

# Raccoon's Black Eyes and Ringed Tail

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

## Raccoon's Black Eyes and Ringed Tail

Level III Book 8

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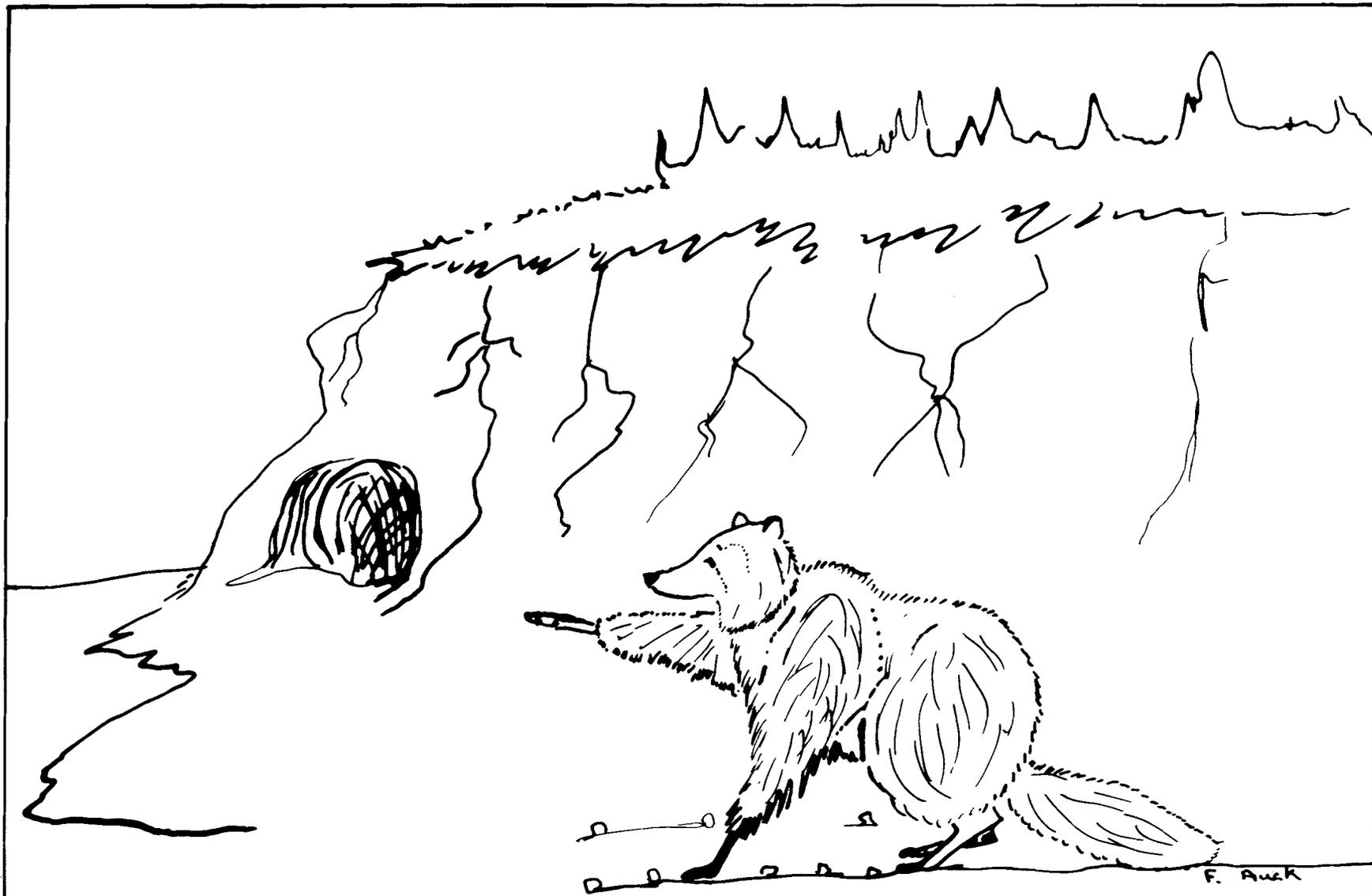
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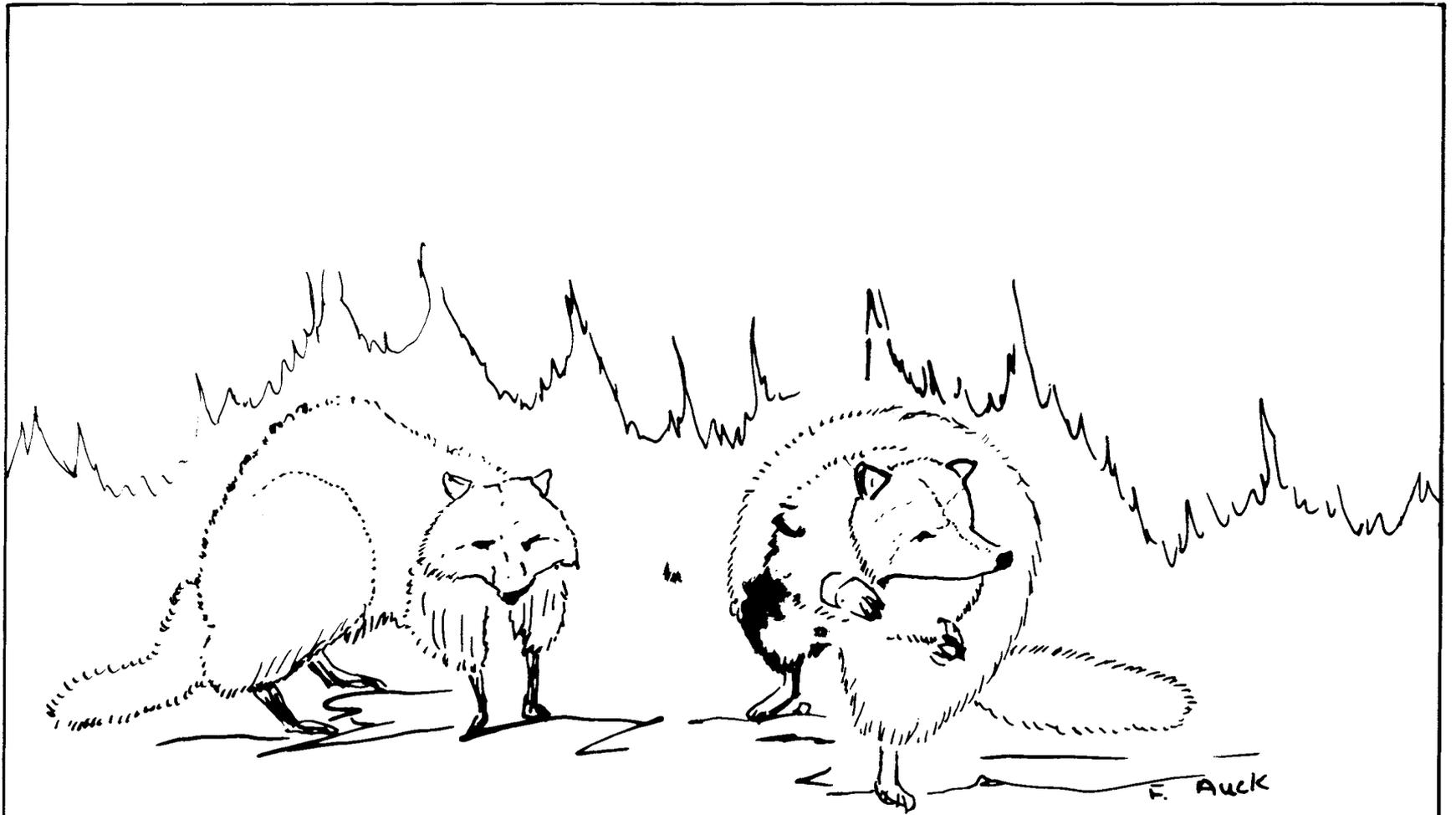


F. Ruck

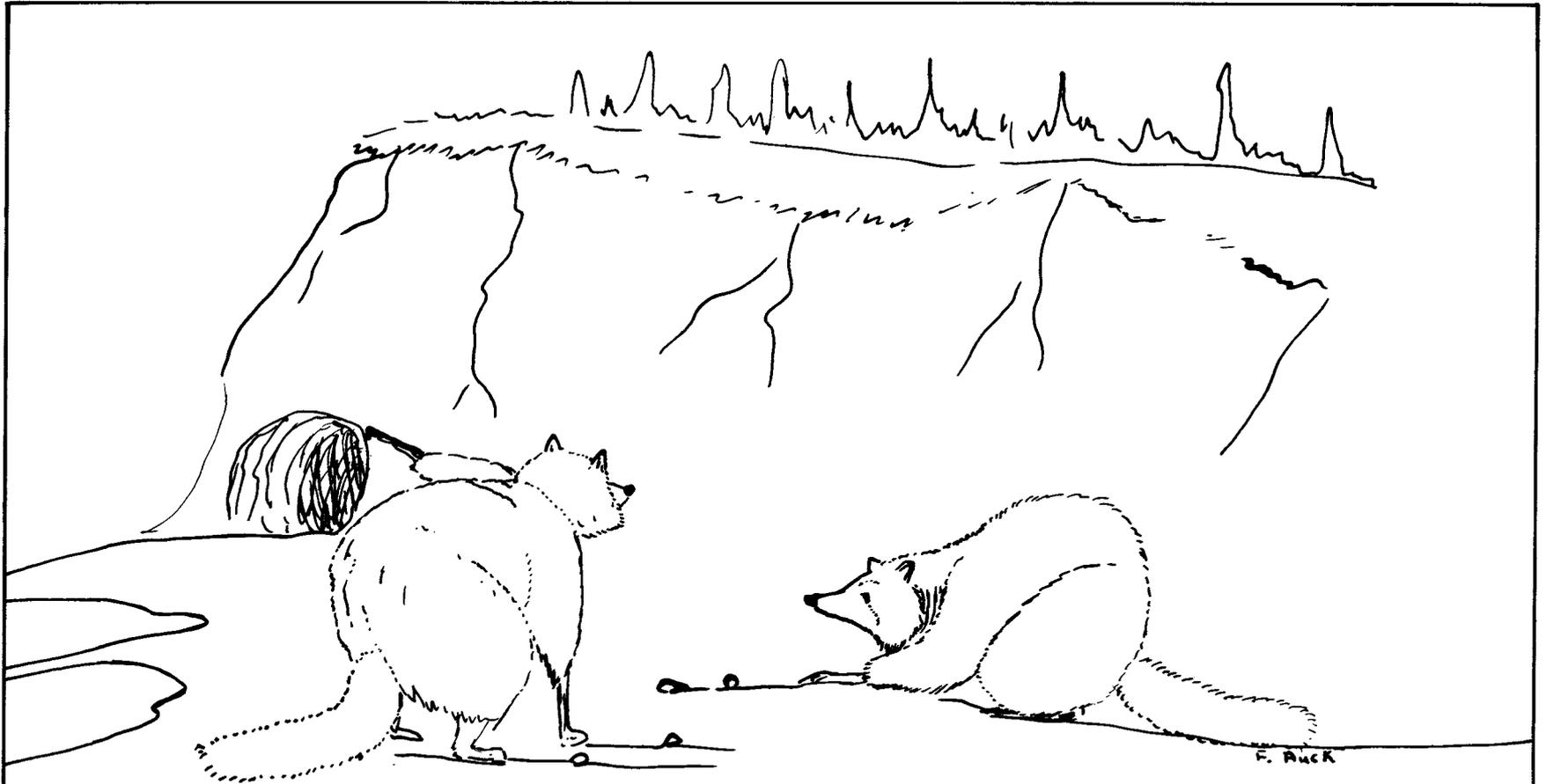
Long ago, raccoons lived by a stream  
near the great Snake River.



The mother raccoons told all their children  
not to go near mean Coyote's house.



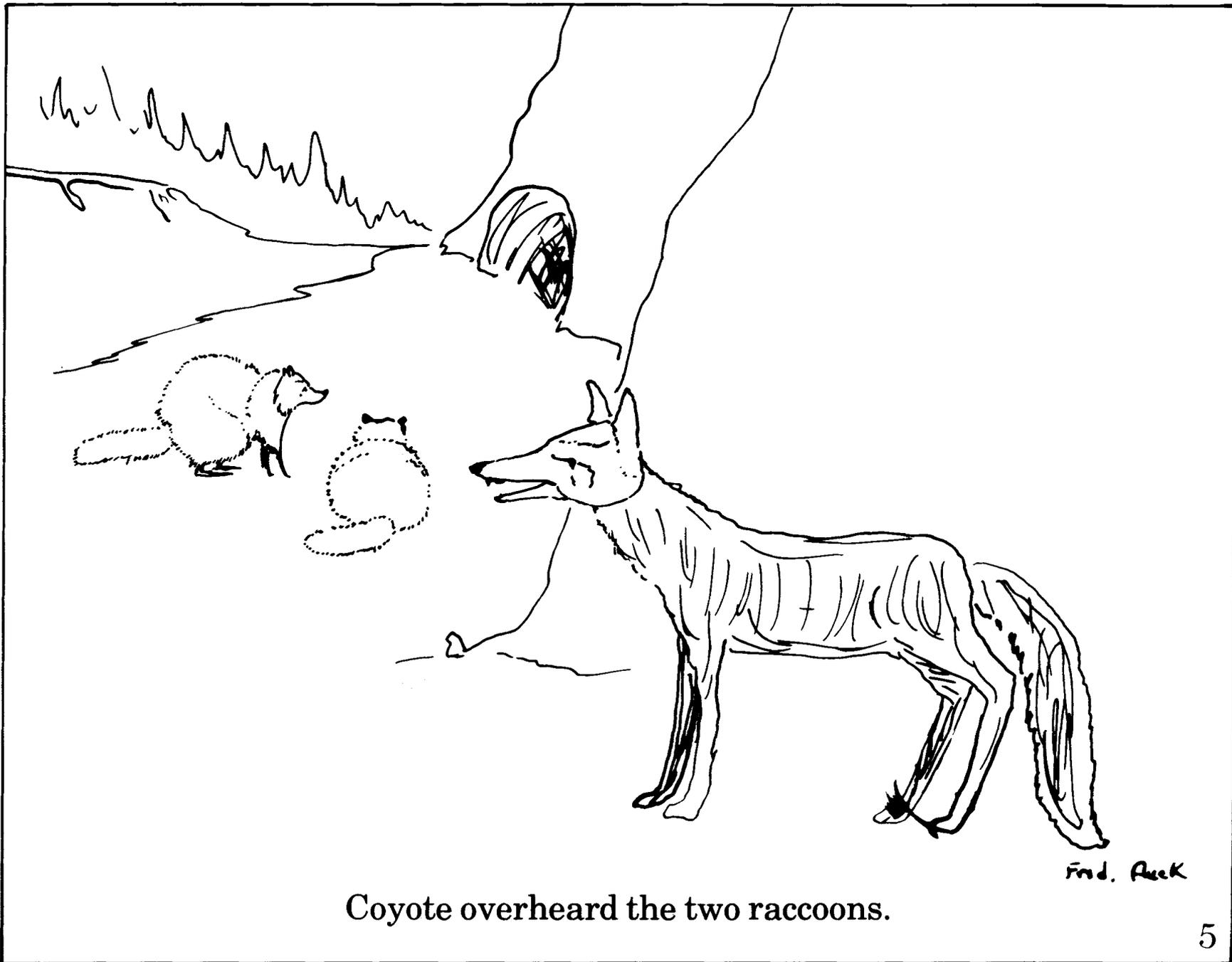
Raccoon children never had fear of anything.  
They were always daring each other.



One day, the naughty (kay-sho-und) raccoon  
told the good (zund) raccoon  
to go into Coyote's (Isa-peh's) house.

They were both curious as to what Coyote's house  
looked like on the inside.

They had heard stories about his mean nature.

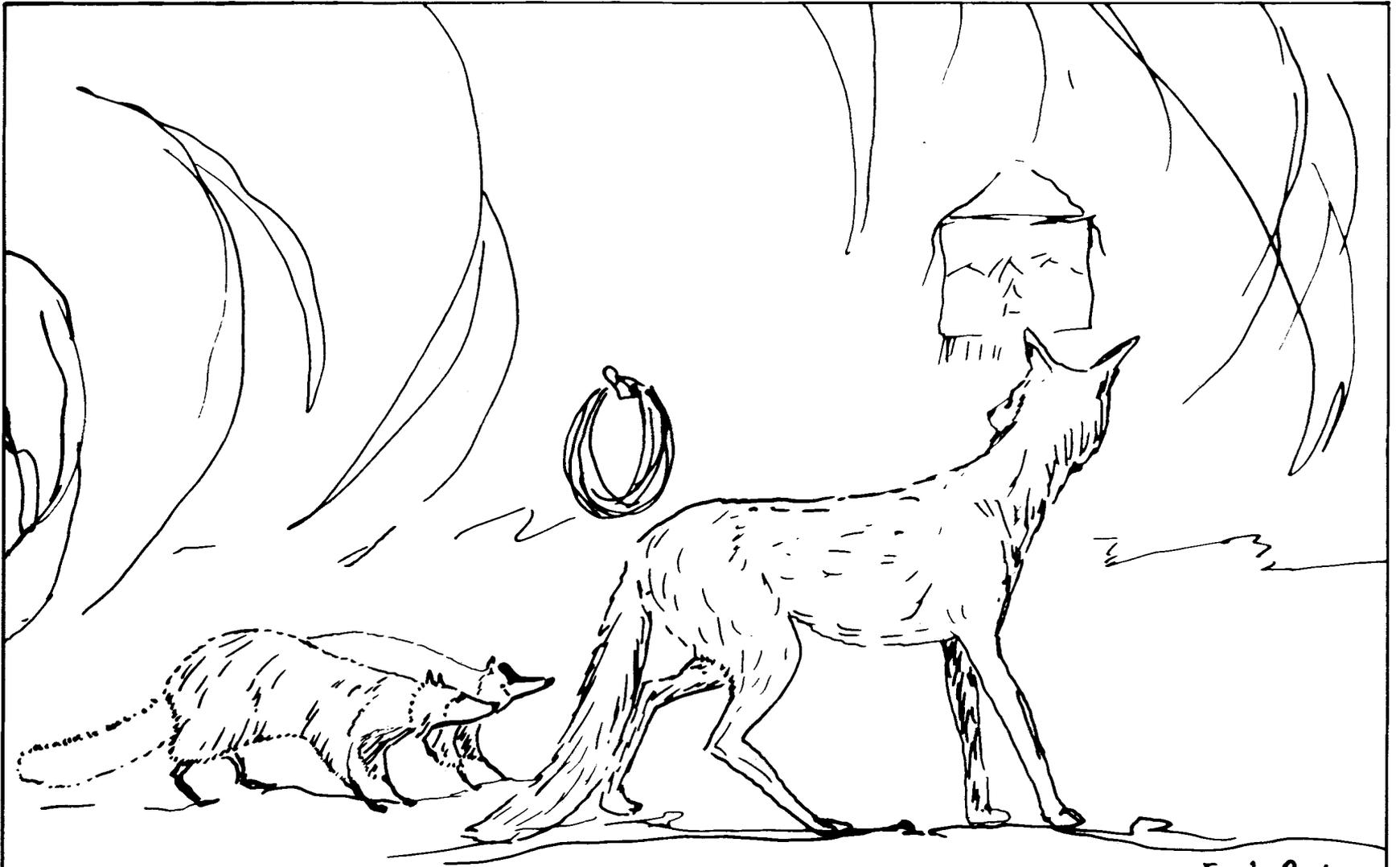


Fred. Beck

Coyote overheard the two raccoons.

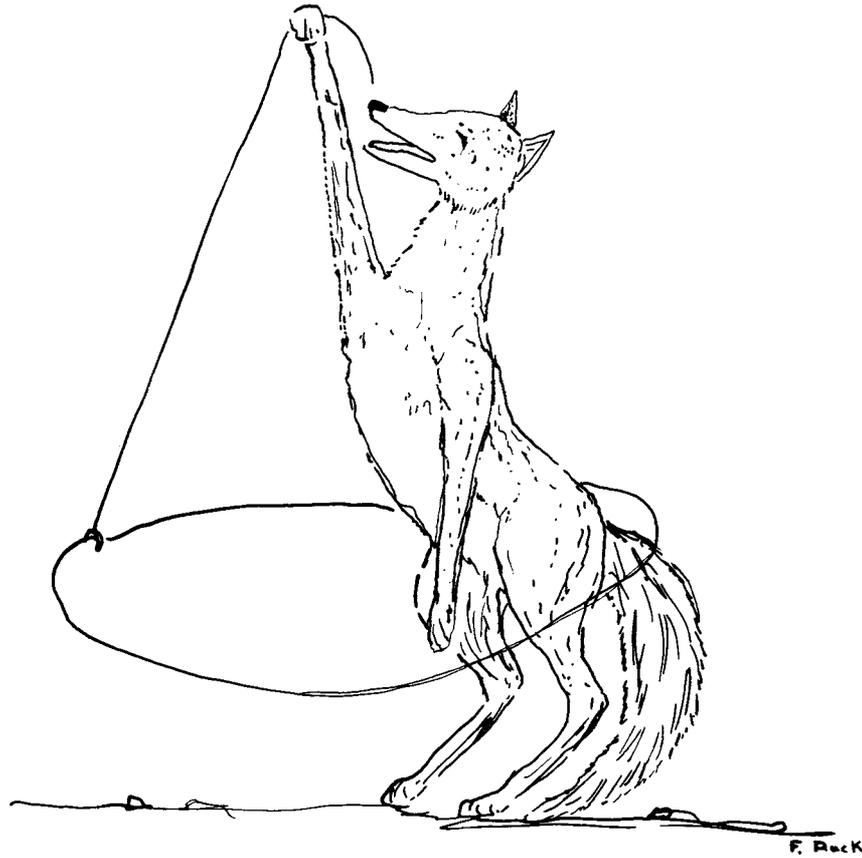


He decided to say hello to them.  
Coyote's charm was beyond belief.  
The two raccoons couldn't believe their eyes and ears.



Fred Auck

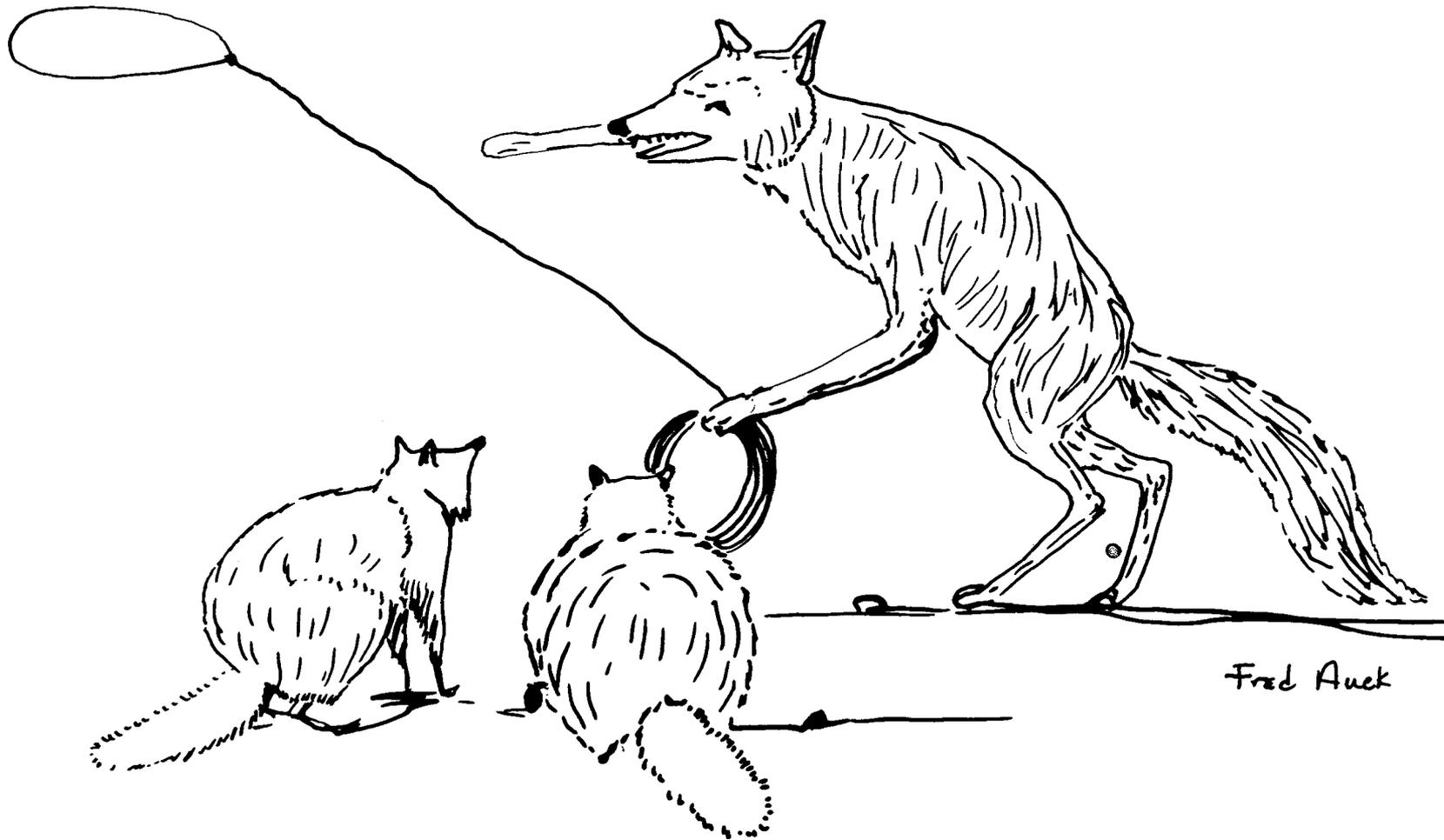
Coyote invited them into his home.  
The two raccoons were amazed  
at all the pretty things Coyote had.



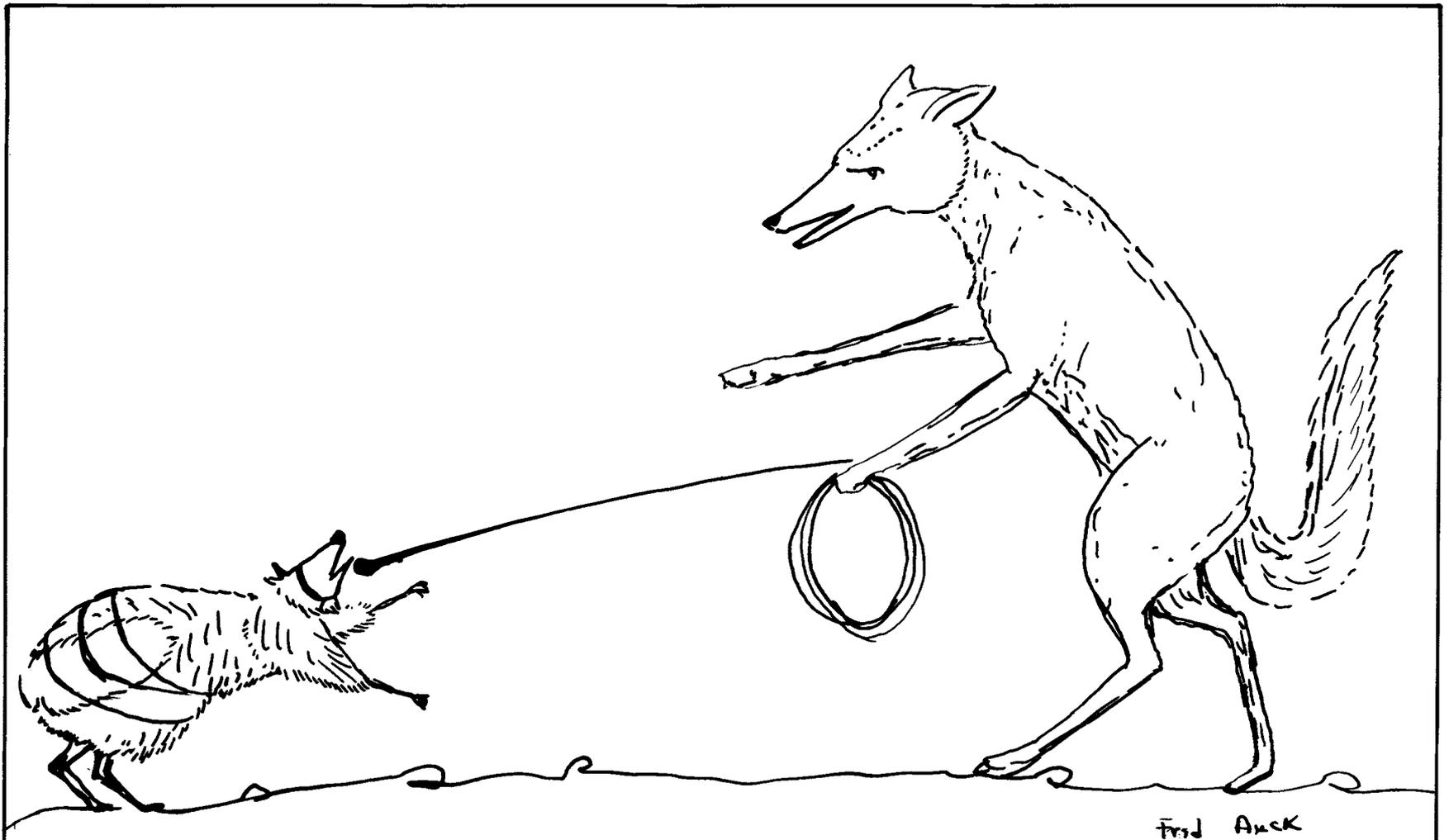
Coyote pulled out his black, shiny rope  
and did some rope tricks.

He told the raccoons he would teach both of them  
how to rope.

They didn't know that the rope had sticky, black,  
soot-like gum on it.



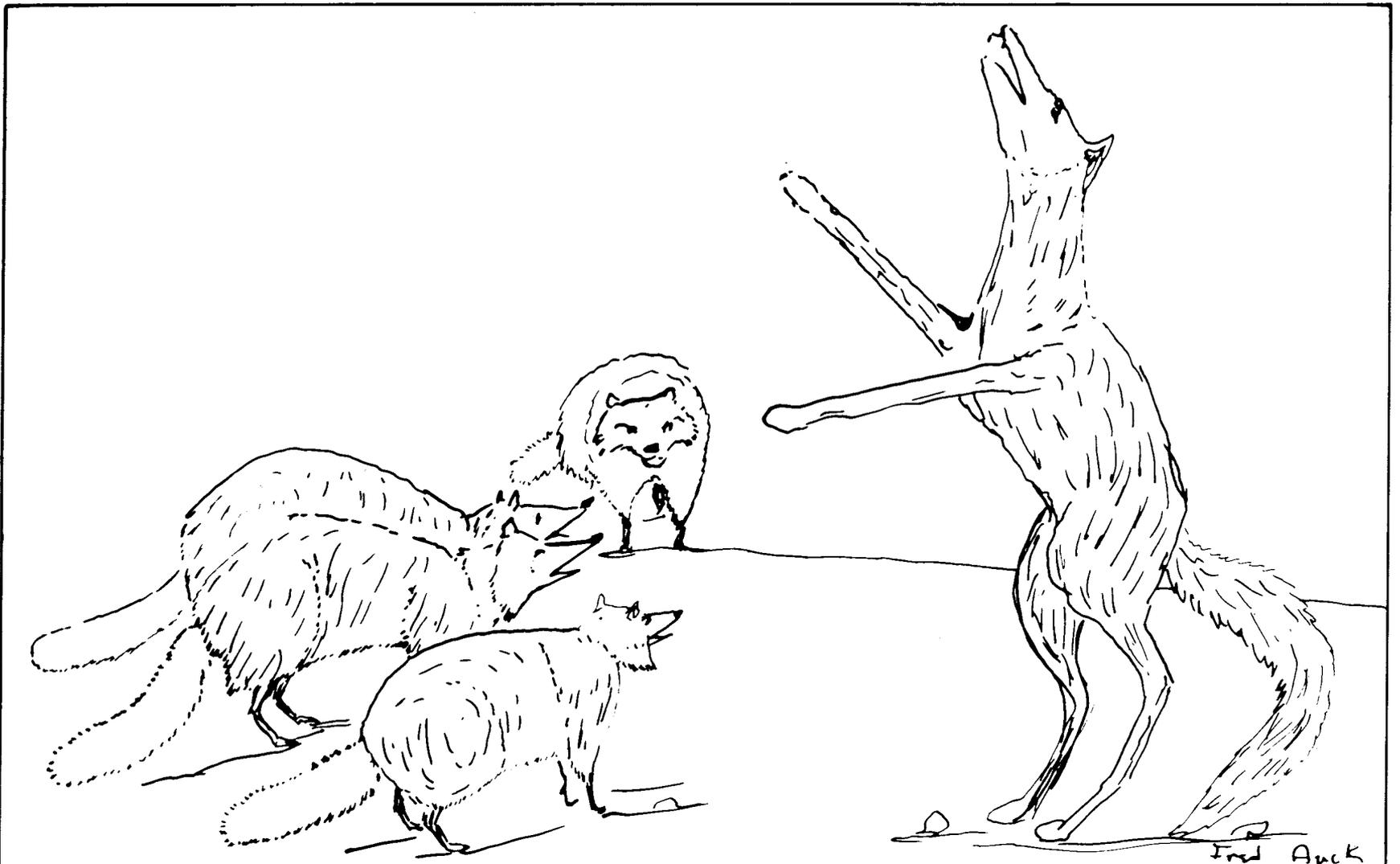
Coyote roped the naughty raccoon first.  
The rope wrapped around his tail and around his eyes.



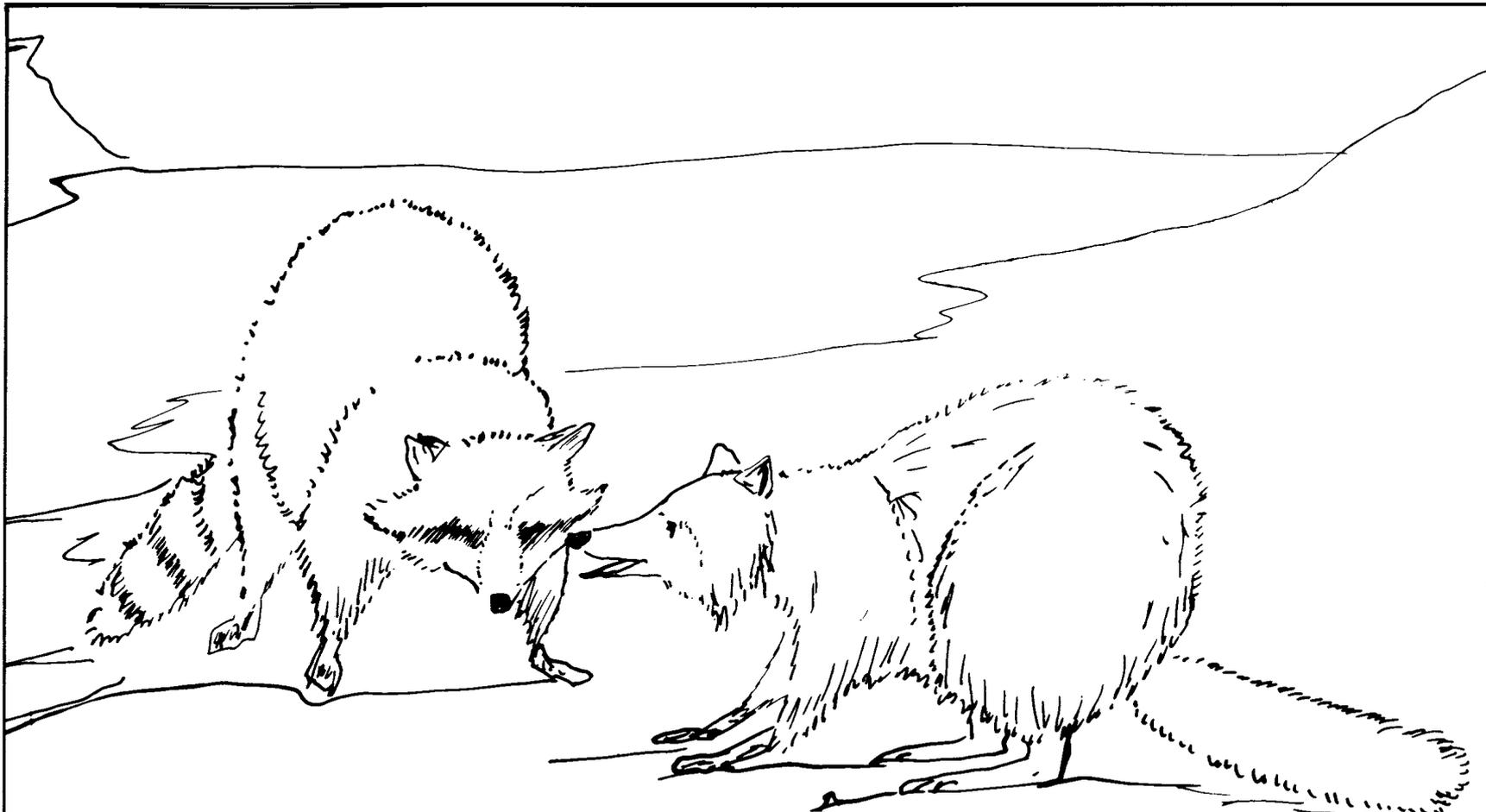
After Coyote tied the naughty raccoon,  
he went after the other one.  
He tied him up too.



Both raccoons were yelling and screaming.

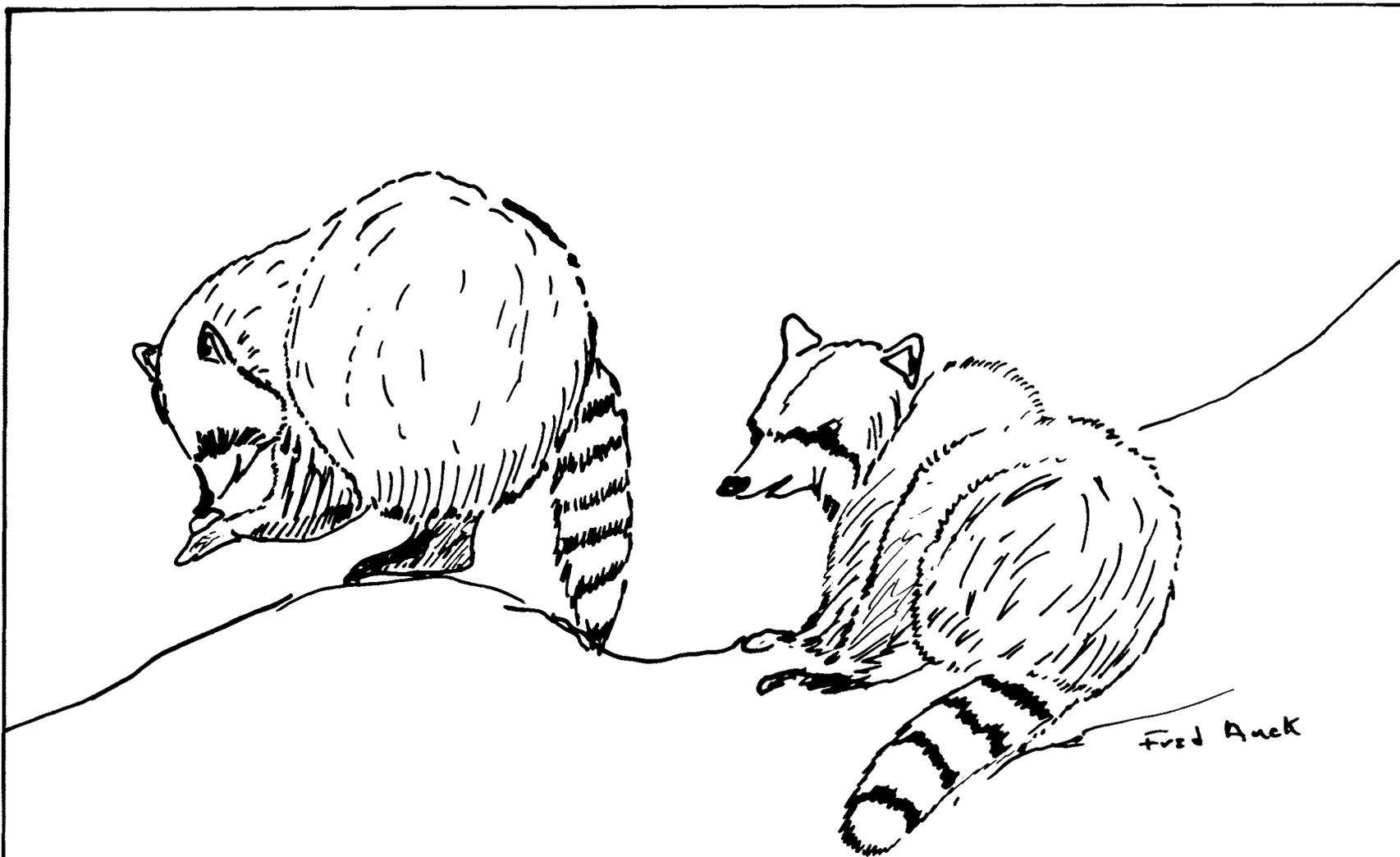


The mother raccoons ran to rescue their two raccoon children.  
Coyote couldn't fight both of them,  
so he released the two children.



Fred Auck

The mothers tried to wash all the black, sticky gum  
off the children's eyes and tails, but they couldn't.  
The two raccoons never forgot their frightening experience.  
The gummy film on their eyes and tails never came off.  
They always felt dirty.



Raccoons still look that way today.  
And they always wash themselves and their food  
before they eat.

Booklets available in the Level III 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 II sequences.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 <i>Story of the Seasons</i><br>The Confederated Tribes of the<br>Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon  | 11 <i>How the Milky Way Got into the Sky</i><br>The Confederated Tribes of the<br>Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon  |
| 2 <i>The Beginning of the Earth</i><br>The Confederated Tribes of the<br>Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon  | 12 <i>Inkdomi and the Buffalo</i><br>Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the<br>Fort Peck Reservation   |
| 3 <i>The Blacktail Dance</i><br>Blackfeet Tribe  | 13 <i>Medicine Horse</i><br>Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the<br>Fort Hall Reservation   |
| 4 <i>How Marten Got His Spots</i><br>Kootenai Cultural Committee of<br>The Confederated Salish and<br>Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead<br>Reservation | 14 <i>The Good Hunter and Fisherman</i><br>Jamestown-Clallam Tribe  |
| 5 <i>Lost in the Fog</i><br>Jamestown-Clallam Tribe  | 15 <i>The Wild Buffalo Ride</i><br>Blackfeet Tribe  |
| 6 <i>How to Be a Friend</i><br>The Confederated Tribes of the<br>Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon  | 16 <i>I Am a Rock</i><br>Crow Tribal Historical and Cultural<br>Commission  |
| 7 <i>How the Morning and Evening Stars<br/>Came to Be</i><br>Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the<br>Fort Peck Reservation                            | 17 <i>The Man Who Loved Shell Money</i><br>Skokomish Tribe  |
| 8 <i>Raccoon's Black Eyes and Ringed Tail</i><br>Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the<br>Fort Hall Reservation   | 18 <i>Old Man Napi</i><br>Blackfeet Tribe   |
| 9 <i>Coyote and Old Lady</i><br>Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the<br>Fort Hall Reservation  | 19 <i>The Turtle Who Went to War</i><br>Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the<br>Fort Peck Reservation  |
| 10 <i>Coyote and Trout</i><br>Kootenai Cultural Committee of<br>The Confederated Salish and<br>Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead<br>Reservation        | 20 <i>Coyote and the Mean Mountain Sheep</i><br>Salish Cultural Committee of<br>The Confederated Salish and<br>Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead<br>Reservation |

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