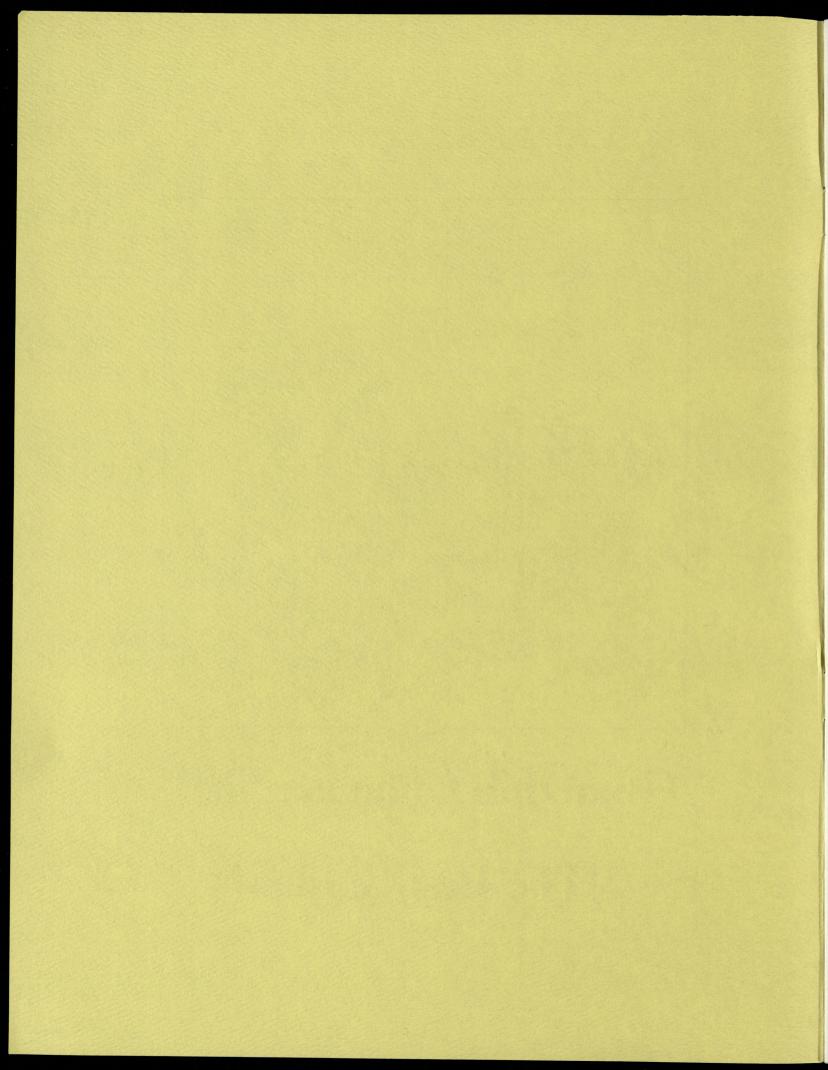


Gwanzhih Chandaa Nizii
(The Best Garden)



## GWANZHIH CH'ANDAA NIZII (The Best Garden)

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Illustrated by Deanna Ellestad

Gwich'in - Athabascan

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## GWANZHIH CH'ANDAA NIZII

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Johnny school tł'ee, vi-teacher Miss Smith oozhii, tr'iinin naii t'ahnyaa, "Juk shin gwarooshii, juu gwanzhih nizii di'ii ji' aii Fairbanks fair niheehaa."



Tr'iinin gooveechii t'igwinyaa. Johnny it'ee gwitr'it t'igwihił'ya', shii gaayii ch'ahaałtsyaa iindhan.



Johnny dijyaa naji haa' drin hee nan khadigiingwat. Carrots, lettuce, potatoes, cabbage, beets kwaii gwit'ee ginlii.



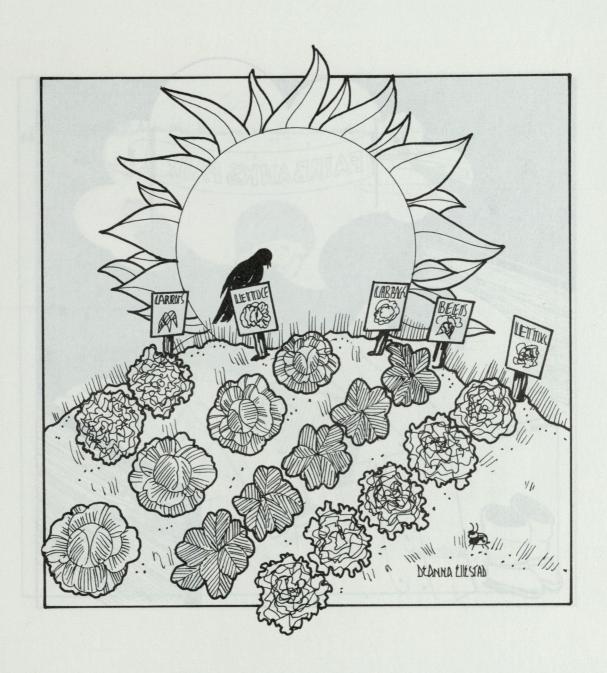
Shin datthak Johnny drin gwiteegwaachy'a' gwinzji dagwanzhih k'aahtii, gwanjoo, chuu haa' gwinzji dagwanzhih k'aahtii. Vijyaa naji chan gwinzji dagwagwanzhih k'eegaahtii.



Łyaa Johnny gaayii ch'oołtsyaa iindhan. Gwehkii Fairbanks gwaah'in kwaa akwat gaayii ch'oołtsyaa iindhan.



Fair gwats'a' nahgwan ts'a' goo-teacher t'agoovahnyaa, "Nakwaii yahghan naji gwanzhih gahaah'yaa juu vagwanzhih nizii ch'itee tr'agahaahchyaa."



Tr'iinin datthak gooyahghan gwanzhih gaah'in.

Datthak ts'a' Johnny vagwanzhih łyaa nizjį ginyaa.

Tr'iinin najį datthak giiyeenjit shoo nilii, adan

chan shoo nilii.



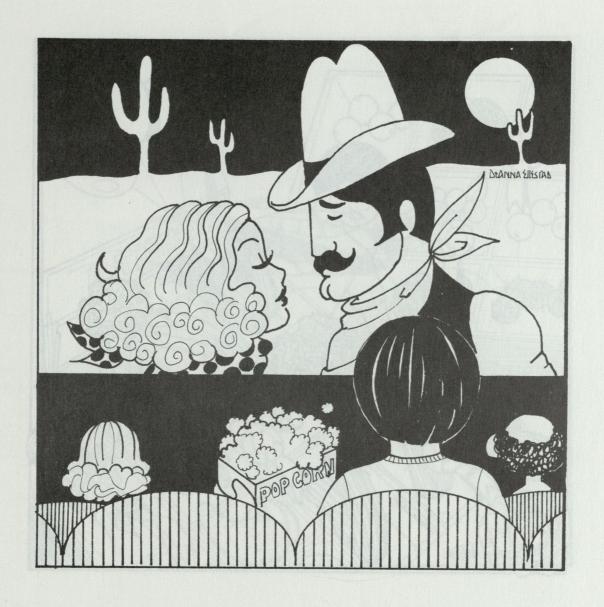
"Nihkaa mail day aii ji' hoihshi' iindhan?" Miss Smith yahnyaa. "Aaha', yahnyaa. Too Johnny khyuk dhichii, Fairbanks fair gwahaah'yaa geenjit gineenlyaa.



Vanh dai' hee neech'adaanaji, Johnny Fairbanks gwats'a' haazhii.



Vaak'eech'adaadhak, \*/yaa Fairbanks gwintsii, zheh gwinlii, cars chan gwint\*/oo gwinlii, neehiniit'ee choo, neehiniit'ee tsal gwinlii, dinjii naii chan gwinlii.



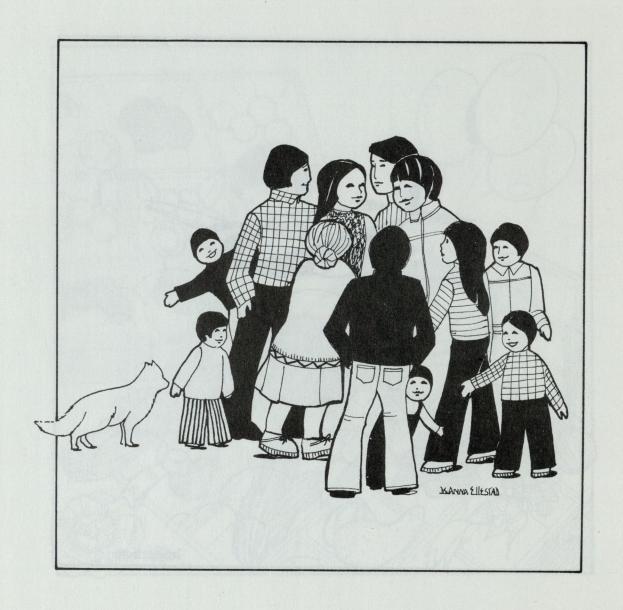
Johnny juu haa' gwiheechy'aa giiyink'it ch'iłkhaa.
Ch'a'aa-zheh neech'in'al, drin neekwaii Johnny
fair nahkat tsee'in, jidii datthak haa' tsee'ya'.
Aii tł'ee nagwarahtsii-zheh chan noozhii.



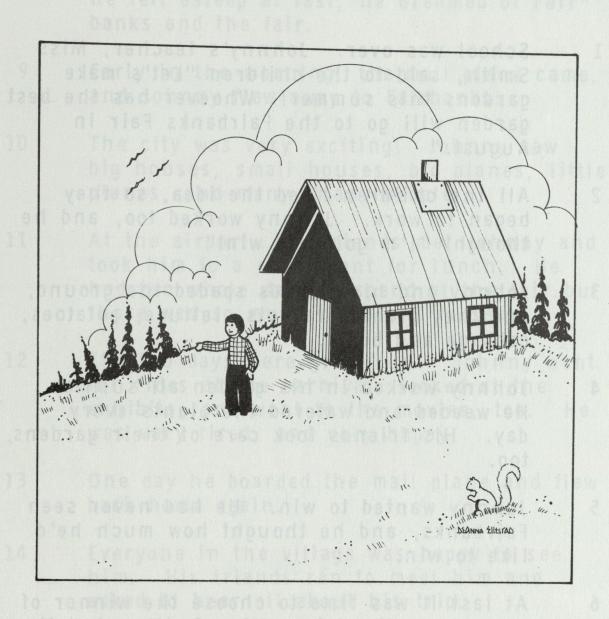
Johnny drin neekwaii indi', vaa shrigwinchy'a'.
Johnny cheendak gaa vaashroonchy'aa.



Aii tł'ee airplane zhit neehoozhii.



Vijyaa najį tyaa k'inidik giiyeenjit shoo nilii, dee'ya' diinahgoondak giiyoonyaa.



Johnny k'inidik shoo nilii, Fairbanks łyaa vaashrigwinchy'a' gaa dizheh k'inidik geenjit shoo nilii.

- School was over. Johnny's teacher, Miss Smith, said to the children "Let's make gardens this summer! Whoever has the best garden will go to the Fairbanks Fair in August."
- All the children liked the idea, so they began to work. Johnny worked too, and he thought "I'm going to win!"
- Johnny and his friends spaded the ground, and they planted carrots, lettuce, potatoes, cabbage and beets.
- Johnny worked in his garden all summer.
  He weeded and watered the plants every
  day. His friends took care of their gardens,
  too.
- Johnny wanted to win. He had never seen Fairbanks, and he thought how much he'd like to win.
- At last it was time to choose the winner of the trip to the fair. Miss Smith asked the parents to judge the gardens.
- All the parents came and inspected the gardens. At last they decided that Johnny's garden was best of all. The kids were happy for Johnny, and so was he!
- 8 Miss Smith said, "Johnny, tomorrow is mail day. You may go to Fairbanks in the

morning, if you like." That night, when he fell asleep at last, he dreamed of Fairbanks and the fair.

- 9 Early in the morning, the mail plane came, and Johnny flew away to Fairbanks.
- The city was very exciting! Johnny saw big houses, small houses, big planes, little planes, and many, many people.
- At the airport, his friends met Johnny and took him to a restaurant for lunch. He had two whole days to spend at the fair but there was so much to do and to see!
- The two days were great fun. Johnny went for rides at the carnival, looked at the exhibits, and went to the movies, too. He was very tired, and very happy.
- One day he boarded the mail plane and flew back home again.
- Everyone in the village was happy to see him. His friends ran to meet him and asked to hear all about his trip.
- Johnny thought of all the fun he had in Fairbanks, but he was very glad to be home again.

