

huuhtiksap tiickinmit

Teaching Son of Thunderbird

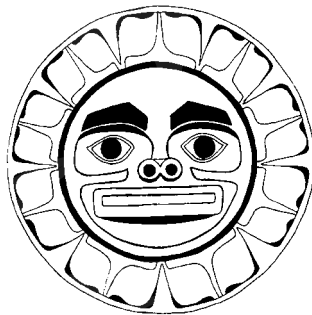


Written and Illustrated by: ḥayuumaʔin Vince Smith
Translated by: ḥaaskusaḷ Fidelia Haiyupis



**For all my nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and
children that love to learn.**

This booklet may be seen and heard at
www.firstvoices.com/en/ehattesahtnuchatlaht/stories



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Teaching Son of Thunderbird



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hiłqiimitwaʔišʔał maʔas nučii, ʔiickin
maʔayıłukʔi—nıwıiqsu ʔiickin, ʔumʔiiqsu
ʔiickinqas, ʔuhʔiš ʔiickinmit.

There lived a family of Thunderbirds on top
of a mountain—Father Thunderbird, Mother
Thunderbird, and Son of Thunderbird.

ʔaayaqumłintwaʔiš, ʔuuqumhi, ʔupaa,
qʷiyuʔiq ʔiickin ʔuʔuʔiihʷıtas ʔiihtuup.

It was a nice warm day in March when
Thunderbird went hunting whales.

hıu sayaačawaʔiš mataa ʔin nıaačsitʔaqł,
ʔunıaah ʔiihtuupqu.

He flew way up high to search the water for
whales.



wałyaqıł ʔumʔiiqsuʔi ʔuhʔiś ʔiickinmıt.

Mother and Son of Thunderbird were at home.

—ʔumʔiiq, ʔaaqinʔaph ńuʔiiq—ʔaʔaatuʔał ʔiickinmıt.

“Mom, what is Dad doing?” asked Son.

—ʔuʔuʔiih ʔiihtuup, qʷiʔiićaahin—waaʔał ʔumʔiiqsuʔi.

“He is hunting for whale (food for us to eat),” said Mother.

—ʔuuşyuuyaʔaqłs ʔuuqʷaa ʔiihtuupmiikşıł qʷaaʔiiq ńuʔiiq—waaʔał ʔiickinmıt.

“Someday I will become a whaler too, like Dad,” said Son.

—haaha, qʷisʔaqłʔic.

“Yes, you will.

ʔaanahi, huhtikşıłcukʔic mataa—waaʔałat ʔumʔiiqsak.

But you’ll have to learn to fly first,” Mother said.

—huhtikşıłmahsas mataa.

“I want to learn to fly.

naʔuukmaḥsas ḥuʔiiq ʔuʔuʔiiḥ ʔiiḥtuup—
waaʔaʕ ṭiickinṃit.

I want to hunt whales with Dad," said Son of
Thunderbird.

—ḥaaqāčičukʔic ʔiiqḥii.

"You still need to grow.

ʔaḥʔaaʔaqʕic ʔuʔumḥi ḥiiḵʷiḥ ʔiiḥtuup.

Then you will be able to carry whales.

qiiʔaqʕic ḥaaqaa

It will take time for you to grow.



ʔuhʔaqʕatʔic ńuʔi ɥumčičat qʷicačičukʔik
ʔuʔuʔiih ʔiihtuup—waaʔaʕat ʔumʔiiqsuʔi.

Your Dad will show you where to go to hunt
whales,” said Mother.

qiiʔatintʔiš huuhtiksapʔat ʔiickinmıt
ʔuhʔat ʔumʔiiqsak—kuʔaʕiya,
ʔapwınʔaʕqu ńaas, ʔuhʔiš tuupšičaʕqu.

His mother taught him for a long time—morning,
noon, and night.

yaaʔakɥsa huuhtikšiih ʔiickinmıt.

He loved to learn.

taaksiʕintʔišʔaʕ ʔiickin ʔuutyiip qʷiʔiicahičaʕ.

Thunderbird always brought home food.

ʕačikšičaʕquk mataa, ʔahʔaaʔaqʕs
huuhtiksap suutiʕ ʔuʔuʔiih ʔiihtuup—
waaʔaʕ ʔiickin.

“When you learn how to fly, I will teach you to
hunt whales,” said Thunderbird.





ʔahʔaaʔaʔʔiʔ ʔaʔum matsiʔ ʔuyiiypa
ʔuuqumhiʔaʔʔi, ʔupaaʔaʔʔi.

It was a nice, warm, sunny day when he flew for the first time.

—mataas! mataas!—waaʔaʔ ʔiickinʔit.

“I’m flying! I’m flying!” said Son of Thunderbird.

qʷiyuʔiq huuhʔiksap mataa—taakʔiʔis
naacsuuh qʷaaʔapqs—waaʔaʔat ʔumʔiiq.

While Mother taught him to fly she said, “Always watch how I do it.”

huu sayaaćinuʔatʔaʔ ʔupaaʔʔi yuʔimis.

They rose higher and higher in the warm wind.

—katʔuksapʔic siićiʔ ʔin ʔaćikʔiʔik mataa—
waaʔaʔ ʔumʔiiqsuʔi.

“You make me proud, that you have learned to fly,” said Mother.



qiimitʔišʔaʔ mataa ʔiickinmʔit ʔukʷink
nʷiiqsakʔi.

Son flew with his father for a long time.


—hiikʷaʔʔaqʰʔic ʔuʔumʔi ʔuʔukʷaqʰ
ʔuʔuʔiiʔ ʔiiʔtuup.

"You are just about ready to hunt whales on your own."

—katʔukšišʔ ʔin ʔaʔikik huʔtikšiiʔ—waaʔaʰ
ʔiickin—wikʔaqʰʔišʔ qii, ʔuʔumʔičiʰʔaqʰʔic
ʔuʔukʷaqʰ ʔuʔuʔiiʔ ʔiiʔtuup.

"You make me proud that you are such a good learner," said Thunderbird. "It won't be long before you can hunt whales on your own."





q^wiyu?iq?at ha?uk, tiickin waa?ał—ñaacsas
?u?umhi?aqał?ic ?uu'ip, wałsaap ?iihtuup.

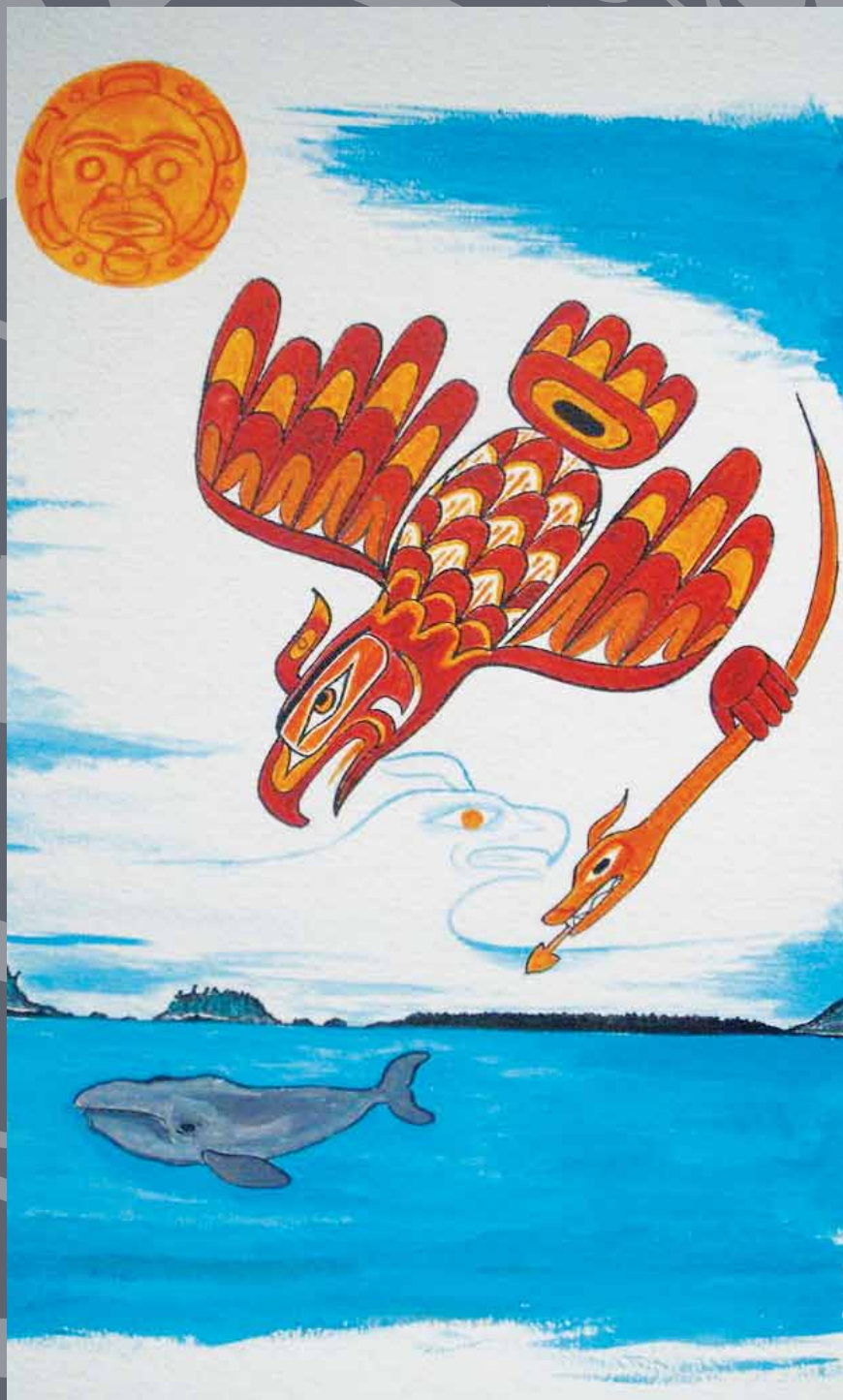
While they were enjoying whale, Thunderbird
said, “I see you are ready to hunt and bring
home whales.


?uumaa?atup ma?ayitšił?aqałukik
łut?aqałap?ic?at ha?uk—

You will be able to get a whale and bring it to
the family you will have some day. They will eat
well.

čumqstuł tiickinmit ?in řacikšił ?u?u?iih
?iihtuup.

Son of Thunderbird was really happy that he had
learned to hunt whales.





ḥayuumaʔin, Vince Smith is an artist with roots from Ehattesaht, Nuchatlaht, Hesquiaht, and Mowachaht. He lives in Zeballos, BC. He works in woodcarvings, drawings, photography and textile art.

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This is a timeless story of passing on survival skills from one generation to the next.

Quick pronunciation guide

This guide offers quick reminders of how to pronounce each letter of the Nuuchahnulth alphabet.

a	uh	o	aw
aa	long ah	oo	long aw
c	ts	p	p
č	explosive ts	ḑ	explosive p
č̣	ch	q	back k
č̣̣	explosive ch	q ^w	rounded back k
e	like in get	s	s
ee	like in get, and long	š	sh
h	h	t	t
ḥ	raspy h	ṭ	explosive t
ii	like in ski, and long	u	like in put
k	k	uu	like in due
k ^w	rounded lips & k	w	w
ḳ	explosive k	ẉ	w with a catch
ḳ ^w	rounded explosive k	x	hissed k
ł	hissed l	x ^w	rounded hissed k
ł̣	tl	x̣	hissed q
ł̣̣	explosive tl	x̣ ^w	rounded hissed q
m	m	y	y
ṃ	m with a catch	ỵ	y with a catch
n	n	ʔ	catch in throat
ṇ	n with a catch	ʔ̣	catch in throat plus r



hupii?atinqs

Those that helped me:

My family for always being there.

Diane and John Crowhurst
for constant encouragement and support

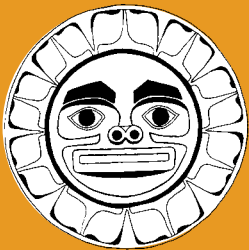
?iihatis?ath čiinaxint leadership and people

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for linguistic support



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