

The Great Flood

The Indian Reading Series



THE INDIAN READING SERIES: Stories and Legends of the Northwest is a collection of authentic material cooperatively developed by Indian people from twelve reservations. Development activities are guided by a Policy Board which represents the Indian community of the Pacific Northwest. The Pacific Northwest Indian Reading and Language Development Program Policy Board members are:

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THE INDIAN READING SERIES:
Stories and Legends of the Northwest

The Great Flood

Level II Book 9

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A Skokomish Legend

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Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory

**Developed by the Pacific Northwest Indian Reading and Language Development Program
Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory, 710 Southwest Second Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97204**

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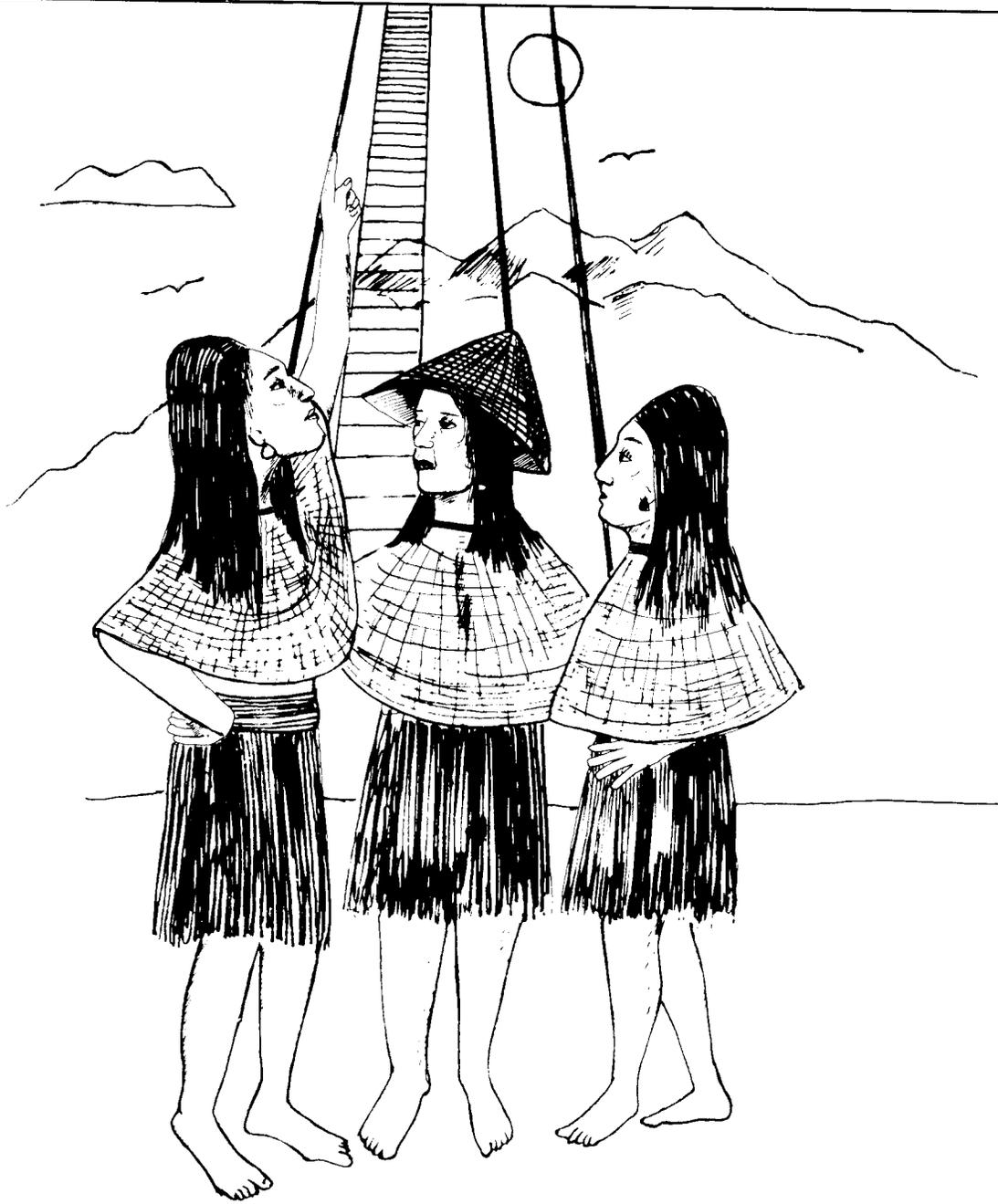
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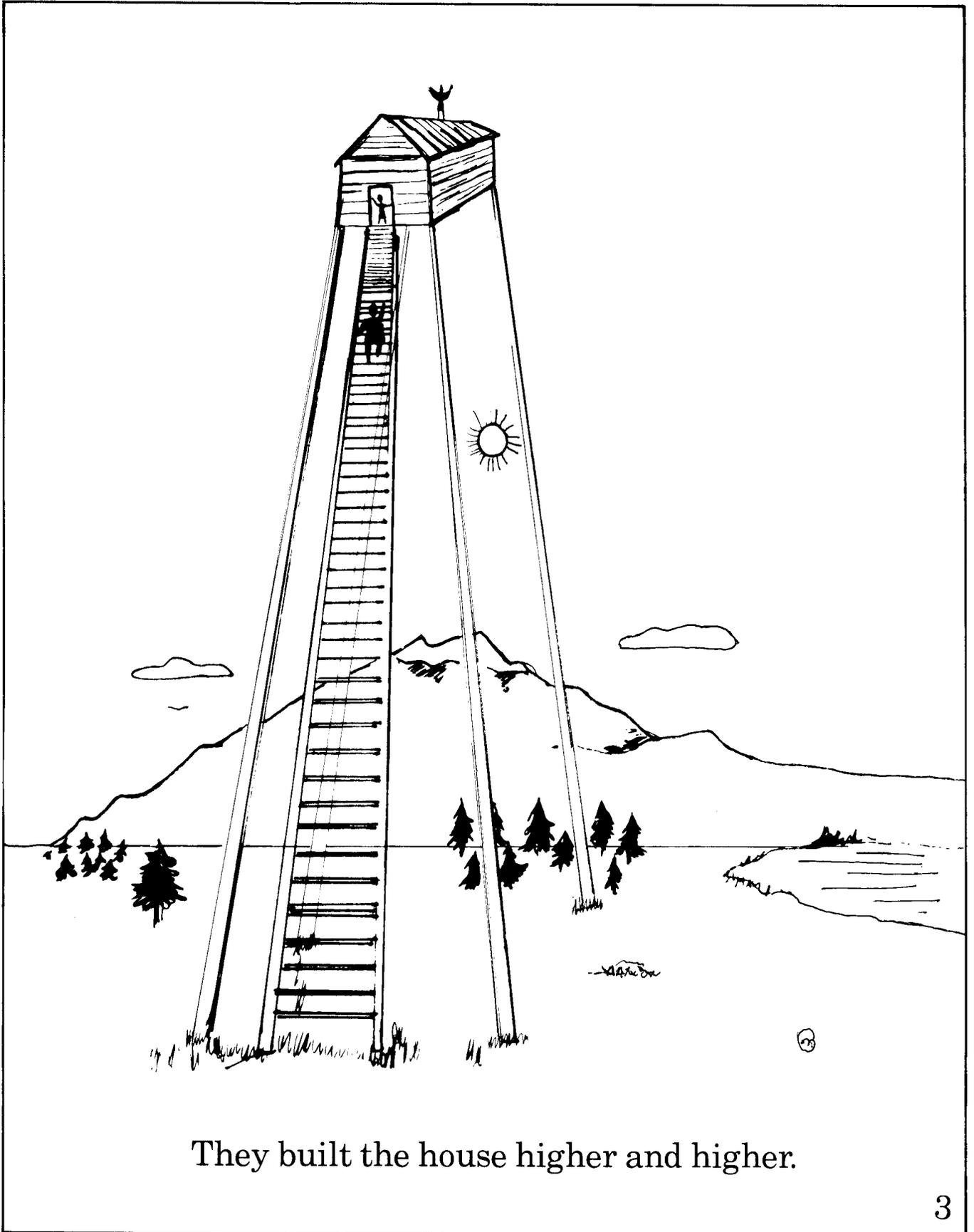
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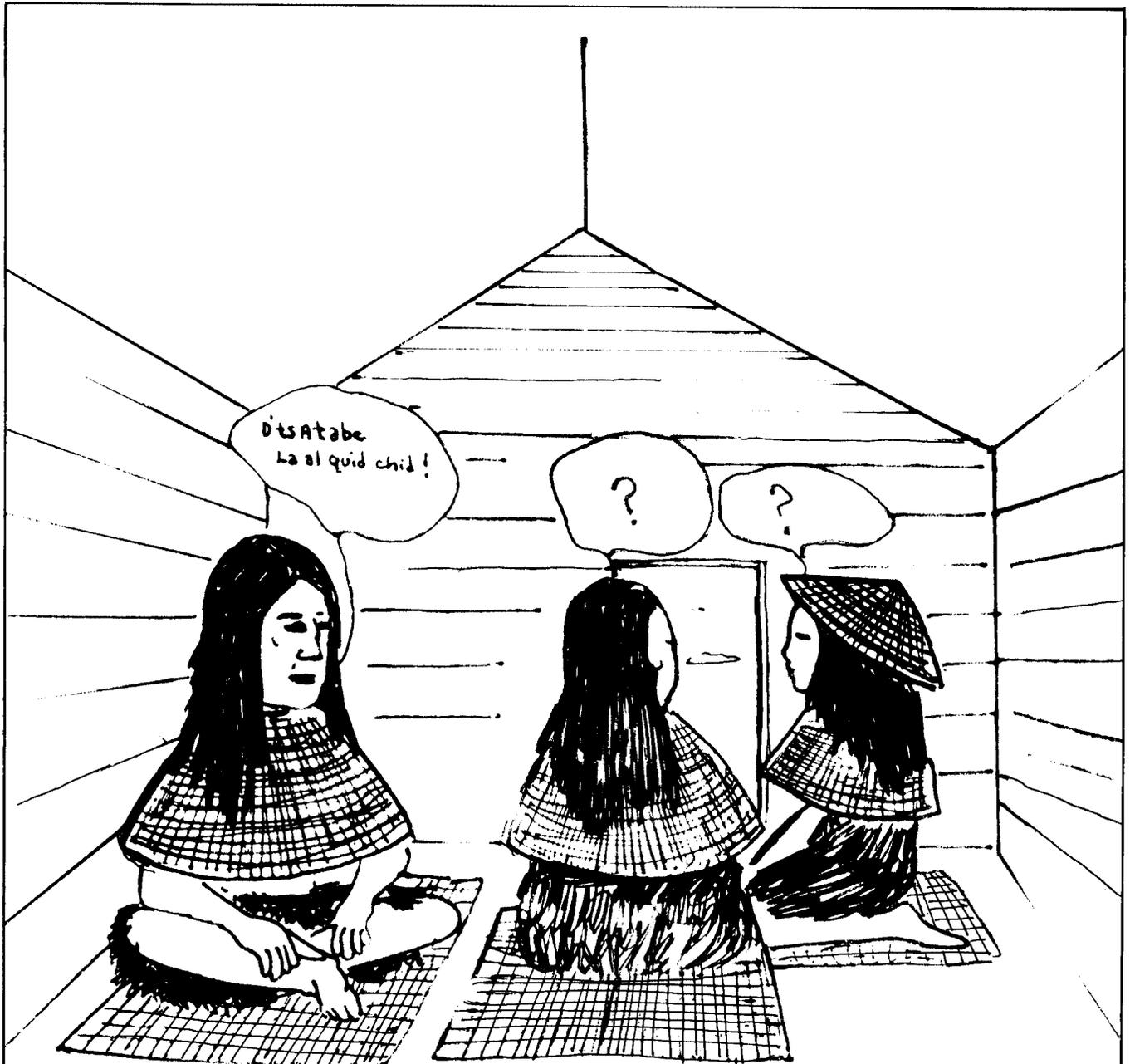
An old Skokomish lady says the great flood came
because some of the people were bad.



Among those bad people were sisters
who desired something they shouldn't.
They wanted to see the Changer.
The three sisters built a very high house.
They made it tall so they could reach the sky.



They built the house higher and higher.



By the time the house was finished,
the three sisters could not speak
the same language.

They could not understand each other.

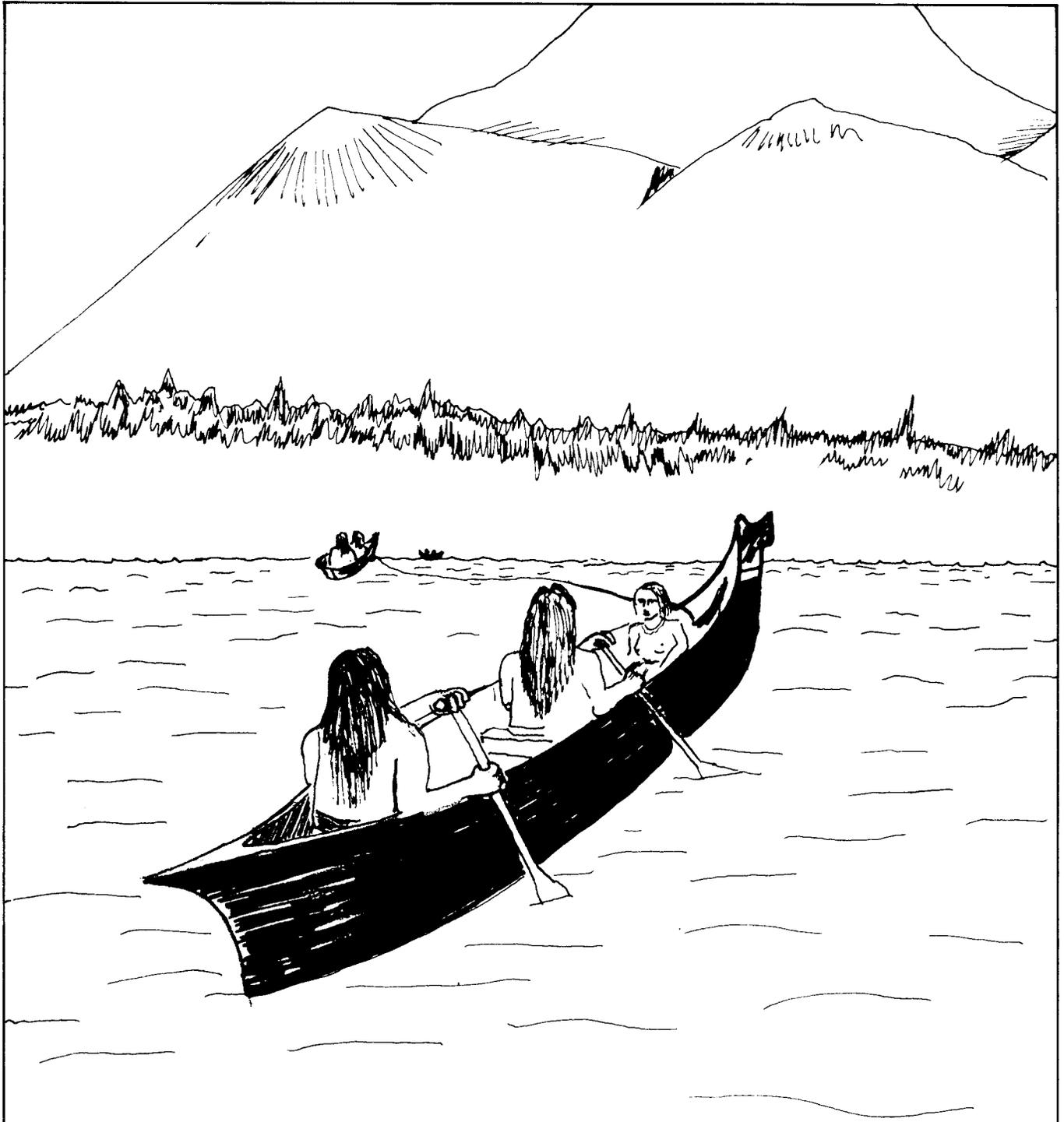
This is why there are so many different languages today.



When the great flood came,
the three sisters drifted away.
But the good people were told
how to prepare for the flood.

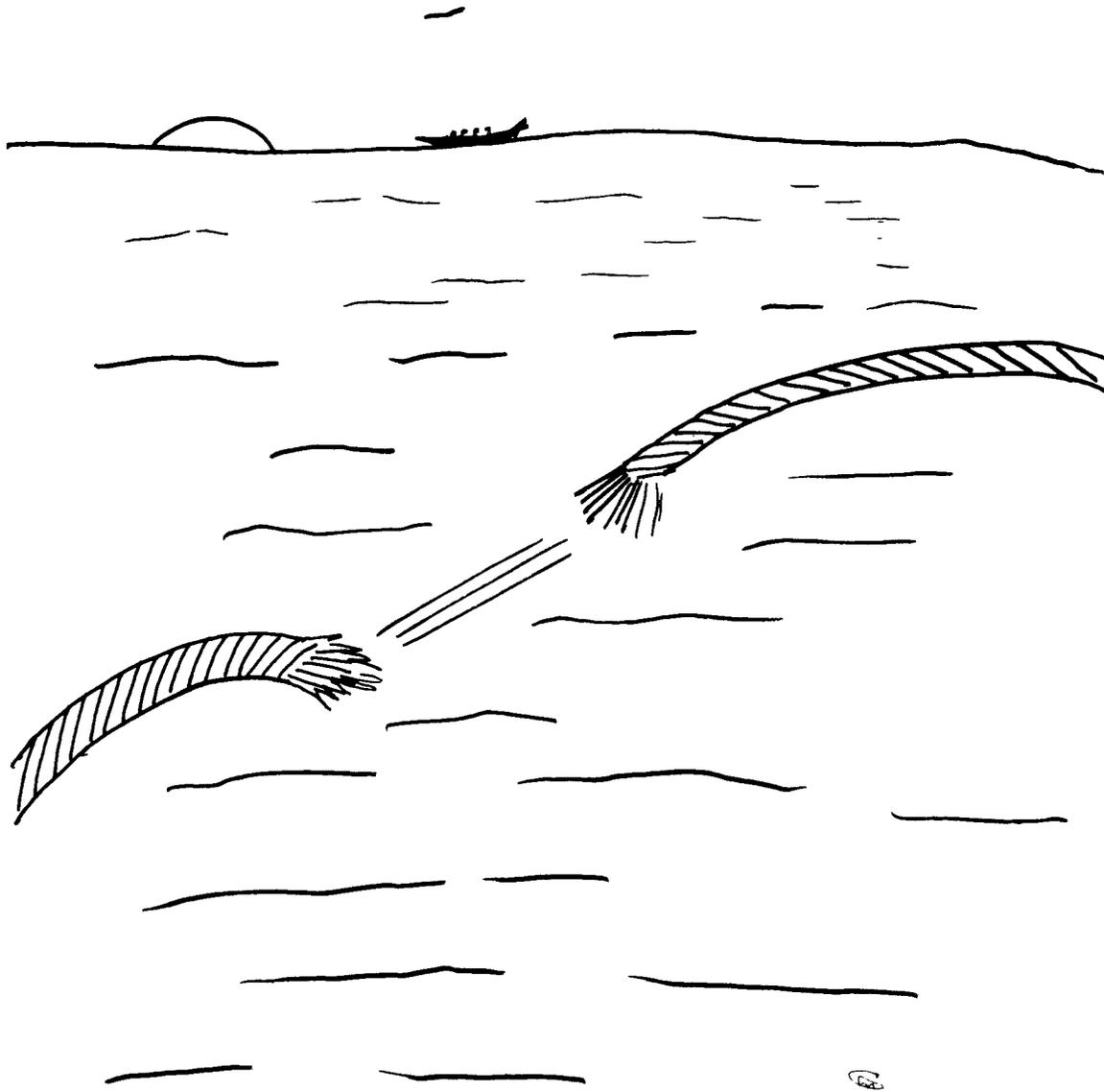


First the people made ropes of cedar.
The people tied the ropes to their canoes
and fastened them to a mountain near the canal.

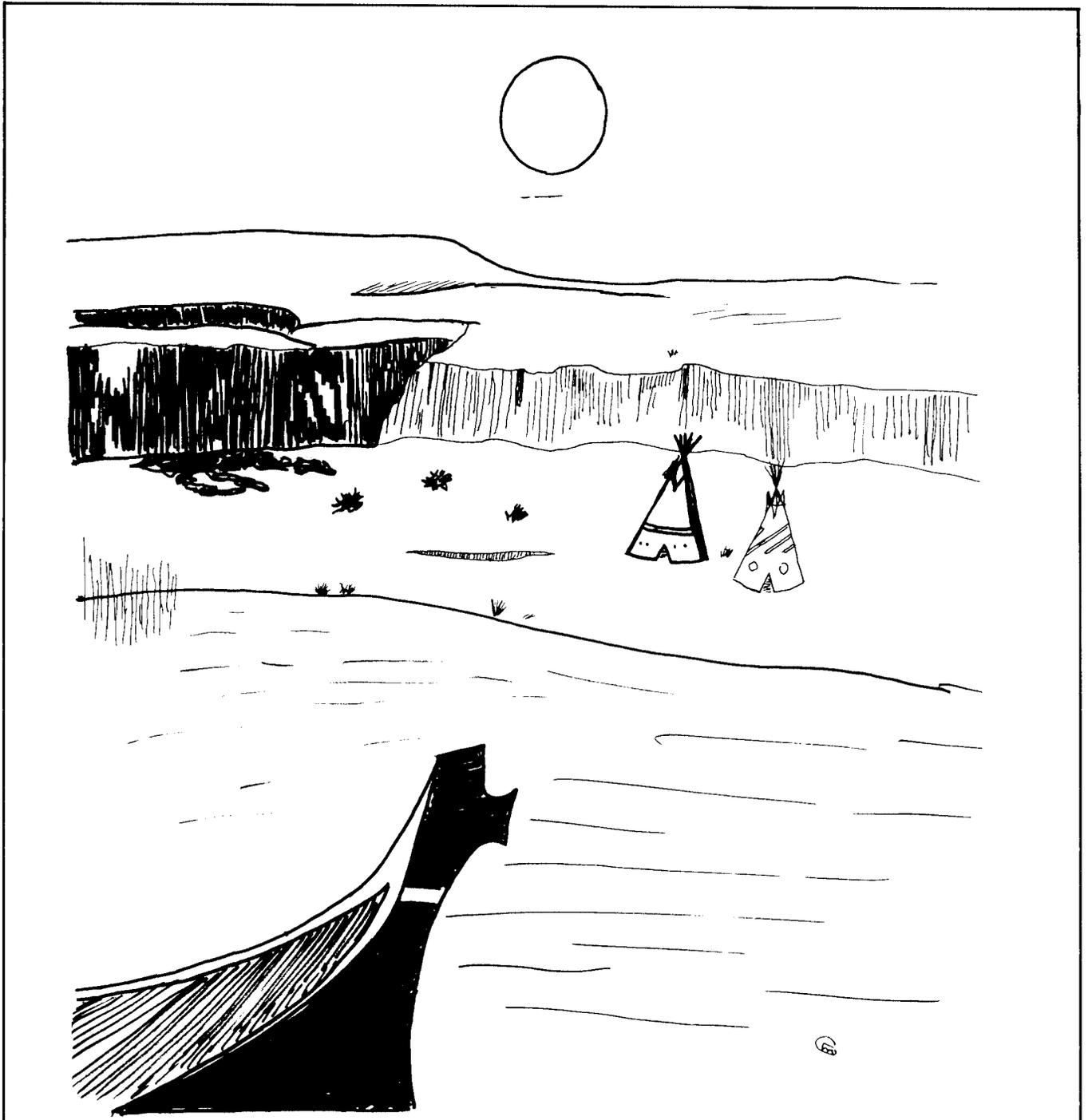


When the world became flooded,
the Skokomish people floated higher and higher
into the Olympic mountains.

©



The water rose until the mountains disappeared.
Some of the ropes to the mountain broke,
and the canoes drifted away.
The other canoes stayed tied to the mountain.



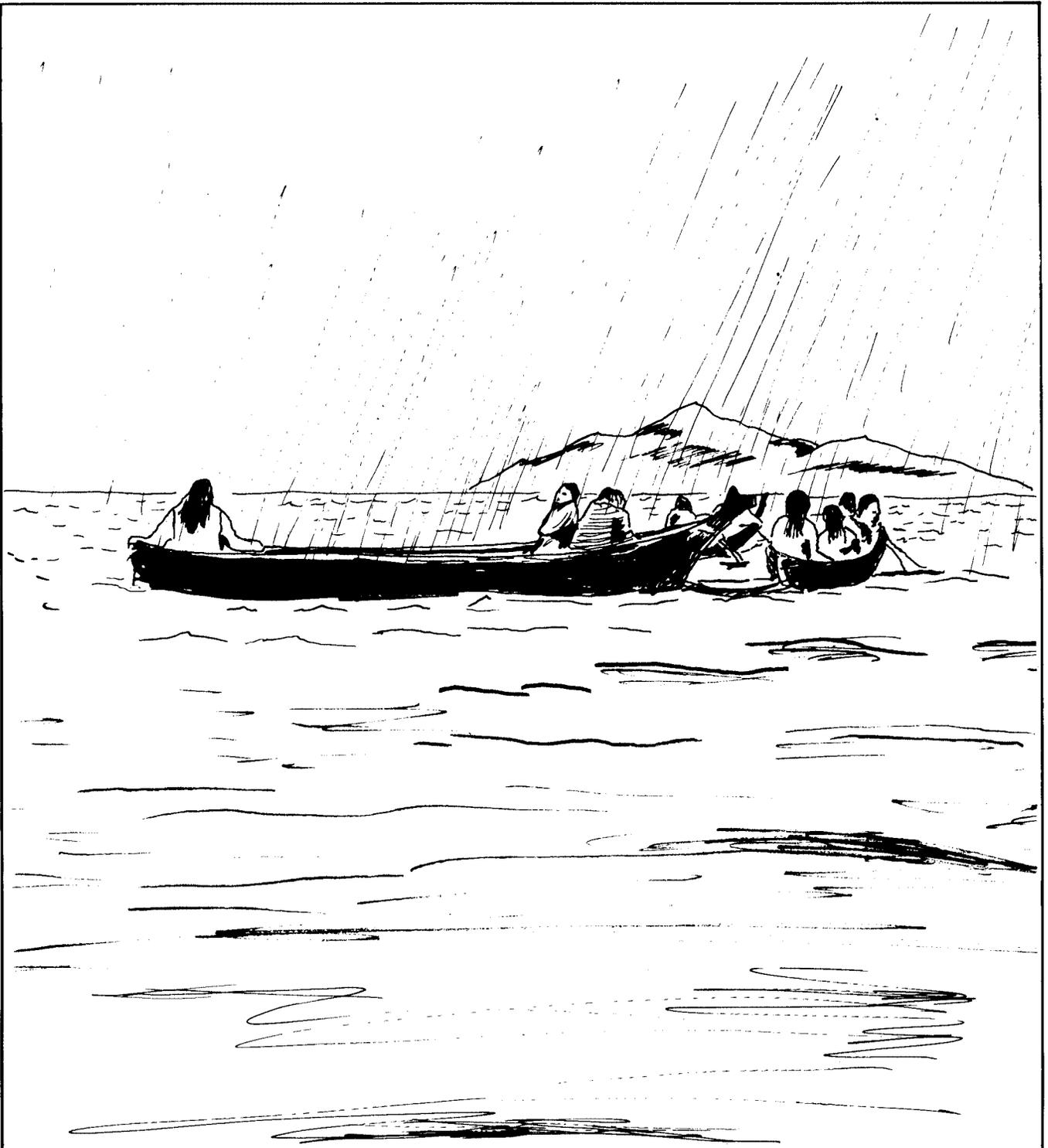
The people who broke loose kept their canoes tied together until they drifted to the country of the Salish Indians. And there they stayed.



After the waters had gone down,
the Changer came to make over the world.



He transformed the three bad sisters
into a mountain with three peaks.
It is now called Sisters Peak.



The Skokomish people who had stayed tied to the mountain settled on a bay near the Seattle area.

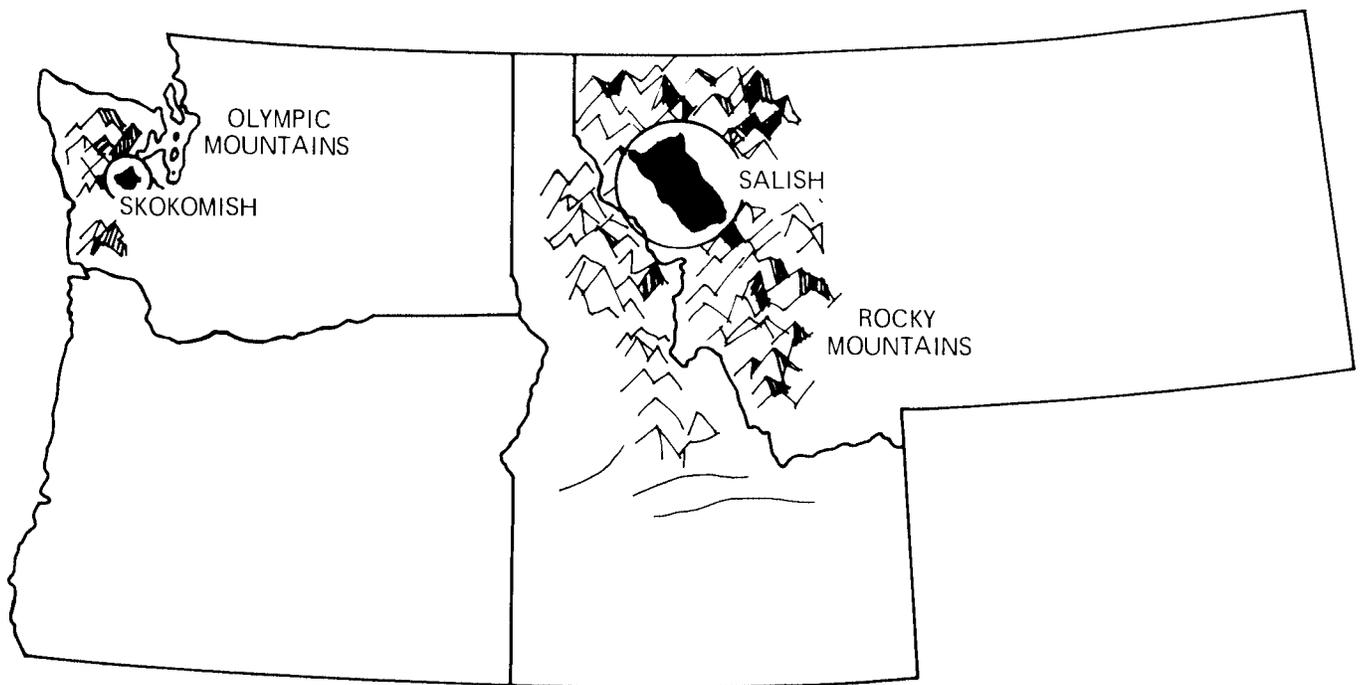


One day a long time after the flood,
some Skokomish people were traveling.
They heard some strangers talking in their language.



When the strangers spoke to them, they said,
“We are the people who drifted away during the flood.”
And that is why the Skokomish and Salish
speak the same language.

Area Map of the Great Flood





JEANNE EVERNDEN

Jeanne Evernden is a Skokomish Indian and was born and raised on the Skokomish reservation near the Hood Canal in Washington. She graduated from Irene S. Reed High School in Shelton and attended Haskell Indian School for two years, where she took commercial courses. She has managed the Tribal Smoke Shop and is now actively involved in the Skokomish Language Project, which is developing an unabridged Skokomish dictionary. She also is the mother of eight children and hopes The Indian Reading Series will become a permanent part of the schooling system because "Indian history and involvement are very important to our young people."



BRUCE MILLER

Bruce Miller, a Skokomish Indian, has held art exhibitions in Europe, South America and throughout the United States. He was nominated for the Indian Arts Commission Board for the Washington State Arts Commission, won the Washington Bicentennial Playwrite Award for his play *Changes*, and recently completed a screenplay, *The Lord of the House of the Maimed*, to be aired as an EXXON special on the CBS network. He presently is Director of the Skokomish Tribal Learning Center, has served as Coordinator for the Skokomish Title IV Program and was Human Relations Specialist and Counselor for the Seattle Public Schools. He also has acted with theater groups such as Native American Theater Ensemble (New York) and Red Earth Performing Arts Company (Seattle). He attended the Institute of American Indian Arts, California College of Arts and Crafts, and University of California at Berkeley. In addition, he has received special training in stage direction and acting technique from, among others, Geraldine Page, Peter Brook (three time winner at Cannes Film Festival for best direction) and Tom O'Horgan (director of *Godspell*, *Hair* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*).



WILMA PETTY

Wilma Petty, a Skokomish Indian, was born and raised on the Skokomish reservation. She graduated from Chemawa Indian School in 1938 and has taken advanced coursework in child psychology. She has served as Home School Coordinator for Project Head Start and Supervisor of the Skokomish Summer Recreation Program. For the past five years she has been a Teacher's Aide at Hood Canal School and is currently involved in the Skokomish Language Project, which is developing a dictionary of the Skokomish language. As the mother of five children, she "would like to see The Indian Reading Series in public schools for non-Indian as well as Indian children."

Booklets available in the Level II sequence are listed below. Numbers refer to the planned sequence of use in the *Teacher's Manual*. Materials developed by these tribes and others in the Northwest are included in the Levels I and III sequences.

- | | |
|---|---|
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| 2 <i>Thunder and the Mosquito</i>
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| 10 <i>The Rainbow</i>
The Confederated Tribes of the
Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon | |
| 11 <i>The Time the Whale Came to Jackson's
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Skokomish Tribe | |

For order information and prices of the above booklets and the *Teacher's Manual*, contact the publisher:

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