

OLD BELIEFS



UA LIBRARIES



1003060627

QANGIRLLAT PICIT

QANGIRLLAT PICIT OLD BELIEFS

Written by
Feona Sawden and
Tupou L. Pulu

Alutiq Language Edited by
Jeff Lear
Alaska Native Language Center
University of Alaska
Fairbanks, Alaska

Illustrated by
J. Leslie Boffa

Produced by the
National Bilingual Materials Development Center
Rural Education
University of Alaska
2223 Spenard Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
Tupou L. Pulu, Ed.D., Director

This printing is being done pursuant to Federal Grant number
G007805056. It is reproduced in its present form for field
testing only. All rights are reserved. Although this publication
was prepared pursuant to grants from the U.S. Office of Edu-
cation, Office of Bilingual Education, no official endorsement
should be inferred.

INTRODUCTION

Every group of people has beliefs that are commonly shared by its members. The way the members within a particular group behave is largely governed by the beliefs they hold. Some of these beliefs have to do with physical phenomena and the reasons connected with explanations of their existence, or the way in which they function. Some beliefs pertain to matters that are sacred, and others deal with things that are spiritual. Very seldom are there beliefs held and passed on from generation to generation about things that are trivial in nature.

To understand people is to know and respect their beliefs. It is the purpose of this book to bring the interested student of the Sugpiaq culture to a greater understanding and appreciation of a few of the beliefs held by its people.

This Collection of old beliefs is far from being comprehensive. It is but a beginning. Hopefully, those who read it will be inspired to seek more information on the subject from the elders of the village of Port Graham.

Feona Sawden
Tupou L. Pulu

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Qallqanaam Qaterqaq Pilitniiya	2
Cami Anullartat Wamqutat	6
Nunallaq Arrulaa'igmi	10
Kiuryat Malirqa'ilalriit	14
Nallun'enguq Yartuliq	18
NaniIngunkuk Iciwallaq-Ilu All'utek	22
Luuskaankuk Wiilkaa-Ilu Agngualriik	26
Nupallkianguasaaq Nupugneni-Ilu	30
Saq Taumi Es'aq	34
Ciknaq	38
Ililirluki Cuqllici	42
Qenan	46
Ilakuineq	50
Ar'ut	54
Kallaget Unugmi	58

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Magpie's White Apron	4
When to Take Toys Out	8
Caveman of Portlock	12
Northern Lights That Run After You	16
The Wise Owl	20
February and March Fight	24
The Spoon and Fork Danced	28
The Little Boy and His Words	32
Sleeping and Waking Up	36
Jealousy	40
Helping the Elders	44
Sickness	48
Sharing	52
Whales	56
Noises in the Dark	60

QANGIRLLAT PICIT OLD BELIEFS

Qallqanaam Qaterqaq Pilitniiya

Magpie's White Apron

Qallqanaam Qaterqaq Pilitniiya

All'ingumek ellaumalraa qallqanaaq.
Una qallqanaaq iqaryuumirkunani.
Iqaurquesuumirkunani.
Qaterluni ggaatii.
Ggaateni pilitniiklluku.
Pingakegkunaku iqalraa pilitniik.
Kiagmi nunagpet pingluni iqallugnek.
Nunagpet taumi iqarluku.
Iqallut arinarlluki.
Qallqanaam pingakegkunaku arinaq.
Pingakegkunaku iqaq.
Iqaryuumirkunani.
Tengluni ing'inun.
Ell'uni paagani piturluni alagnanek.
Piturluni atsanek taumi alagnanek.
Uksumi, nunagpet amlerqamek aniuluni.
Nunagpet awa perrilluni.
Qallqanaaq kipulluni nunamtehnun.
Pilitniini iqarqegkunaku.
Pilitniiya perrilluni.



Magpie's White Apron

Once upon a time there lived a magpie.
This magpie did not like to be dirty.
It did not like to get itself dirty.
It had a white chest.
This was its white apron.
It did not like a dirty white apron.
In the summer, the village got lots of fish.
The village got dirty.
The fish smelled stinky.
The magpie did not like the smell.
It did not like the dirt.
It did not like to get itself dirty.
It flew away to the mountains.
It stayed up there eating berries.
It ate blueberries, and salmon berries.
In winter, the village got lots of snow.
The village got clean.
The magpie came back to the village.
It did not get its white apron dirty.
Its white apron would stay clean.

Cami Anullartat Wamqutat

When to Take Toys Out

Cami Anullartat Wamqutat

Pinggertukut qangirllanek picinek.
 Cuqllimta litnauqiikut.
 All'inguq una piciq wamqutat.
 Litnauqiikut mikllemtehni
 Litnauqluta qaku anuciiqat wamqutat.
 Piluta utaqasqelluki temngiat.
 Awa temngiat qulaiqata nunamtehni, wamluta.
 Anulluki wamqutapet.
 Arnat caya'aruarluteng.
 Anulluki sungateng.
 Nupallkiat anulluki skuunateng.
 Anulluki mayaciiteng.
 Anulluki wamqutat.
 Wamluta llaami.
 Temngiat tengkata waakermen, wamqutapet itrulluki.
 Awa anuhmigkunaki wamqutapet.



When to Take Toys Out

We have many old beliefs.
Our old people taught us these beliefs.
One of these beliefs is about toys.
They taught us when we were young.
They taught us when to take out our toys.
They told us to wait until the geese return.
After the geese flew over our village, we could play.
We could take out our toys.
The girls could play house.
They could take out their dolls.
The boys could take out their boats.
They could take out their balls.
We could take out our toys.
We could play outside.
When the geese flew south, we took our toys in.
We did not take our toys out again.

Nunallaq Arrulaa'igmi Caveman of Portlock

Nunallaq Arrulaa'igmi

Nunallaq et'uq Arrulaa'igmi.
Nunallaq tak'uq.
Nunallaq nuyaraa.
Nunallaq sugpia'ulartuq.
Ecuuminirluni sug'et akuliitni.
Nat'en agluni ec'aturluni nunami.
Atakuuraa'aqu atkui urluteng.
Tawaten culungelraa.
Kam'uk urlutek.
Tawaten it'gak anglilutek.
Kinaq tangerkunaku.
Kinaq nupu'utegkunaku.
Aguurluku nupughneq.
Nupuglluni sukumia'aluni.
Tangerciqaaten cuunguuluni.
Cakniniitaaten.
Et'uq tan'erlicestun.
Misaa'iquu kiimi misaa'irciqaaten.
Taugna quliyanguaq nunallaq Arrulaa'igmi.



Caveman of Portlock

There is a caveman in Portlock.
The caveman is tall.
The caveman is hairy.
The caveman is a real person.
He didn't want to live with people.
He went to live in the forest.
Soon his clothes were worn out.
So his body became hairy.
Soon his shoes were worn out.
So his feet became big.
He did not see anyone.
He did not talk with anyone.
Soon he forgot how to talk.
He talked by whistling.
He can see you before you see him.
He will not harm you.
He is like a big bear.
If you bother him, he will bother you.
This is the story of the caveman of Portlock.

Kiuryat Malirqa'ilalriit Northern Lights That Run After You

Kiuryat Malirqa'ilalriit

Mal'ugnek ayuqenengugnek kiuryangqertuq.
All'inguq tangerhnirlartuq melkiilluni.
Kiikia amirlucestun ell'uni.
Tunginarluni.
Tunginarqam kiuryam malirqarlarai arnat.
Malirqarlarai arnat arnacestun elnguut.
Arnat qecengluteng ilutmen.
Tuuluku Iliipaq enem iluani.
Tunginarqam kiuryam alikllaraa Iliipaq.
Malirqarniitai arnat tuukatgu Iliipaq.



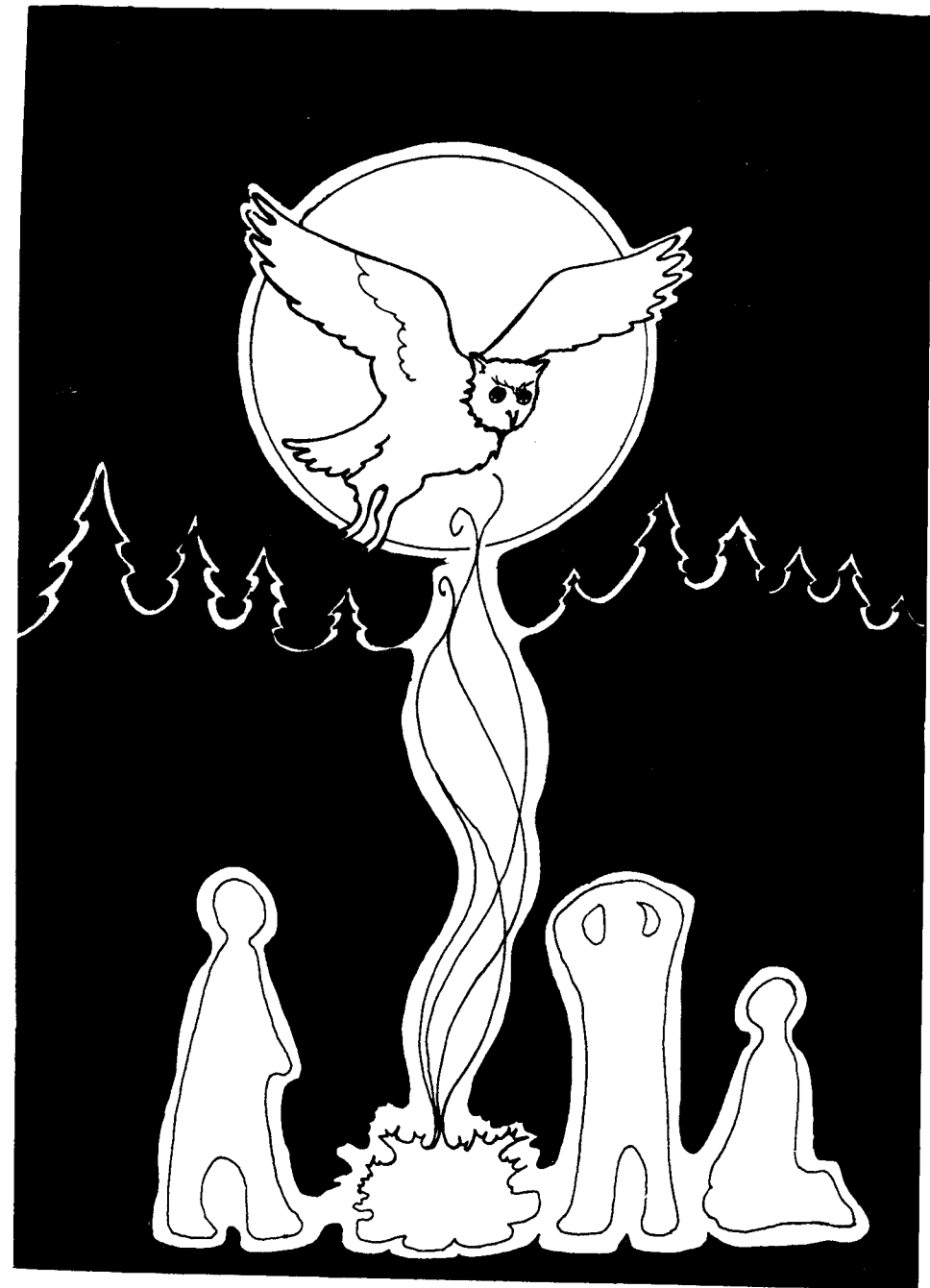
Northern Lights That Run After You

There are two types of northern lights.
One kind of northern lights is pretty and quiet.
The other kind is like a cloud.
They are noisy.
The noisy northern lights chase girls.
They chase girls who are having their period.
The girls must run inside the house.
They must hold a loaf of bread inside the house.
The northern lights are afraid of the bread.
They will not chase the girls when they hold the bread.

Nallun'enguq Yartuliq The Wise Owl

Nallun'enguq Yartuliq

Nunamen qawartaryaquut, niiciiqaq yartuliq nupugtella.
All'ingumek nupallkiat nunamen qawartaryaumalriit.
Unugmi, all'ingum nupallkiam niicimaluku yartuliq.
Niilluku yartuliq pitaarluni, "Tawitaa tuquuq."
Tawitaa tuquuq."
Taug'um nupallkiam es'arlluki kiikini nupallkiat.
Pimaluki, "Niicugnici.
Niicugniciu yartuliq," piluni.
Nangluteng makpagtat.
Niicugniliuku yartuliq.
Atakuuraa'aqu niipagtatgu yartuliq.
Yartuliq piluni, "Tawitaa tuquuq."
All'inguq nupallkiaq piluni, "Yartuliq nallun'etuq."
Ggwall'u kipuskumta.
Awa cacateng aurluki.
Kipupagtat nunamegtehnun.
Niilluku Tawitaa tuqumaluni.



The Wise Owl

When you go camping, you can hear the owls talk.
One time some men went camping.
During the night, one of the men heard an owl.
He heard the owl saying, "David is dead. David is dead."
The man woke the other men.
He told them to listen.
"Listen to the owl," he said.
They all got up.
They listened to the owl.
Soon they heard the owl.
The owl said, "David is dead."
One of the men said, "The owl is wise.
We should go home."
So they picked up their belongings.
They went home.
They found out David was dead.

Nanilngunkuk Iciwallaq-Ilu All'utek

February and March Fight

Nanilngunkuk Iciwallaq-llu All'utek

Nanilngunkuk Iciwallaq-llu tanqiu'uk.
Taugkuk aqllallartuk tanqik.
Nanilngum piluku Iciwallaq, "Ggwii angli aqllallartua."
Iciwallam piluku Nanilnguq, "Ggwii angli aqllallartua."
Nanilngum piluku Iciwallaq, "Ggwii cipluten tuknigtua."
Iciwallam piluku Nanilnguq, "Ggwii cipluten tuknigtua."
Allnguarlutek.
Ay'uriullutek.
Nanilnguq qakgwa'iyuumirluni.
Iciwallaq qakgwa'iyuumirluni.
Nanilnguq aqllatekcagluni.
Iciwallaq aqllatekcagluni.
Cali alltuarlartuk nutaan.
Tawaten aqllallartuq Nanilngurmi taumi Iciwallarmi.



February and March Fight

February and March are months.
They are stormy months.
February said to March, "I have the stormiest weather."
March said to February, "I have the stormiest weather."
February said to March, "I am stronger than you."
March said to February, "I am stronger than you."
They fought with each other.
They argued with each other.
February wanted to win.
March wanted to win.
February made very bad weather.
March made very bad weather.
They still fight to this day.
That is why we have bad weather in February and March.

Luuskaankuk Wiilkaa-q-lu Agngualriik

The Spoon and Fork Danced

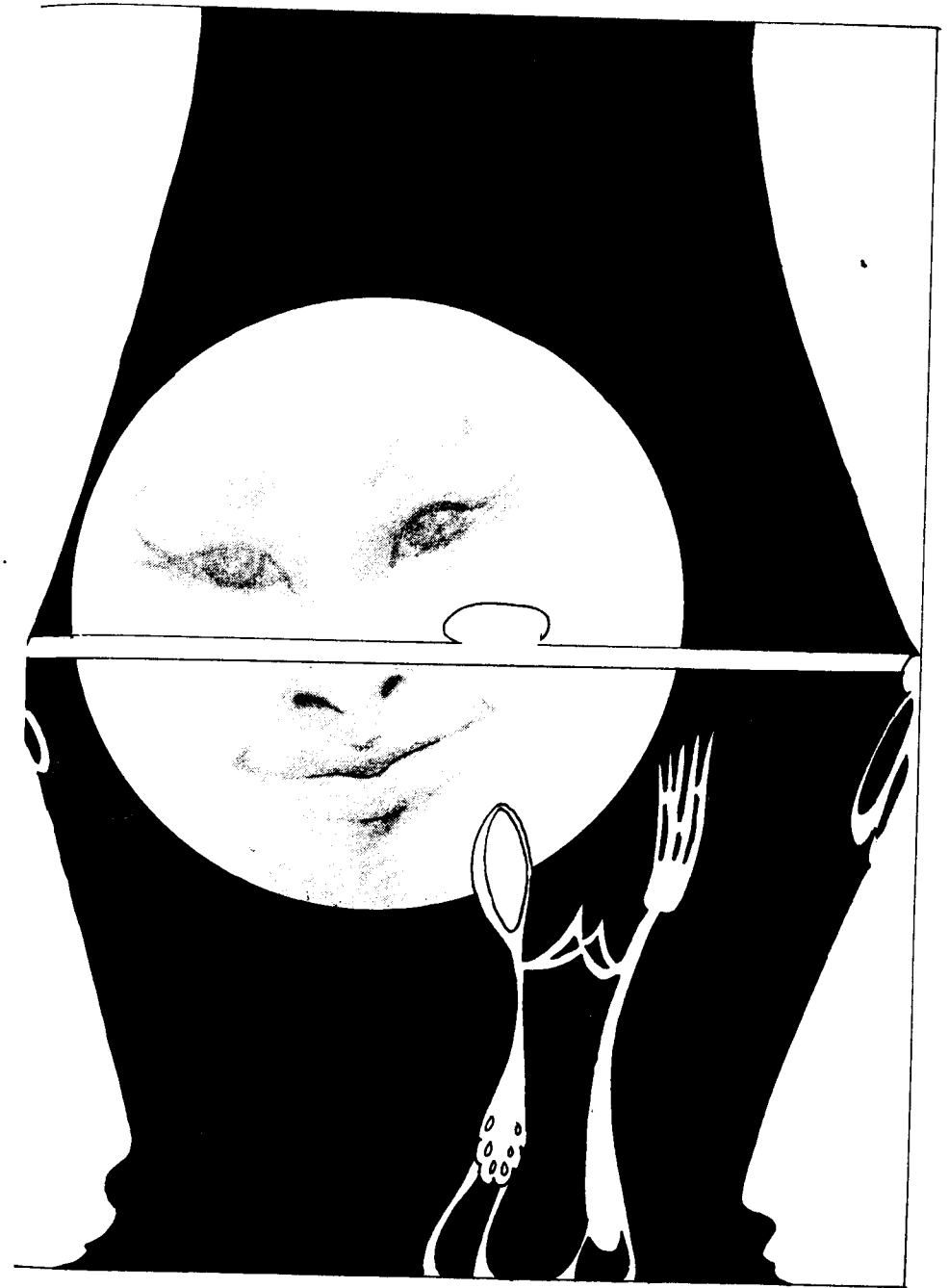
Luuskaankuk Wiilkaa-llu Agngualriik

Emaaqa calilalraa amlerqanek.
 Cakuni nunanirceslluku.
 All'ingumek nuuqegkiikut.
 Piwagtakut, "Luuskaamen agngua'uceshnaya'aqa
 wiilkaa."

"Qaa'a em'a? Tawaternayartuten-qaa?" apqarpagcesta.
 Kiuwagtakut, "Aa'a. Tawaterceslla'anka."
 "Qaku piciqaten, Em'a?" apqarpagcesta.
 Kiuwagtakut, "Akguuwaqu."

Unugngan, aqumwagcesta canianun emaam.
 Aqumluta canianun emaam stuulumi.
 Kumailuni stuulumi.
 Kiimi tanqik akirluni ilumi.
 Tanqik akirluni stuulumen.

Emaa aqumwagta tuuluku luuskaa taumi wiilkaa.
 Piwagtakut, "Ici cikmirtaarciki.
 Cikmirtaarciki cukanguaqiina.
 Cikmirtaarpagcesta iipet cukanguaqiina.
 Atakuuraa'aqu luuskaa taumi wiilkaa agnguarpagtak.
 Agnguarlutek imta cuungatni.



The Spoon and Fork Danced

My grandma did many things.
Many of the things she did were fun.
One time she called us.
She said to us, "I can make the spoon dance
with the fork."
"Really, Grandma? Can you do that?" we asked her.
She answered, "Yes. I can do that."
"When can you do it, Grandma?" we asked her.
She answered, "I'll do it tonight."
When night came, we all sat by Grandma.
We sat by Grandma at the table.
There was no light at the table.
Only the moon was shining into the room.
The moonlight came in on to the table.
Grandma sat holding the spoon and the fork.
She said to us, "Now blink your eyes.
Blink them really fast."
We blinked our eyes very fast.
Soon the spoon and the fork danced.
They danced before our eyes.

Nupallkianguasaaq Nupugneni-Ilu

The Little Boy and His Words

Nupallkianguasaaq Nupugneni-Ilu

Qangikcak ellaumalraa nupallkianguasaaq.
All'ingmek waamumaluni Ilaami.
Pimaluni, "Kita-am kiagli.
Uksuqiartua."
Mulun'etuq awa, qanirpagta.
Qanirpagta angli.
Qaniq nagtekgunani.
Angutem catkumaluku aniuq.
Apqarluki, "Cin-Ilu qanirpagta?"
Awa ellpekgwagtaa'u.
Piluni, "Ggwall'u uyguillraraat nupugtellrumuut Ilaami."
Qayaguurpagtaki uyguillraraat.
Piwagtaki, "Taici ciqlluamen.
Quliruucia kinaq nupugtellraa Ilaami."
Kinaq quliyarkunani.
"Quliruucia nutaan," piwagtaki.
Quliruutenellkugcia, cingciqamci ukinerkun.
Cingciqamci yuulaq aturluku ukinerkun.
Nupallkianguasaaq ellminek quliyarpagta,
"Ggwii-nupugtellraanga Ilaami."
Angutem kum'upagtaa'u.
Kum'ulluku kayagnarqamek pekceslluku.
Nupallkianguasaaq pekluni usuwanarqami.
Tawani pekluni maqa'inatii Ilaami.



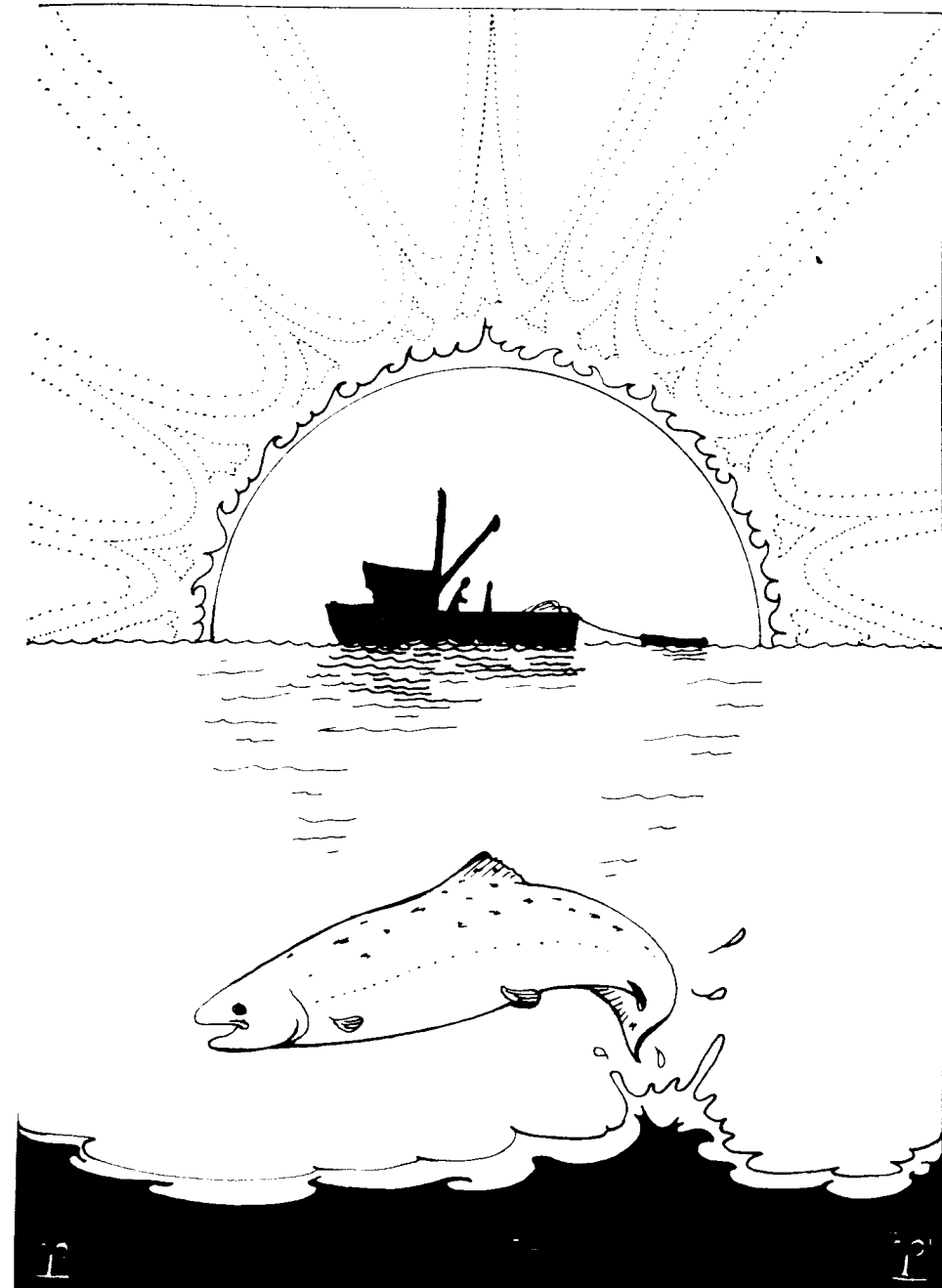
The Little Boy and His Words

Long ago, there lived a little boy.
One day, he played outside.
He said, "I wish it was summer.
I am tired of winter."
Shortly afterwards, it snowed.
It snowed a lot.
The snow did not stop.
One old man wondered about the snow.
He questioned, "Why is all this snow falling?"
Then he guessed the answer.
He said, "Maybe one of the kids said something outside.
He called all the kids.
He said to them, "Come to the barabara.
Tell me who spoke outside."
No one told him anything.
"Tell me the truth now," he said to them.
"If you don't, I will push you through the hole.
I will push you with a branch through the hole."
The little boy finally admitted, "I spoke outside."
The old man punished him.
He punished him with hard work.
The little boy worked in a cold place.
He worked there until it was warm outside.

Saq Taumi Es'aq Sleeping and Waking Up

Saq Taumi Es'aq

Nangluteng sug'et saakau'ut.
Nangluteng sug'et pektekau'ut.
Saaluten enrian akguuwarmi.
Maklluten enrian unuami.
Tawaten tuknigciquten.
Tawaten pakigciqan pektaan.
Tawaten cutmen ag'ciquq pektaan.
Tawaten cutmen ag'ciquq luumacin.
Nunanirlartuq pekneq enrian.
Nunanirlartuq pektaangqerhneq.



Sleeping and Waking Up

Everyone needs sleep.
Everyone needs work.
Sleep early in the evening.
Rise early in the morning.
You will have lots of energy.
You will have time to work.
You will get ahead with your work.
You will get ahead in life.
It is fun to start work early.
It is fun to have work to do.
It is fun to have lots of sleep, too.

Ciknaq Jealousy

Ciknaq

Ciknaq asiituaq.
Ciknam sug'et nunaniicesllarai.
Ciknam sug'et umiarteqegkwarlarai.
Ciknam sug'et pingakucesllan'etai.
Ilaik sug'et pekcesllan'etai.
Ilaik sug'et canaryunircesllarai.
Ipitekauwapet allat pektellriit.
Ipitekauwapet cutmen agelriit.
Ipitekauwapet cacangelriit.
Ciknakegkaun'etapet allat sug'et.
Ciknaq asiituaq.



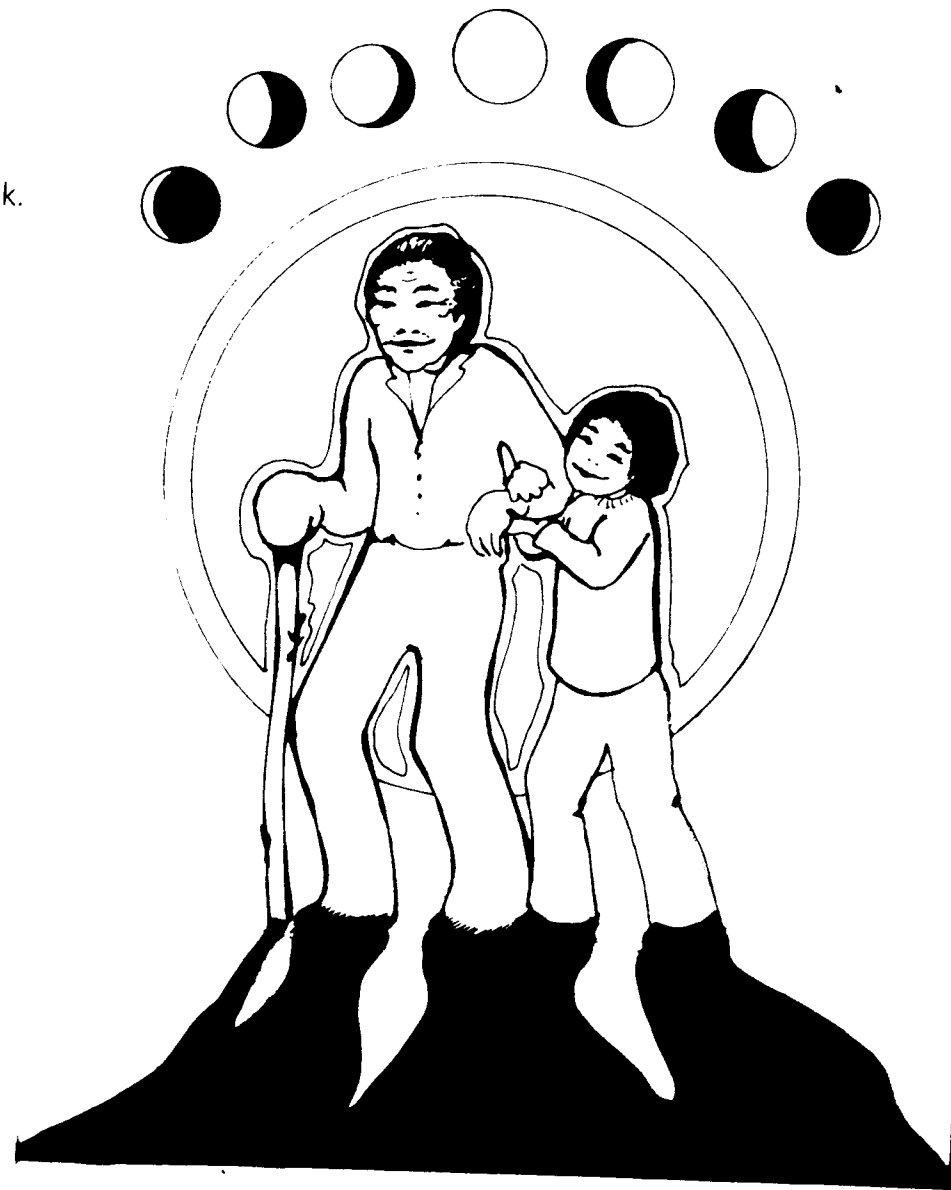
Jealousy

Jealousy is not a good thing.
Jealousy makes people unhappy.
Jealousy makes people worry.
Jealousy makes people hate.
It makes some people stop working.
It makes some people stop caring.
We should be happy to see others work.
We should be happy to see others get ahead.
We should be happy to see others get goods.
We should not be jealous of other people.
Jealousy is not good for anyone.

İlirluki Cuqlıci Helping the Elders

Ililirluki Cuqllici

Taatamta taumi maamamta litnaugiikut amlerqanek.
Litnaurluta asiuceqlluki cuqllipet.
Litnaurluta ililiisqelluki cuqllipet.
Piluta, "Ililirluki cuqllici."
Guyakeciqaaci.
Guyakata nakerciquten.
Amkellan'eciki.
Nupugnerata nakriacesiiqaci.
Asiulluki.
Tawaten pikuut, kayagniurniniituten.
Picin nunanirciquq.



Helping the Elders

Our Dad and Mom taught us many things.
They taught us to respect our elders.
They taught us to help our elders.
They said to us, "Help the older people.
They will be grateful to you.
Their gratitude is luck for you.
Do not show them disrespect.
Their unkind words will curse you.
Show them respect.
If you do this, you will not suffer.
Your life will be a happy one."

Qenan Sickness

Qenan

Qenataicuumirlartukut.
Qenayuumirlan'etukut.
Caaqami asi'ilartuq qenategpet enrian.
Caaqami asi'ilartuq qenategpet cukailluni.
Caaqameng sug'et qenalartut cilla.
Asiutekauwapet qenalriit sug'et.
Nupugyautekaun'etapet asiilngurnek.
Cami ggwall'u tawaterpiaq qenaciqukut.
Nallu'ukut cacamek pingciqcesta qenatmek.
Asiutekauwapet cilla qenalriit.
Ggwall'u qenakumta, naliita sug'et asiuciiqaakut.



Sickness

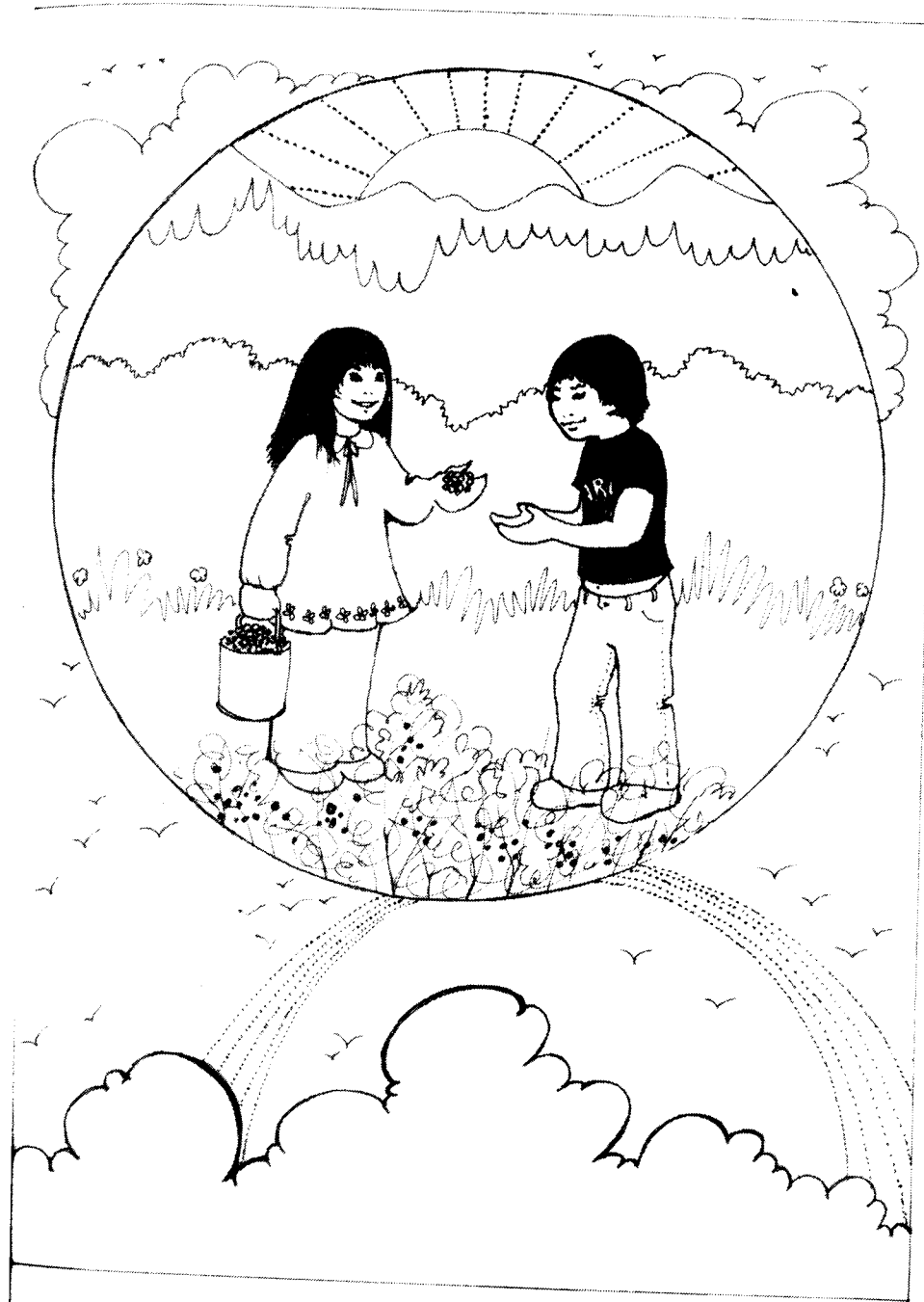
We like to be healthy.
We do not like to be sick.
Sometimes we get over our sickness quickly.
Sometimes we get over our sickness slowly.
Sometimes some people are sick all the time.
We should be kind to sick people.
We should not say unkind things to them.
Sometimes we may have the same sickness.
We do not know what sickness we might get.
We should always be kind to sick people.
When we are sick, some people may be kind to us.

Ilakuinèq

Sharing

Ilakuineq

Ilakuineq asirtuq.
Ilakuiluten cacarpenek.
Qangikcak ilakuilalriit qaigyamek.
Qangikcak ilakuilalriit tan'erlimek.
Ilakuiluteng cacamek nurnarqamek.
Ilakuiluteng cacamek asirqamek.
Qunutarkunateng.
Ilakuineq ipinaklluku.
Kinaq minaqatni ipiluni.
Mina'ilraa ipiluni.
Nakerluten mina'ikuut.
Pingluten angli ilakuikuut.



Sharing

Sharing is a good thing.
Share what you have.
Long ago they shared seal meat.
Long ago they shared bear meat.
They shared things that were rare.
They shared things that were precious.
They were not stingy.
Sharing made them happy.
The people who received were happy.
The people who gave were happy.
You increase your luck if you share.
You will get more if you share.

Ar'ut

Whales

Ar'ut

Iciwaqata'aqan nunanirlartuq.
Amlerqat cacat ketgwarlartut iciwaqata'aqan.
Saqulenguasagaat ungluluteng.
Tailuteng amlerlluteng.
Saqrit nitneruluteng qaillun atuun.
Iqallut llug'akaat tailartut taumi.
Iqallut maliglluki iqalluarpat tailartut.
Iqalluarpat taumi imaam unguwalraa'in maliglluki.
Ilaita unguwalraat Paluwigmen iterlartut.
Wamlartut imarmi.
Tangerlla'apet qaigyat taumi ikamyat.
Caaqameng ar'unguasagaat iterlartut.
Tamaakut asirlartut.
Caaqameng-ggem ar'ukciit iterlartut.
Tamaakut asiillartut.
Itellruwaqata qenaq'erraalartukut.
Sug'et-ggem tangernikllarait ar'ukciit.
Tangernikllarait meq supsa'aqan nasquatgun.
Ningillkirlartut.
Sug'et-ggem alikllarait.
Aliklluki sug'et qenanuur'uklluk.



Whales

Early spring is an exciting time.
Many things happen in early spring.
The birds return to nest.
They come in flocks.
Their wings make music in the air.
Fish such as king salmon start to come, too.
Along with the salmon come the herrings.
Following the herrings are some sea mammals.
Some of the sea mammals come into Port Graham.
They frolick around in the water.
We can see many seals and sea otters.
Sometimes small whales come into our bay, too.
The small whales are fine.
Sometimes, however, big whales come into our bay.
This is a bad sign.
It means a flu epidemic is coming.
The people enjoy watching the big whales.
They love to see them spouting water into the air.
They are very playful.
The people, however, are still afraid of them.
They are afraid the whale will make them sick.

Kallaget Unugmi

Noises in the Dark

Kallaget Unugmi

Naliit kallat cacaulanetut.
Naliit kallat quliruullaraaten.
Tamaakut picuulartut unugmi.
Mellkiitekau'uten niicuumiqugki kallagqilriit.
Alairlartut qula mal'ugnek kauwaqaku qaillun kinaq
tukalraa.
Pilartut tuqunet ilangkutartut.
Kinaq tuqukutartuq.
Cakuut niilluku kinaq egqaqiluni.
Taug'um quliruulluten kinaq tuqukutartuq.
Cakuut niilluku kinaq kaggwalraa.
Taug'um quliruulluten kinaq tuqukutartuq.
Mellkiitekau'uten niicuumiqugki kallagqilriit.
Niihniniitaten kallagqilriit kallagtukuut.
Kallagqilriit kiimi niiciiqaaten unugmi nitherulan'etut
ernermi.
Niicugniluten taumi niiciiqaaten.
Quliruuciiqaaten kinaq tuqukutaqan.
Tamaakut kallat quliruuciiqaaten kinaq
tamaakerlliinaq tuqukutaqan.



Noises in the Dark

Some noises do not mean anything.
Some noises mean something.
This is especially true of noises in the dark.
You must be very quiet to hear them.
They come close to midnight.
They sound like someone kicking something.
That means the dead people in the graveyard
are expecting someone.
That means someone is going to die soon.
Sometimes you hear someone throwing things
around.
That also means someone is going to die soon.
Sometimes you hear something stirring in the dark.
That also means someone is going to die soon.
You must be very quiet to hear the noises.
You cannot hear the noises if you are noisy.
The noises can only be heard at night.
They cannot be heard in the light of day.
So listen carefully and you will be able to hear them.
They will tell you when someone is going to die soon.
The noises tell mostly about unexpected death.



National Bilingual Materials Development Center