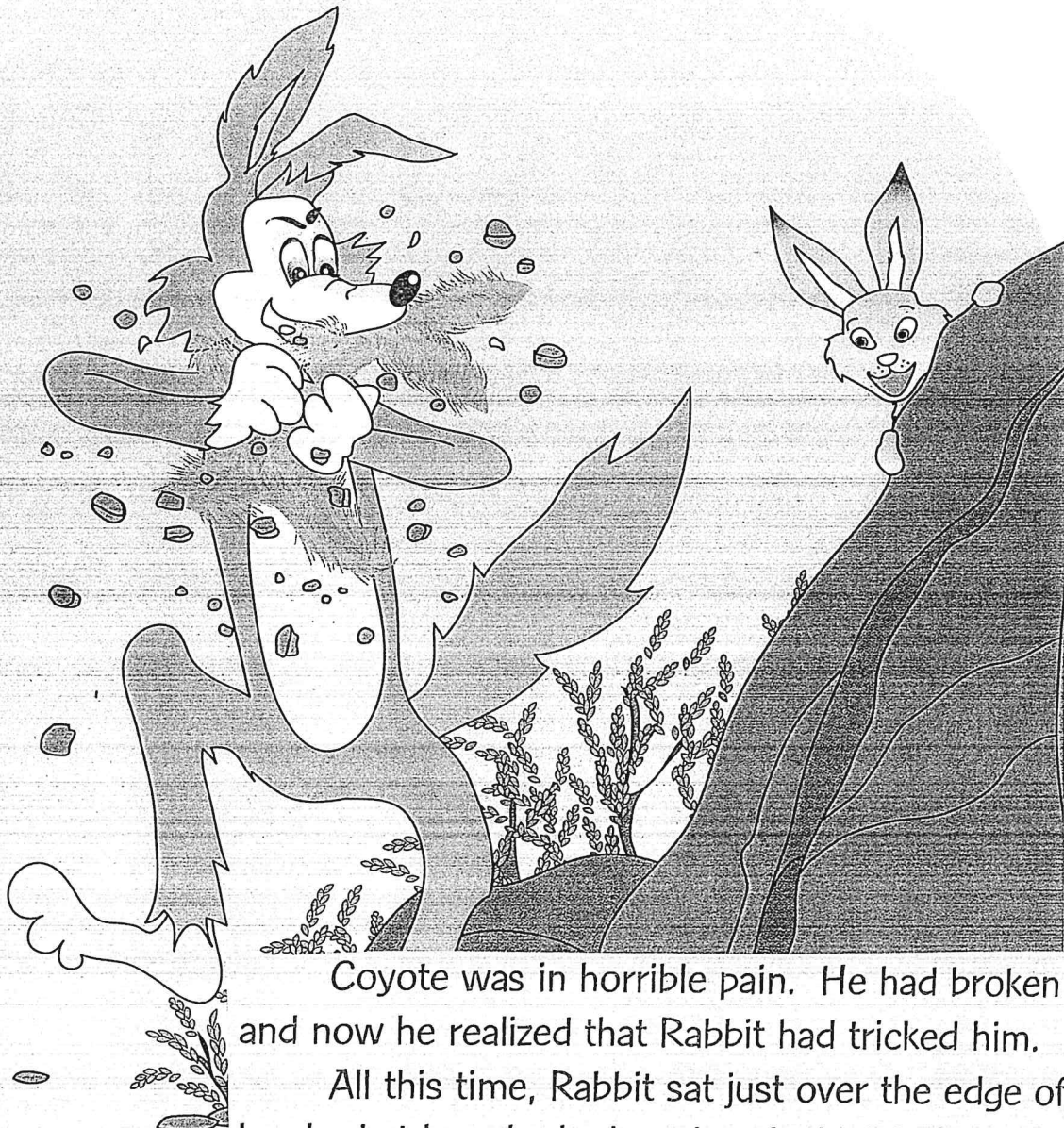
Hodíina'go Ma'ii tsin dóo bijeeh néiniíjaa' dóo tsin bilátahjì' yíishjah. Díí Gah bee hadeedis, nízin. Áádóó tsék'iz góne' naats'óqoggo deez'íí'. Nít'ée' gah be'elyaa yéé t'áa áhánígóó sidáago yiyiiltsá dóo yaadeelnii' dóo yizhjih dóo hayídzííz. T'áa aaníí Gah át'í nízingo yich'í' haadzíí' dóo íítní, "K'ad ląą haníídzííz dóo ni'niishghat."





"I told you I would catch you and eat you," bragged Coyote. He opened his mouth wide and chomped down hard. "Ouch! My teeth! My teeth are broken!" he yelled. Even then, he was so hungry he continued to chew away on the rocks.

Ma'ii hááhgóóshíí ádaaha'niihgo gah be'elyaayáa ách'í' neideedzízgo íítní, "Nidishniiga' nił dideeshdił dóó nideeshghat nidishni." Áádóó bizéé' honíłtsxogo ąą'áyiilaa dóó ajíłhazh. Ayóó'íłts'a'go hááchxa, "Áyóóóó, shiwoo' yéę altso naaztseed." Áádóó Ma'ii biwoo' t'óó yił si'ąągo Gah bił hózhóogo a'áándéé' ch'elgeed.



Coyote was in horrible pain. He had broken his teeth, and now he realized that Rabbit had tricked him.

All this time, Rabbit sat just over the edge of the hill and laughed at how he had made a fool of Coyote. Since that time, Coyote and Rabbit have been enemies. Coyote hunts and eats Rabbit whenever he can.

Áádóó Gah tsé'élkáá'dée' dahsidáago ayóó'iits'a'go Ma'ii yaa'ánádlohgo yinií'í. Ma'ii yéé haahgóshíí yichxago biwoo' yit naamaas. Gah Ma'ii yi'deezlo'go shííh biniinaa k'ad Ma'ii gah haalzheeh dóó yildeet silíí'. Ákót'éego Ma'ii dóó Gah baa hane'.



This is the story of the first toothache. From it, we learn that we should care for our teeth. We shouldn't chew on bones or other hard objects like animals do.

When a child loses a tooth, the Diné say he should walk to the east of a pile of ashes. He should turn his back to the ashes, throw the tooth over his shoulder and say, "May my teeth grow strong enough that I could chew on the tendon of a badger." That will help make his new tooth grow strong and straight.

The use of a stick with pine gum for hunting rabbit came about as a result of this story.

Dinéjí baa hane'go díí áłtsé awoo' diniih bits'áádóó hazlǫ́'. Éí biniinaa hawoo' hazhó'ó baa áhojilyáa leh. Doo ats'in jǫ́'aat da éí doodago ha'át'íída yéigo dantl'izígíí doo jǫ́'aat da.

Dinéjí na'nitingo áłchíní biwoo' haalts'i'go łeeshch'ih tahdi ha'a'aahjigo nát'áajigo yiizǫ́h dóó biwoo' yéé nát'áajigo ayiithxááh. Dóó kóniih, "Hózhóqogo shiwoo' bidziilgo dóó t'áa k'éhézdongo háádínóóséet dóó ats'id bee deeshghat."

Ma'ii baa hané'ígíí bits'áádóó atk'idáá' tsin bijeeh tsin bilátahjǫ́' bishjéé'go gah bee hadajitdíis ht'éeé', jinií.