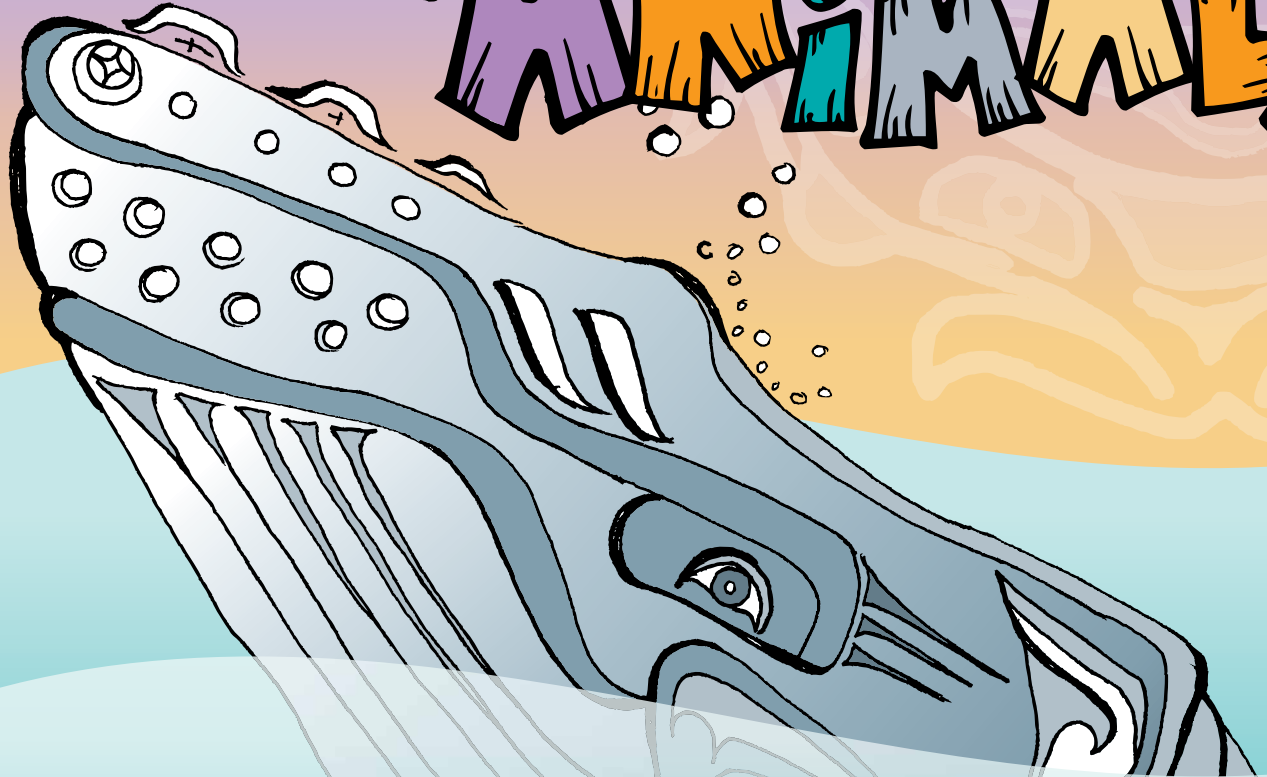


NUU-CHAH-NULTH

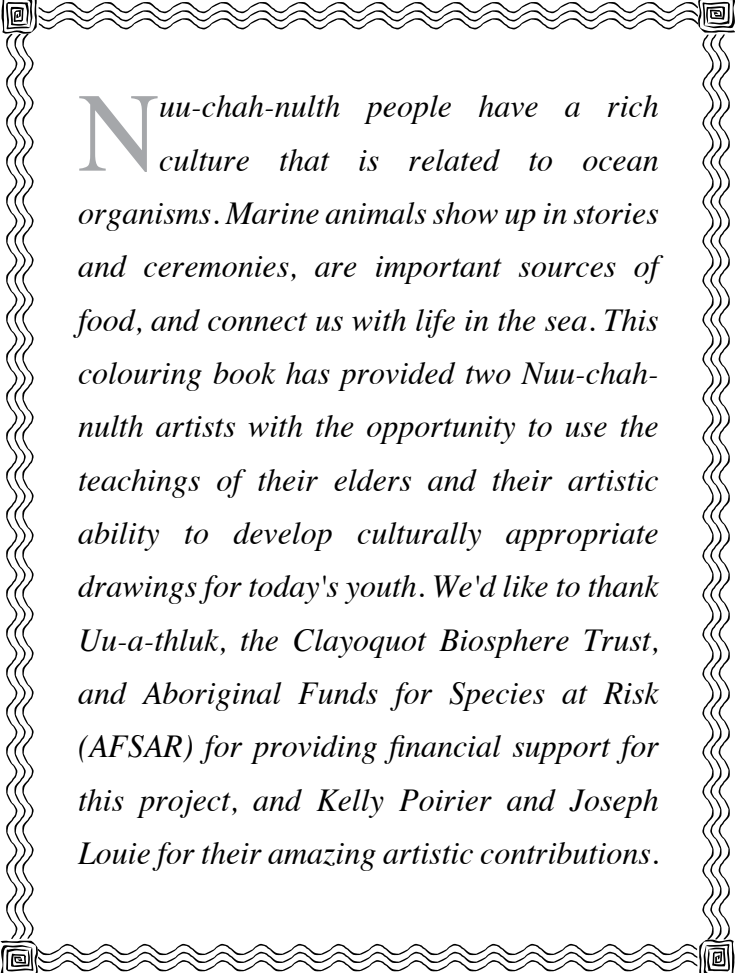
OCEAN

ANIMALS



AFSAR



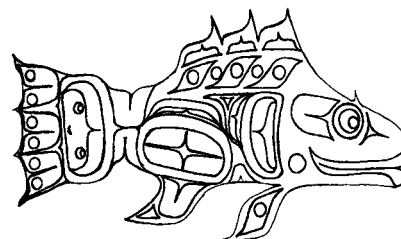


Nuu-chah-nulth people have a rich culture that is related to ocean organisms. Marine animals show up in stories and ceremonies, are important sources of food, and connect us with life in the sea. This colouring book has provided two Nuu-chah-nulth artists with the opportunity to use the teachings of their elders and their artistic ability to develop culturally appropriate drawings for today's youth. We'd like to thank Uu-a-thluk, the Clayoquot Biosphere Trust, and Aboriginal Funds for Species at Risk (AFSAR) for providing financial support for this project, and Kelly Poirier and Joseph Louie for their amazing artistic contributions.



Joseph LOUIE

Ahousaht First Nations artist Joseph Louie was born on September 19th, 1979 in Victoria, British Columbia. Joseph graduated with a Visual Arts Diploma at Vancouver Island University in 2010. Joseph works in silk-screening, painting, and also works in computer-based digital imagery. During the summer of 2010 Joseph worked at Uu-a-thluk Fisheries NTC as a student intern. "Working at Uu-a-thluk has opened a lot of doors for me, and allowed me to work closer to home." Joseph gives credit for his artistic abilities to his grandfather Dr. George Wikinnanish Louie who was a linguistics teacher and master carver. Joseph looks forward to working in Nuu-chah-nulth and continuing to explore and experiment with contemporary First Nations art.

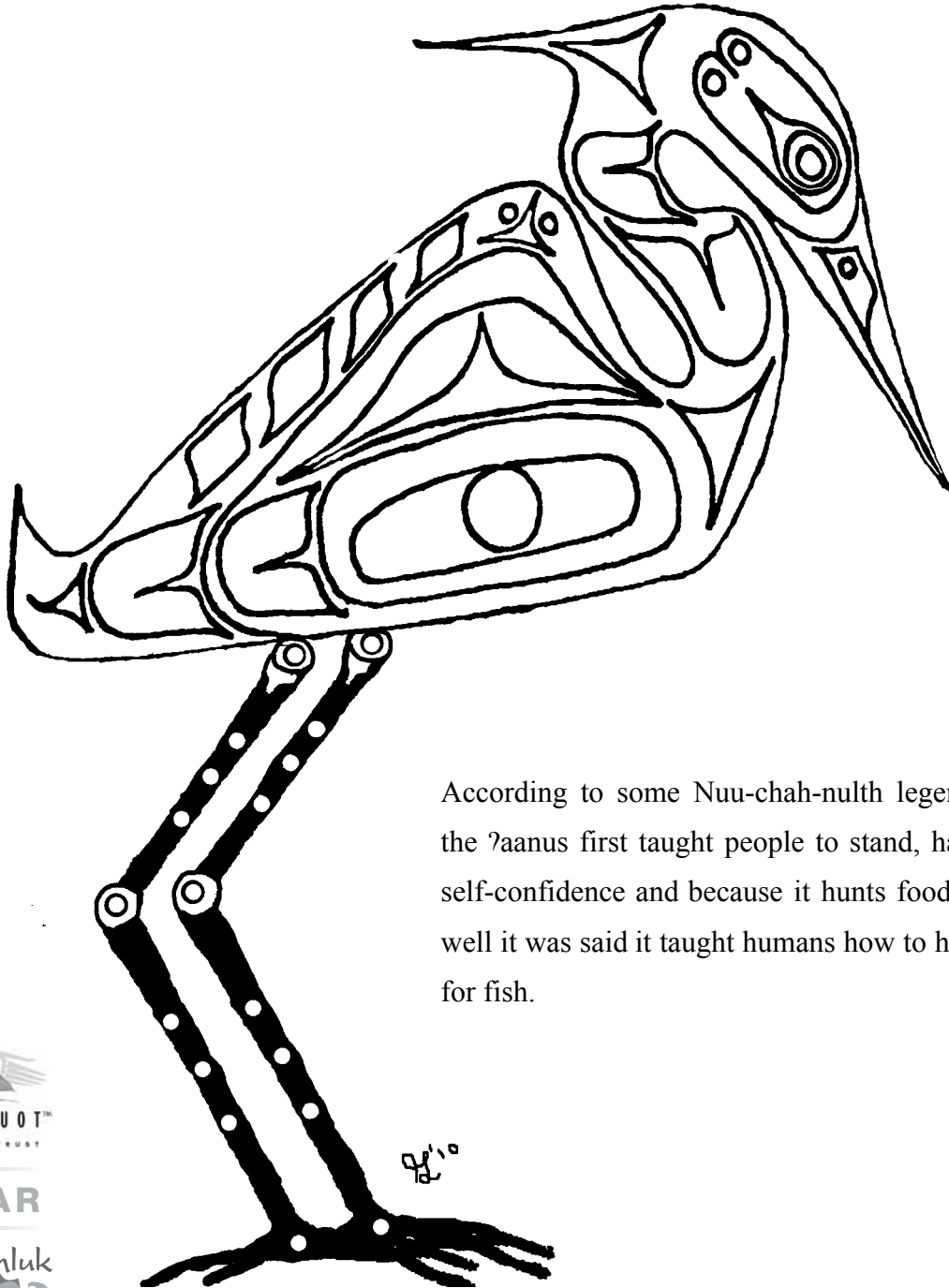


AFSAR

Uu-a-thluk
TAKING CARE OF

GREAT BLUE HERON

ʔaanus



According to some Nuu-chah-nulth legends the ʔaanus first taught people to stand, have self-confidence and because it hunts food so well it was said it taught humans how to hunt for fish.



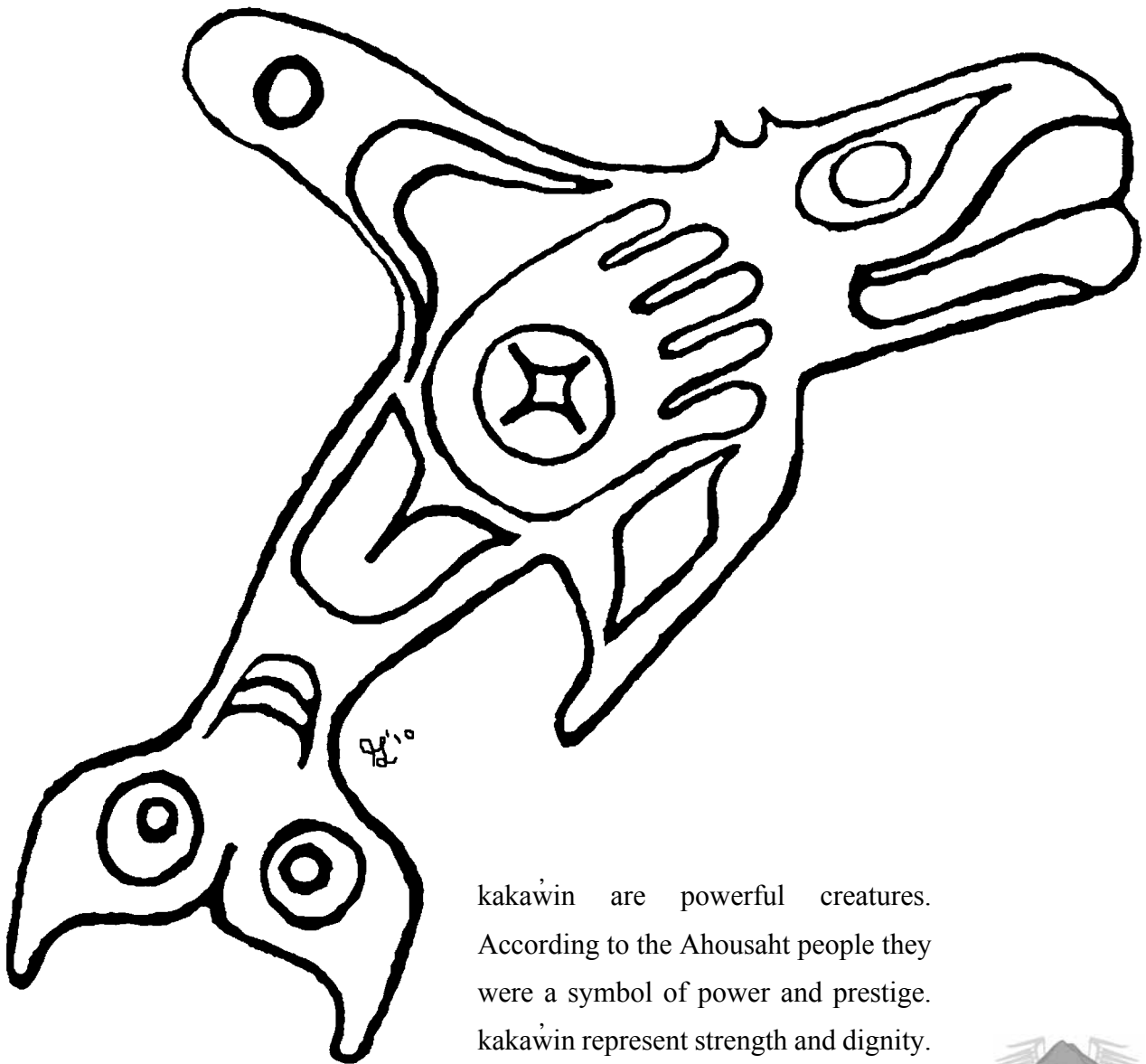
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AFSAR

Uy-a-thluk
TAKING CARE OF

KILLER WHALE

kakawin



kakawin are powerful creatures. According to the Ahousaht people they were a symbol of power and prestige. kakawin represent strength and dignity. They are considered the 'wolves' of the sea, in some tales they were reported to actually transform into wolves.

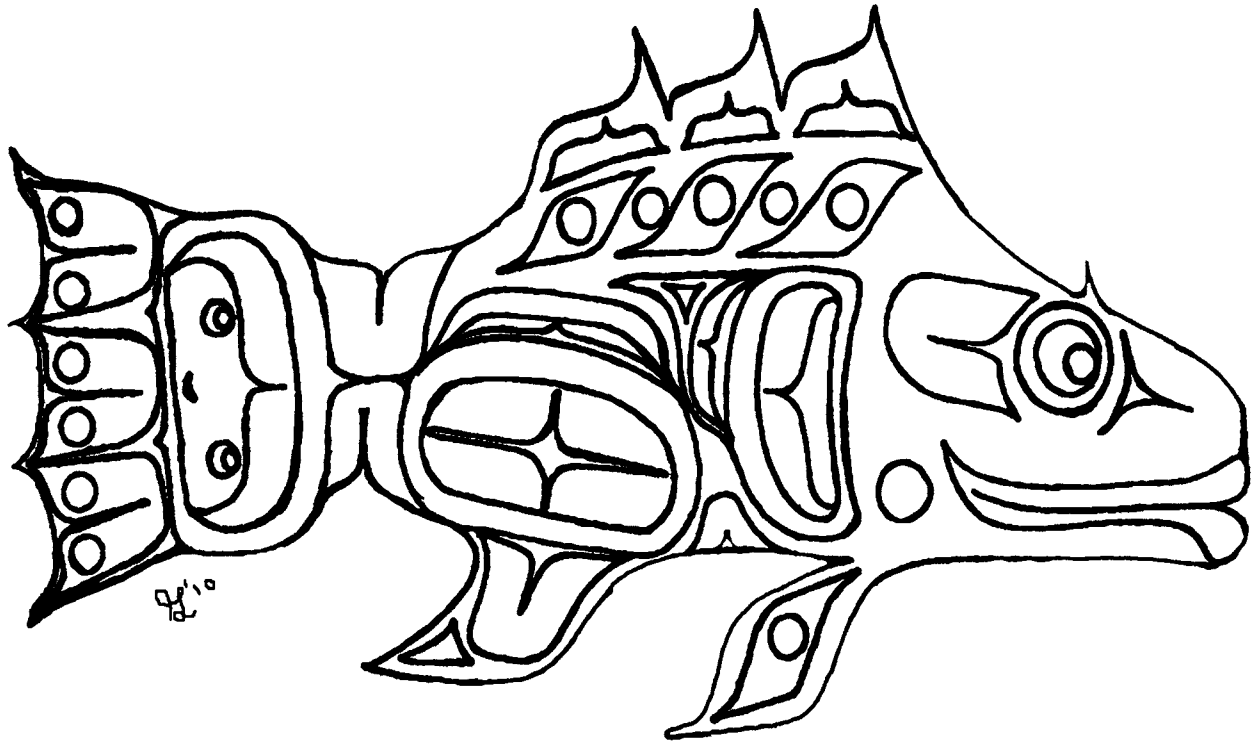


AFSAR

Uy-a-thluk
TAKING CARE OF

RED SNAPPER

Waanulh or Kl'ihapiih
(either name)



AFSAR

Uy-a-thluk
TAKING CARE OF

This deep-sea fish is prized amongst the Nuuchahnulth for its flavor. In some myths it was said to have been a spirit helper and got its color from being sunburnt.

TOAD

waaʼat (Onomatopoeic)



A name given to any frog or toad on the west coast. Originally a west coast name waaʼat was named after the sound it made. This whimsical creature was said to warn people of impending danger. Often used as a symbol of communication.

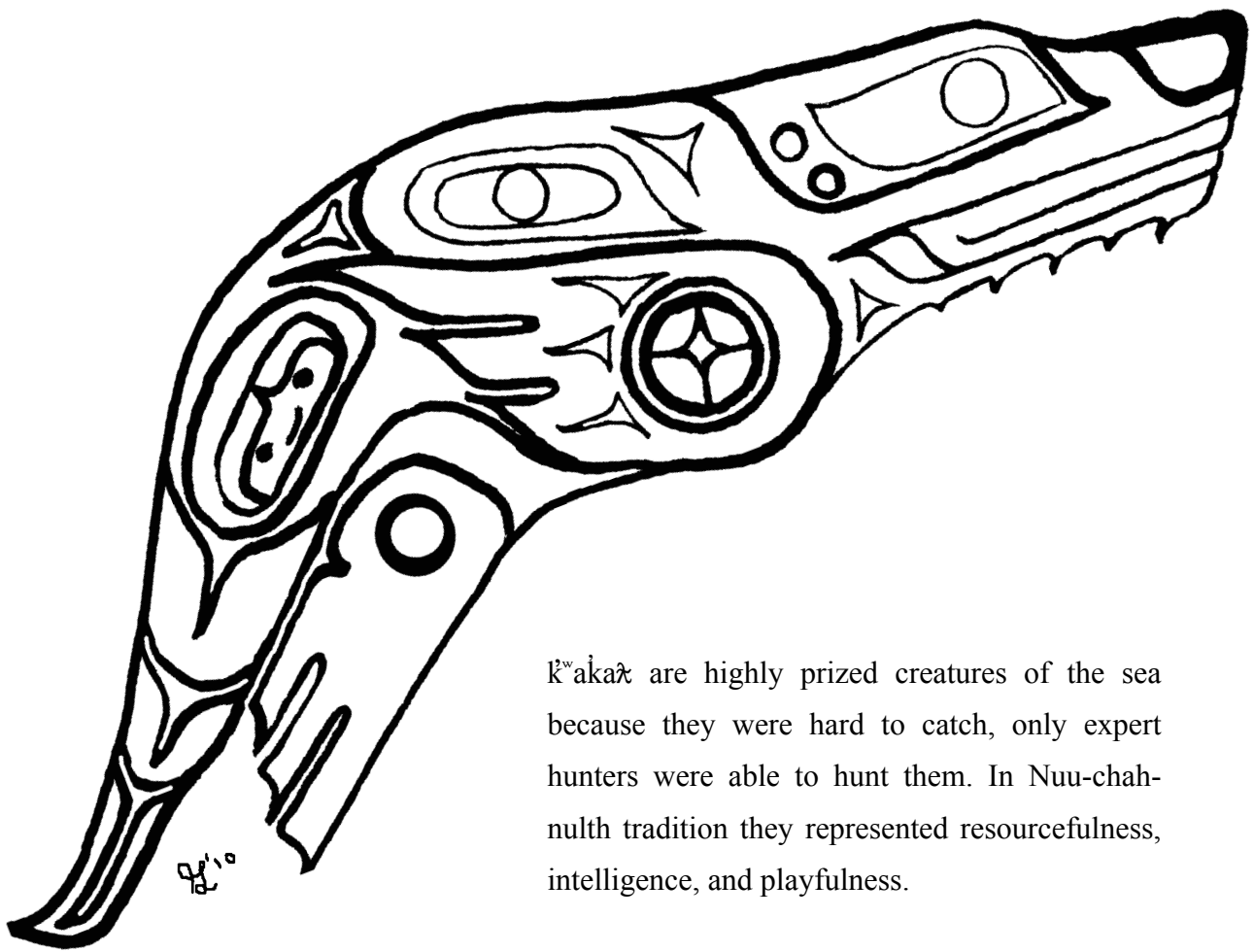


AFSAR

Uy-a-thluk
TAKING CARE OF

SEA OTTER

k'w akaλ



k'w akaλ are highly prized creatures of the sea because they were hard to catch, only expert hunters were able to hunt them. In Nuu-chah-nulth tradition they represented resourcefulness, intelligence, and playfulness.



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Kelly POIRIER

(Chii-ilth-oom-qua: “Pulling forward
with all of her knowledge”)



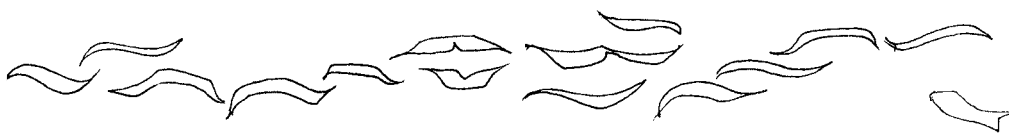
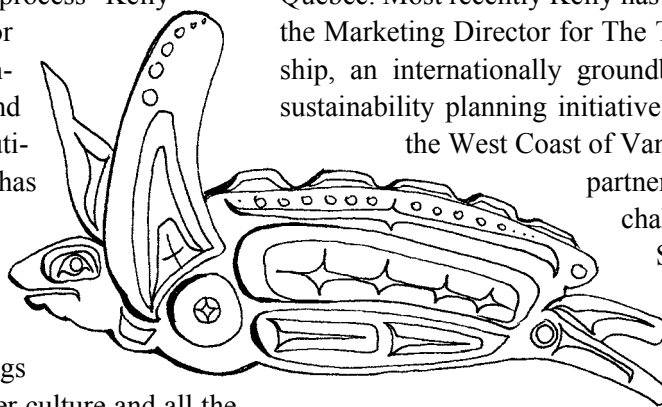
Kelly is from the Gallic family of the Tseshah First Nation in Port Alberni. She is the daughter of Debra and Mike Foxcroft, and granddaughter of Jeanette and the late James Gallic, the great-granddaughter of the late Jessie and Jimmy (Jeff) Gallic.

Through her creative process Kelly brings together passions for fine arts, biology, Nuu-chah-nulth culture and heritage and an endless love of the beautiful ecosystem in which she has grown up on the west coast. A member of the Tseshah First Nation and graduate of Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design, Kelly brings her experience and love of her culture and all the living things on the west coast together in a style that is a departure from the traditional.

In 2010 Kelly was a part of a Nuu-chah-nulth team who completed a monumental contemporary Nuu-chah-nulth art piece called “Hupakwanum” for the Vancouver Olympic Organizing Committee located outside of the Richmond Skating Oval. This one of kind artwork was created alongside master carvers Tim Paul from Hesquiaht & Rod Sayers from Hupacasath First Nation.

Along with sister and business partner Dawn Foxcroft, Kelly had successfully curated “How We Are, How We Want to Be: 25 Years of Nuu-chah-nulth Photographs by Bob Soderlund” which was recently mounted in the Grande Hall at the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Hull Quebec. Most recently Kelly has been working as the Marketing Director for The Tsawalk Partnership, an internationally groundbreaking marine sustainability planning initiative taking place on the West Coast of Vancouver Island in partnership with Nuu-chah-nulth, WWF, Stanford University and many others.

Kelly looks forward to continuing to explore her creative and artistic production in ways that continue to grow her respect and learning of the deep roots of Nuu-chah-nulth cultural teachings, song and language. Kelly is proud to make the raising of her two daughters Kaylen and Mackenzie a part of her learning path and is blessed to have the support of her wonderful husband Mike.



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HUMPBACK WHALE

?iihtuup

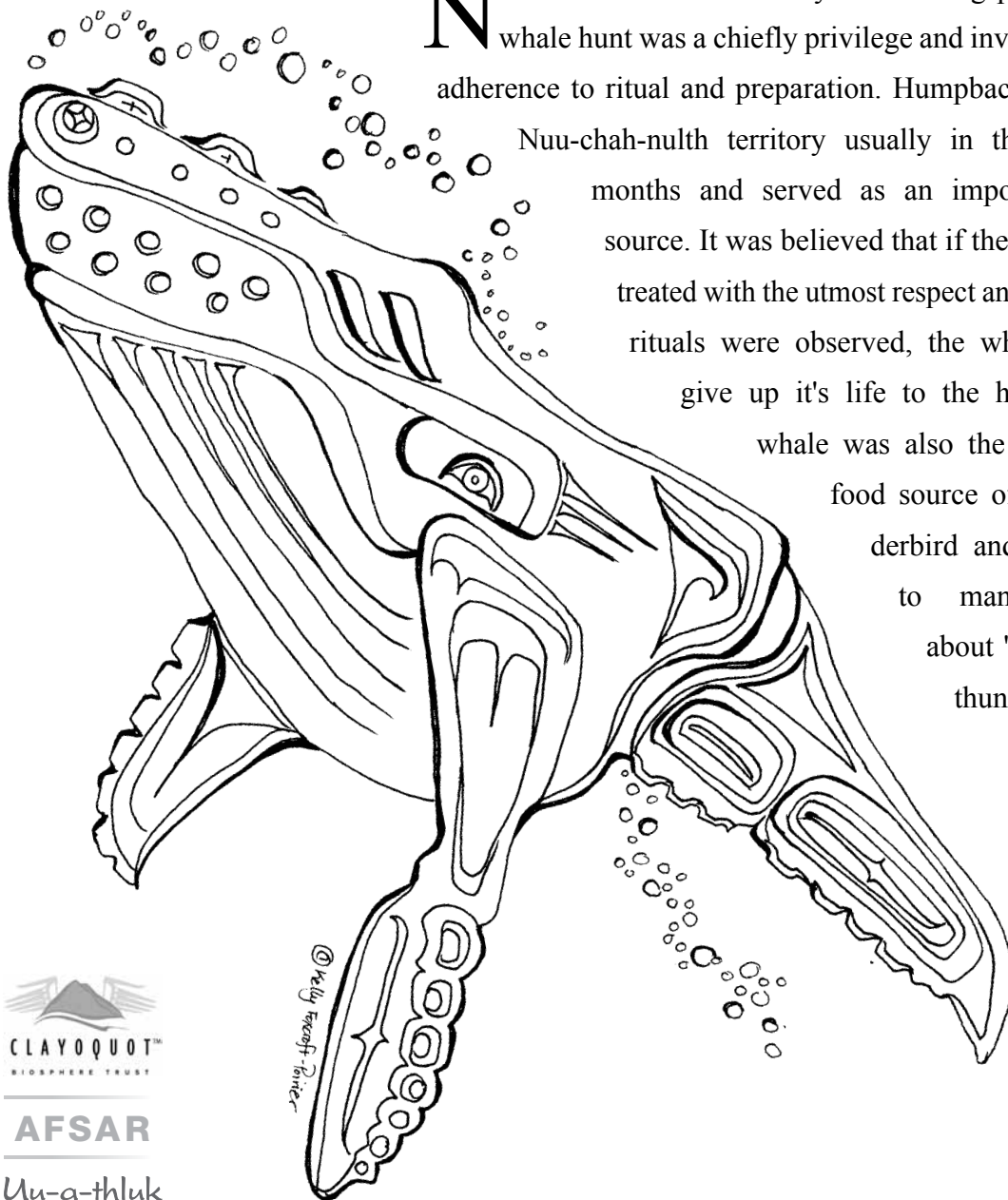
Nuu-chah-nulth traditionally are whaling people. The whale hunt was a chiefly privilege and involved strict adherence to ritual and preparation. Humpbacks lived in

Nuu-chah-nulth territory usually in the summer months and served as an important food source. It was believed that if the whale was

treated with the utmost respect and all proper rituals were observed, the whale would give up its life to the hunter. The

whale was also the traditional food source of the thunderbird and is linked

to many stories about 'teetskin' or thunderbird.

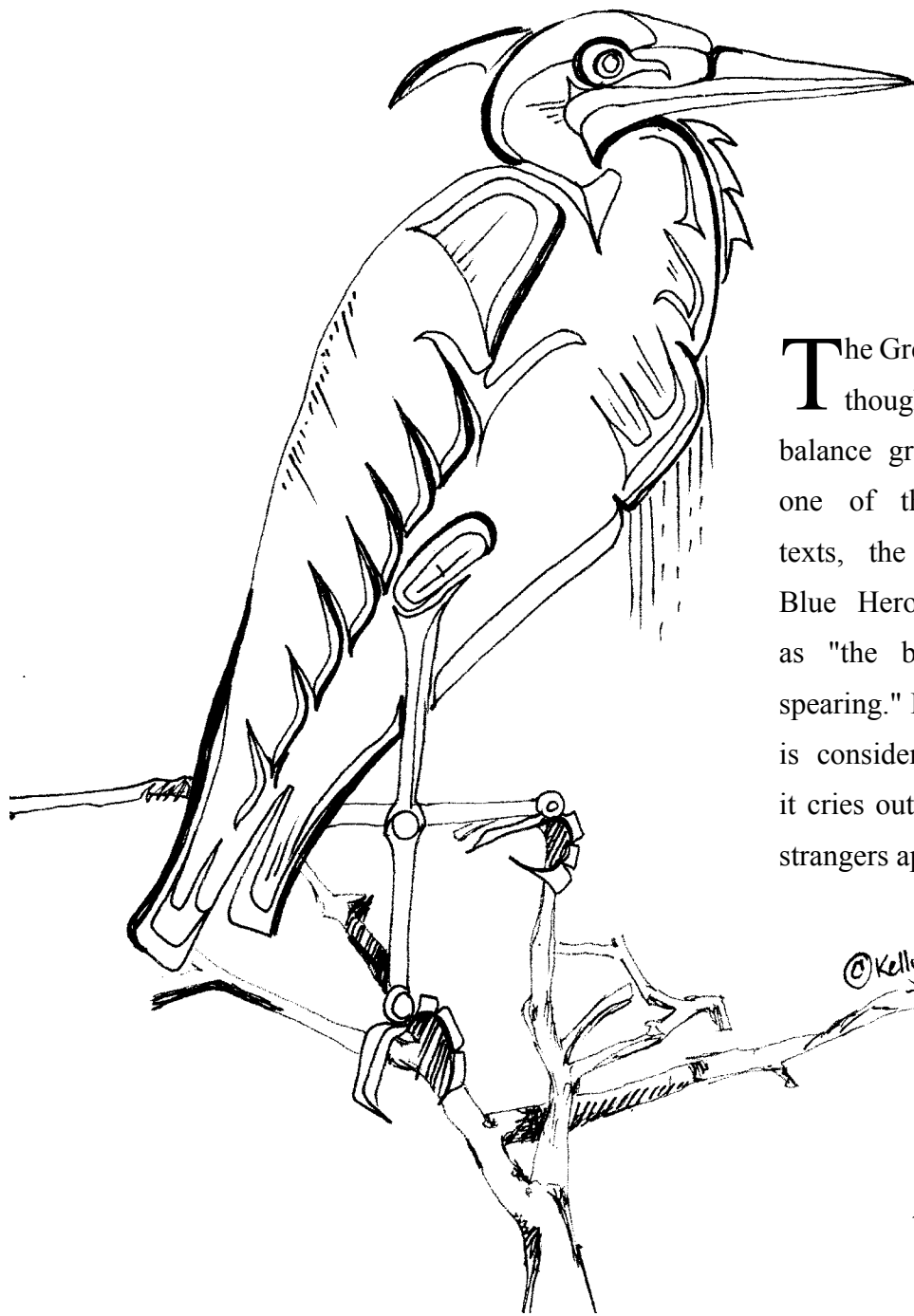


AFSAR

Uy-a-thluk
TAKING CARE OF

GREAT BLUE HERON

?aanus



The Great Blue Heron was thought to symbolize balance grace and focus. In one of the Sapir-Swadesh texts, the crane, or Great Blue Heron, was described as "the best marksmen at spearing." For some the crane is considered a guardian as it cries out loudly to warn of strangers approaching.

@Kelly Foxcroft-Poirier



AFSAR

Uy-a-thluk
TAKING CARE OF

FROG

waaʕit

The frog is thought to represent communication and the common voice of the people, as frogs so often vocalize and share their songs. The frog is also believed by some families to share healing songs, that give healing powers to those who understand their message. The frog is admired for its adaptability to live in both land and water.



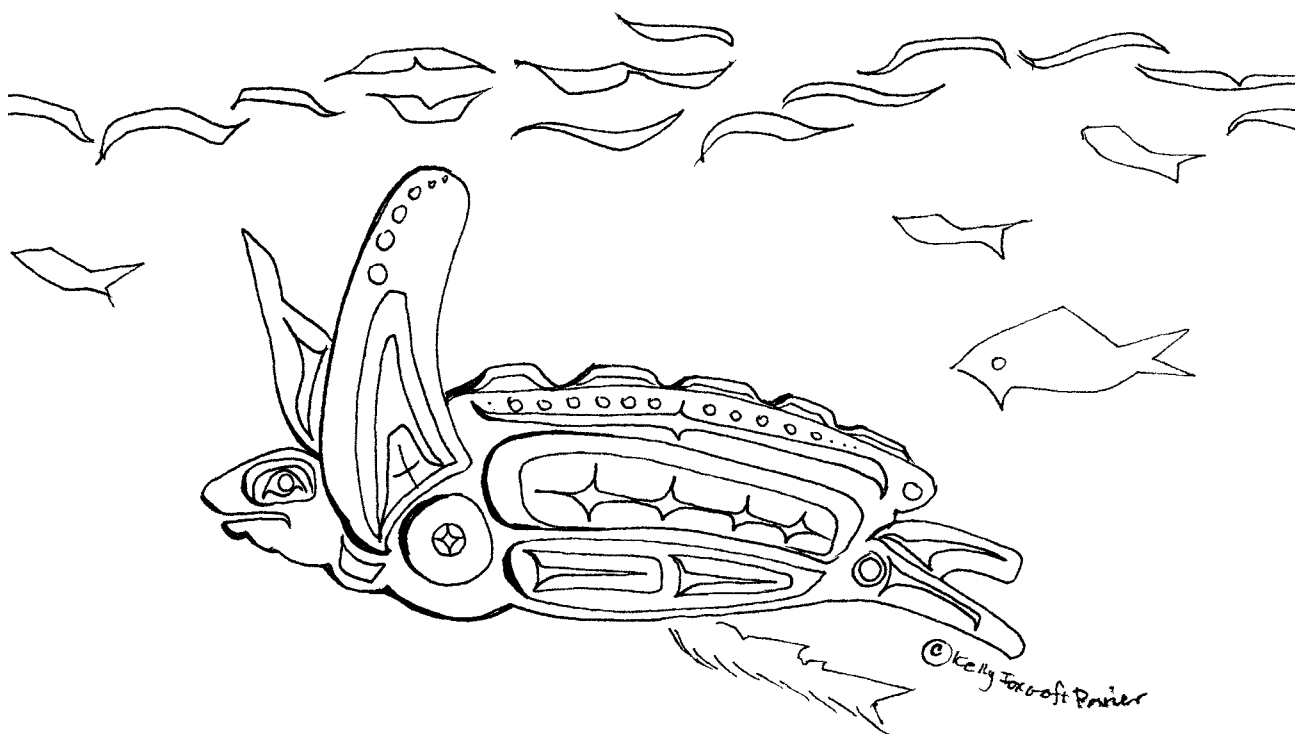
AFSAR

Uu-a-thluk
TAKING CARE OF

LEATHERBACK

SEA TURTLE

λ'ix'iik'in



The Leatherback Sea Turtle is not commonly seen in Nuuchahnulth territory, but is known to pass through West Coast waters from time to time. In some stories the turtle represents the earth itself, with a hard shell on the outside and life contained within. Because the turtle's shell forms a circle, the circular shape suggests the cycles of life and the seasons.

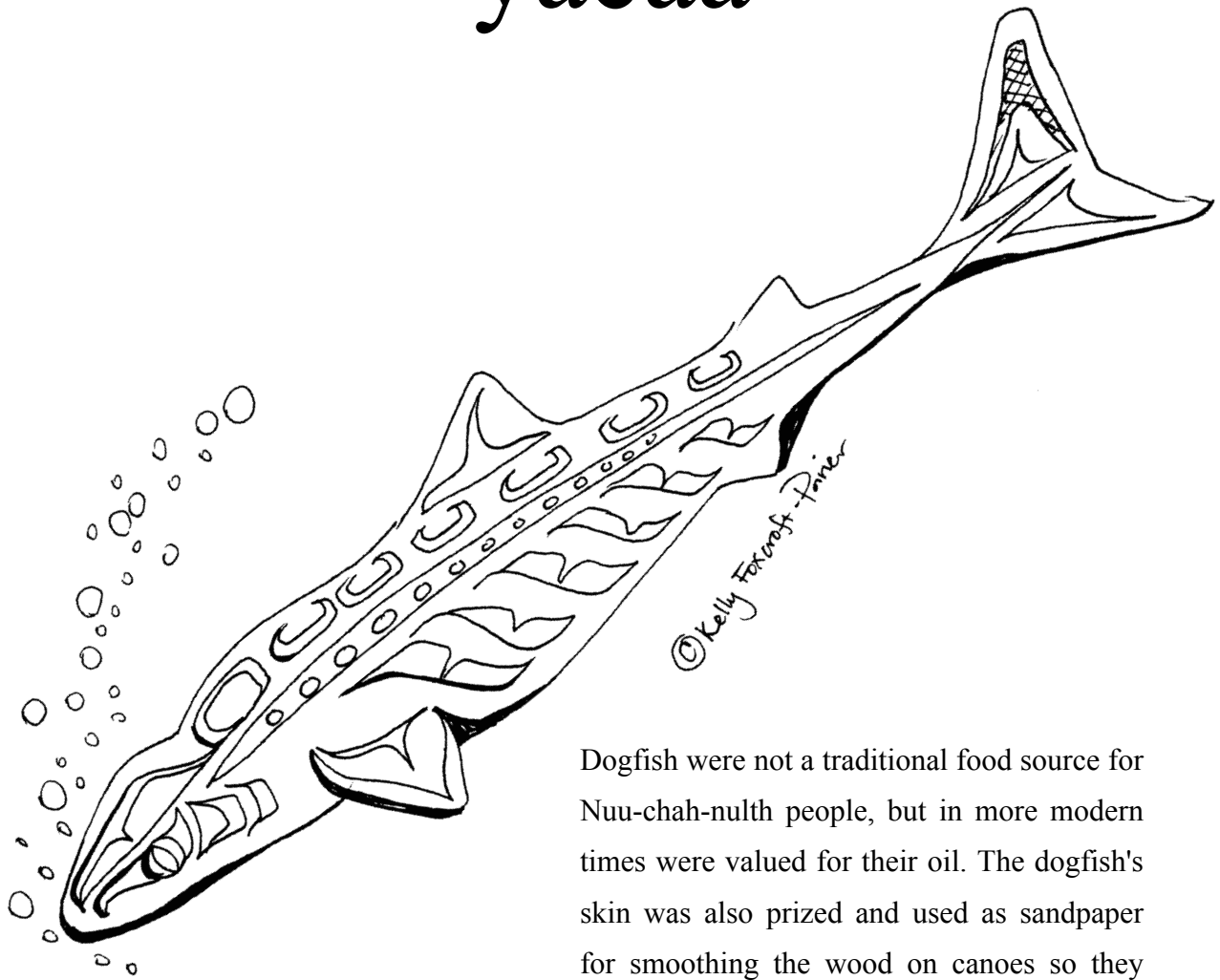


AFSAR

Uy-a-thluk
TAKING CARE OF

DOG FISH

yačaa



Dogfish were not a traditional food source for Nuu-chah-nulth people, but in more modern times were valued for their oil. The dogfish's skin was also prized and used as sandpaper for smoothing the wood on canoes so they would be quick and quiet in the water. There are some stories about giant sharks who lived in deep ocean trenches and underground caves that came up to swallow entire canoes out of the water.



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