

NATS' AHTS'A'

DEETRYA'

A ZHRA!!

DHIDLIT



*Jeannette '75*



NATS'ĀHTS'Ā' DEETRYĀ' AZHRAĪĪ DHIDLIT  
(How the Crow Became Black)

A Production of the  
A Traditional Kutchin Story

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Kutchin - Athapaskan

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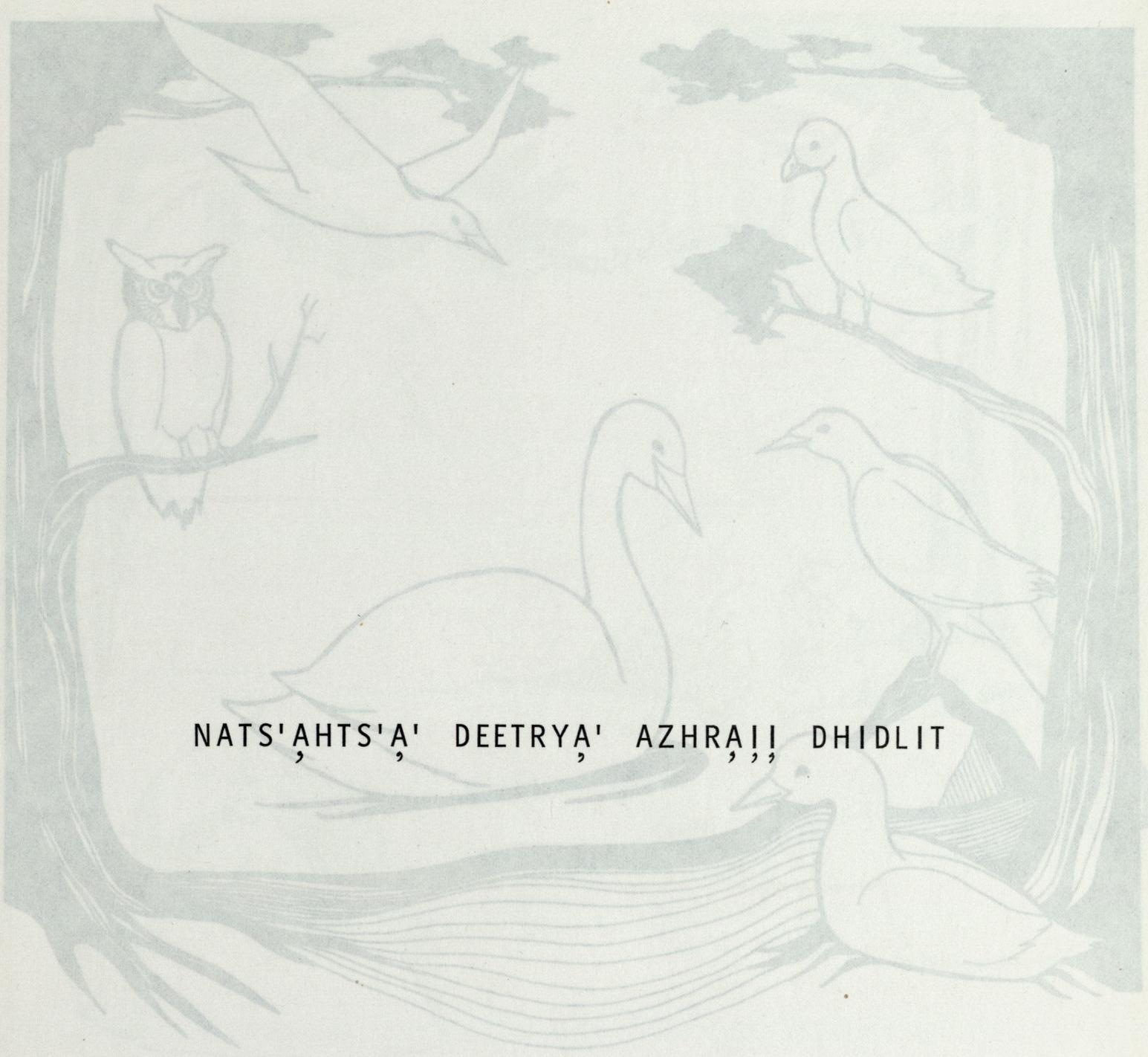
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NATS' AHTS' A' DEETRYA' AZHRAI' DHIDLIT

Genaa da! tsiltsal najj dattak avee.  
Izhk da! daazhrayj gookhakwe' nilij.  
Vitsaa najj dattak gwijizij digoochy'a  
gijbhan. ts'a' needaqoorahatsj' eenjit  
gwik'eedwandall, gas khyu' t'ill'in.



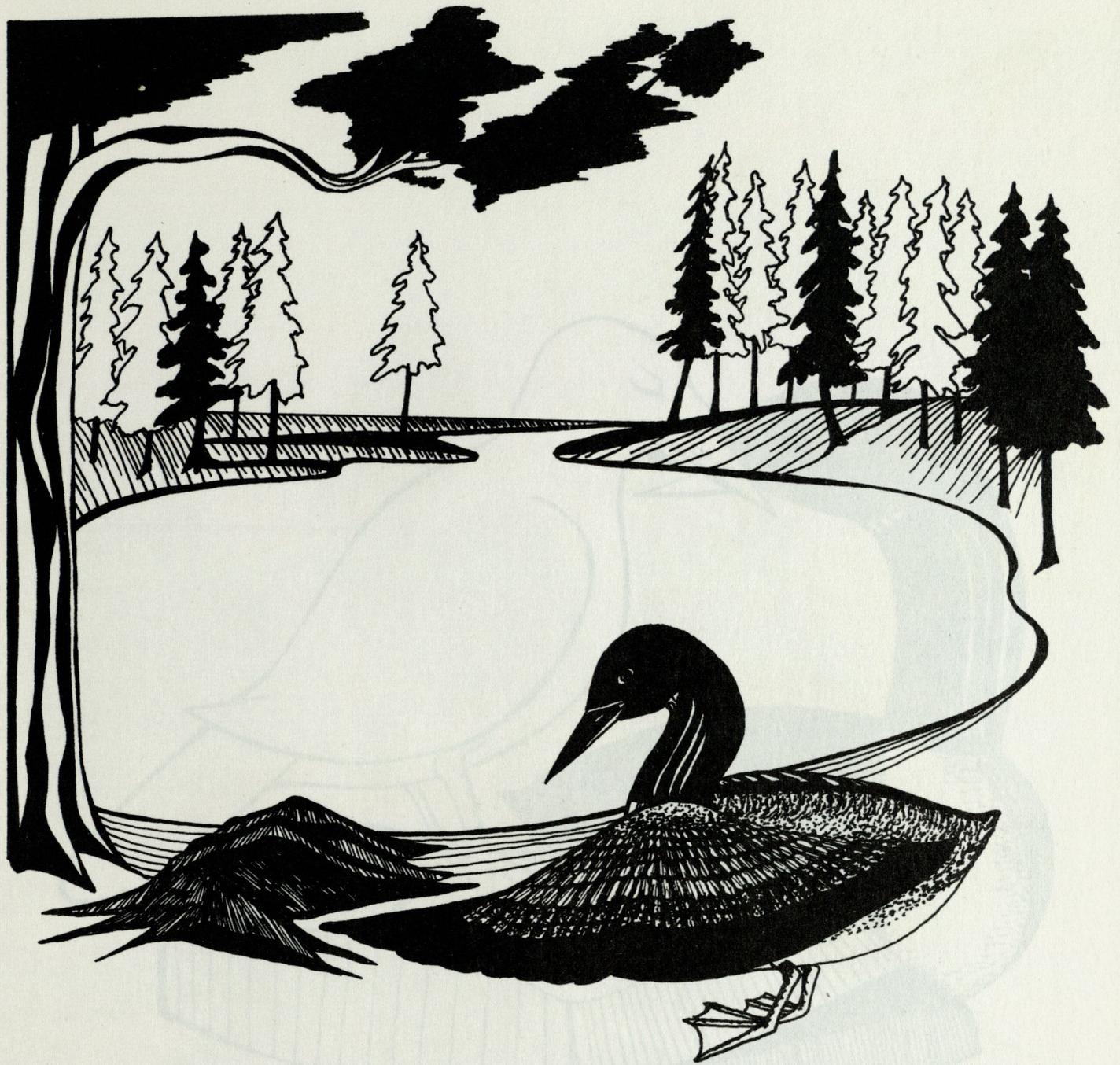
Geenaa ɗaj' tsiitsal najj datthak avee.  
Izhik ɗaj' daazhrajj gookhaikwe' niljj.  
Vitsyaa najj datthak gwijziij diigoochy'a'  
giidhan, ts'a' needagoorahahtsi' eenjit  
gwik'eegwandaii, gaa khyu' t'ii'in.



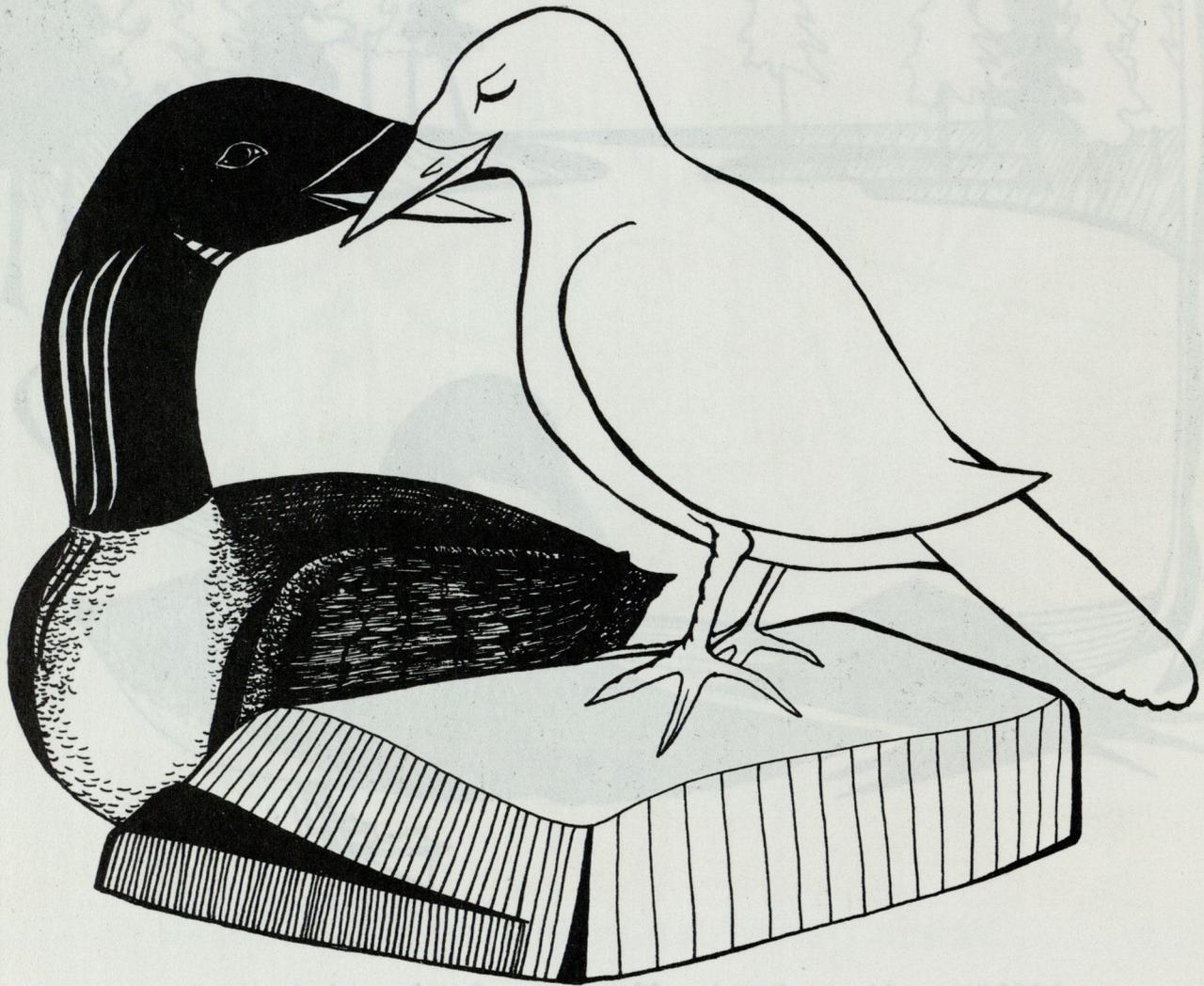
Gohch'it deetrya' "nan ni'in" agahnyaḗ,  
 aḗts'a' deetrya' "aḗḗ" nyaḗ ts'a'  
 yaa gwiheevan datthak khaihḗan niḗlii.  
 Aḗitḗ'ee datthak khaihḗan nagooviinlii,  
 ts'a' gwiḗziḗ goovaavan.



Daadzaii aii khaiinkoo' nat'aanaii akwat  
 deetrya' heevan goo'aii. Aii'ts'a' deetrya'  
 aii daadzaii eehidlaa niidhan ts'a'  
 yanaht'ii datthak gwaazhraii gwi'tsaii.



Ajitt'ee t'ee daadzajj chan deetraya' heevan  
goo'ajj, ts'a' adan t'ee gwiizuy vats'a'  
tr'agwaha'yaa yuunya ts'a' teeghain ch'uh  
goh'it nijlii.



Deetrya' "shats'a' geehiihahi," ahnyaḗ,  
"gwiizii nahaat'yaa eenjit." "Vaagwihfan  
nandee' t'ahenjyaa gwits'i' nahantr'al  
yuu," yahnyaḗ.



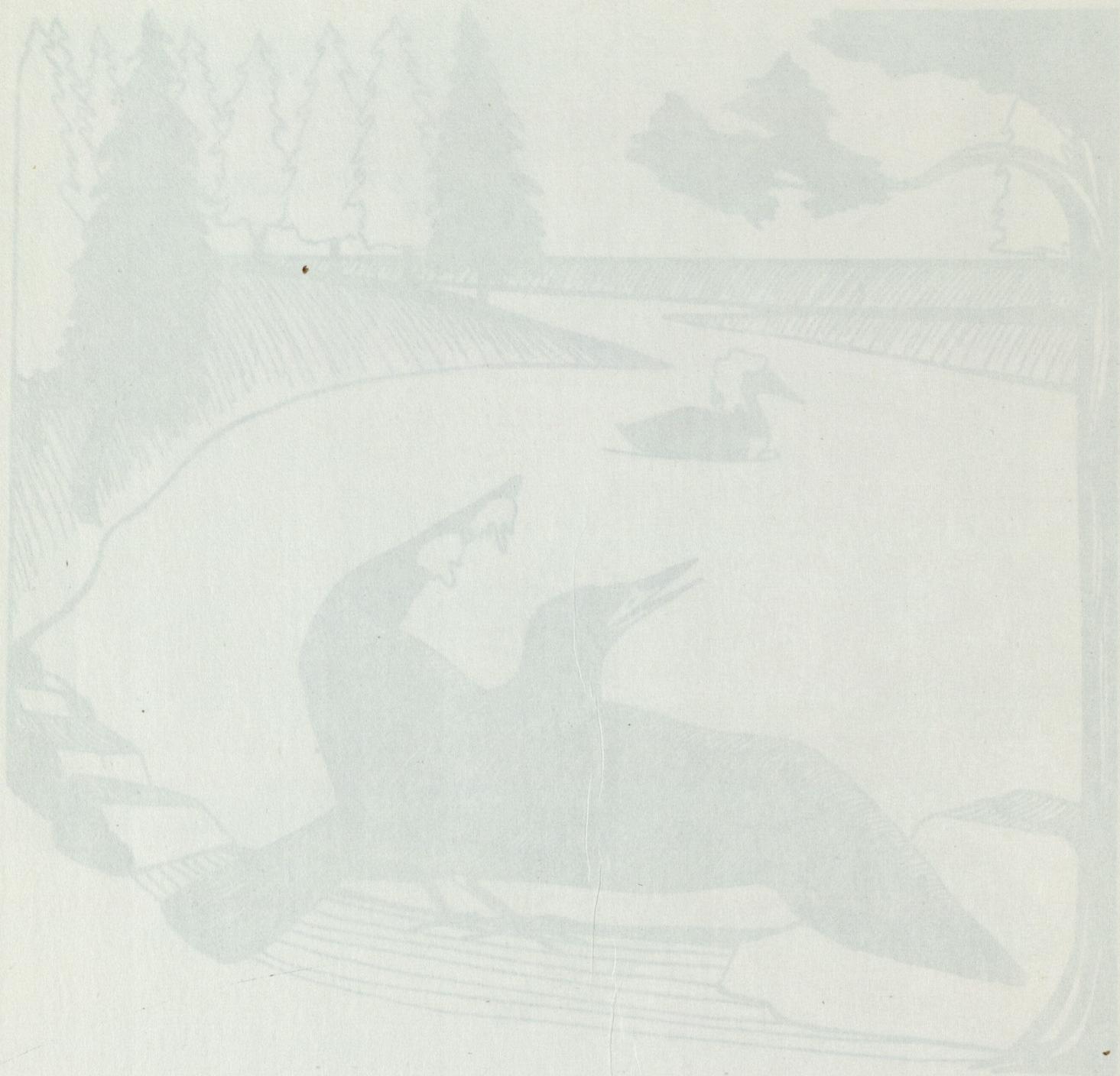
Ajits'a' deetya' gwik'it t'iizhik daj',  
daadzajj yihdi' ahtsit ts'a' vijyaa najj,  
chan yakwe' teegwitrat ts'a' ch'uh zhit  
t'ee giyahnajj.



Deetrya' khaneezhii dai', vik'ii goonlii,  
haa daadzaii kaiihootthaii gaa daadzaii  
gehdaa chuy, zhit yits'i' cheetthaii.



Daadzaii khaiikeetthaii dai', tr'ikhyit niyyit  
khaiikeetthaii ts'a' deetraya' tuh ch'ant'at  
haa yuuniinkit akhe' yitsihk'it nach'iinkit.  
Geh'an jok drin deetraya' datthak azhraii  
ts'a' daadzaii chan vanaht'ii k'iizhak gwaavee  
t'iinchy'aa.



Dadza! khalkethal dal, t'lkhyt nlyt  
khalkethal ts'a, beetya' tui ch'ant'  
ha yunlakti ahe' yllsk'it nach'inkit.  
Geh'an jok drin beetya' dathak zhray!  
ts'a' dadza! chan vanant'it k'izhak gwawee  
t'lnchy'sa.

## How the Crow Became Black

### Page No.

- 1 Long ago all the birds were the same color, - - all grey. At that time the swan was their chief. All of his followers wanted to be beautiful, so they asked him to have them all decorated. However, he couldn't find anyone to do the job.
- 2 Finally, they asked the crow to do it for them and he agreed. He set about preparing himself for the job. As all the birds were being painted, it was decided that the last one painted (the loon) would paint the crow.
- 3 While the crow was painting the loon, he decided to have some fun, so he smeared the loon's back all black.
- 4 Now it was the loon's turn to paint the crow, and he decided to have fun also, so he hid a pile of charcoal by the lake.
- 5 He then asked the crow to step closer to him so that he could see him better, and to close his eyes so as not to get any paint in them.
- 6 When the crow did as he was told, the loon grabbed him by the beak and his friends grabbed crow by the feet and they rolled him around in the charcoal until he was black.
- 7 When they let him go, he dove angrily for the loon, but the loon dove in the lake.
- 8 When the loon came up, he was too far out for the crow to do anything, so the crow picked up a handful of clay and threw it at the loon, which splattered on the back of the loon's head and down his back. That is why today the crow is all black and the loon has a grey head.

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