NATS'AHTS'A' DEETRYA' AZHRA'I DHIKLIT
NATS'ÂHTS'Â' DEETRYÂ' AZHRÂ'ÎÎ DHIKLIT
(How the Crow Became Black)

A Traditional Kutchin Story
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Geenaa daj' tsiitsal naji' datthak avee. Izhik daj' daazhraji' gookhaikwe' nili'. Vitsyaa naji' datthak gwii'zi'ii diigoochy'aj' gjidhan, ts'a' needagoorahahtsij' eenjij gwik'eegwandaii, gaa khyu' t'ii'in.
Gohch'it deetrya' "nan ni'in" agahnyaā,
aiits'ā deetrya' "āhā" nyāā ts'āā
yaa gwīheevan datthak khaīhlan nāllilī.
Aiītl'ee datthak khaīhlan nagooviinlii,
ts'ā' gwīzii goovaavan.
Daadžaŋi aŋi khaリンクー nat'aanąį akwat
deetryą' heevan goo'aii. Aįits'ą' deetryą'
ąį daadzaii eehindlaa nįdhan ts'ą'
yanaht'ii datthak gwaazhraįį gwiłtsąįi.
Ajitl'eet'ee daadzai chan deetrya' heevan
goo'ajii, ts'a' adan t'ee gwiiyuyu vats'a'
tr'agwahayaaa yuunyaa ts'a' teeghaili ch'uh
goh'it niilii.
Deetryą' "shats'ą' geehįįhài," ahnyąą, "gwįįiįį naaąął'yaą aąeenjįit." "Vaąagwįįhfiąn nändēę' t'ąhenjyaą gwįts'įį nąahąntr'ąl yuu," yahnyąąąą.
Aiits'a' deetrya' gwik'it t'iizhik daj', daadzajji yihdi' ahtsii ts'a' viyaa nii, chan yakwe' teegwilтрат ts'a' ch'uh zhit t'ee giiyahnajii.
Deetrya' khaneezhii daji', vik'ii goonlii, haa daadzaji kaihoottthaii gaa daadzaji, gehdaii chuuj zhiit yits'i cheetthaii.
Daadžájj khaiikeettháii daj', tr'ikhyit niiyit khaiikeettháii ts'a' deetrya' luh ch'ant'at haa yuuniinkit akhe' yitsihk'it nach'íjinkit.

Geh'an jok drín deetrya' datthak azhrajj ts'a' daadžájj chan vanaht'íi k'íizhak gwaavee t'iinchy'aa.
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.

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.

While the crow was painting the loon, he decided to have some fun, so he smeared the loon's back all black.

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.

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.

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.

When they let him go, he dove angrily for the loon, but the loon dove in the lake.

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.
How the Crow Became Black

Long ago all the birds were the same color - all gray. At that time the moon was their center. All of their followers wanted to be beautiful, so they asked him to save them as he did. He decided. However, he could not find anyone to do the job. Finally, they asked the crow to do it for them.

First, 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 punished, he was also. He decided to have some fun. He wanted to have some fun so he smeared the moon’s face with pitch. He asked the moon, who was the one painting the moon, to do some fun. He smeared the moon so he hid a pitch.

Then he asked the crow to step closer to him so that he could see him better and to close his eyes. When the crow did as he was told, the moon dropped him by the neck and its feathers spread. Crow by the moon fell and stood in the crag until he was pitch. When they let him go, he gave a growl for the moon. But the moon came up — the was too far out for the crow to go anything. So the crow picked on a gourd, covered itself with the moon’s depression of clay and threw it at the moon. Which splattered on the back of the moon’s head and down his back. Then is why today the crow is all pitch and the moon has a draw head.