

There was one time some men went out eagle trapping and among them was a young unmarried man. Each man had his eagle pit dug and diked up and some of the men had caught eagles already. Some had one, others two, for, and even more but this young man had no luck; one day while he was in his hole, he heard a noise like a herd of buffalo running by his hole and he looked out but could not see anything. He went back to the camp and the next day went out again. He heard the same noise and he thought there were certainly buffalo and he jumped out of his hole and looked around but could see nothing. He went back to camp next day went to his pit again and again he heard the noise or roaring sound and the ground shook. He thought some buffalo might fall in the hole on top of him so he humped out again and looked around. There were animals of any kind in sight. Again he returned to the camp and he told what happened to the other men what had happened. Some of the men said, "You should stay in your hole, it might be a good thing for you. The next time it happens you should stay right there. You might see something good."

The fourth time he went into his hole as he heard the noise and it was near to him. Even pieces of dirt began to fall off the sides of his pit. Suddenly something fell over the top of his hole and he could not see out. He lay there for a while. He had a stick for a man in an eagle hole usually has a stick to keep away magpies and other birds that disturb the bait. He had one of these sticks with him in the hole and he took it and began to feel with it to learn what it was that covered his hole. He found that it was hard; it was a big stone. He knew that his pole was close to a washout on the north side so he took the stick and commenced digging in that direction. He worked for a long time. A man in a pit is not supposed to have any bow and arrows or knife with him but they always have some sticks in the holes. He dug and dug and it took him a long time; at last he ran his stick through and he saw light. He worked hard and made the hole large enough to crawl through. He came out and found himself in the washout and walked out. He saw two eagle trapping tipis. One Lodge was made a little better for the head man lived there. That one was covered with dirt. He looked towards these lodges and a man waved to him to come over. He went there and he was taken in. He stayed there for some time; then he cooked some dry meat and he took an object about two inches long in the soup cooking; it made rich soup. There was a little man living in the lodge. He said to the visitor, "You come with me, I am going to take this food over to my leader" and when they went into the other lodge there was a man sitting there making arrows. This man sitting there making arrows was a large owl and the waiter was one of the little owls.

They gave the meat to the large man and he ate and when he had enough, he pushed to dish to one side and the little owl and their visitor took it and went back to their own lodge. They ate their meal. The young man had not eaten any breakfast before going to his hole and he was very hungry. They slept that night together. Next morning the little owl prepared breakfast and then they took the food in to the Large Owl and he had breakfast; what he left, the boys took back and ate up.

Little Owl said to his friend, "Far straight to the west there is a large lake and in that lake under the water lives an elk who has long horns with many limbs. My leader went out for you because you human beings can do most anything. He is going to send you up there and kill that elk and bring the horns. He will tell you when to go and when the time comes to leave, I will tell you what to do

Little Owl got bow and arrows from Large Owl and passed them on to the young man. He took the bow and arrows and was ready to start out. He said, "It will take you four days and four nights to make the trip. The next day you will find the big lake with trees all around it, a flat

on the north side of it. That is where the elk feeds. He has one place where he rests before he returns to the lake. He has a coyote, watching to see if anyone comes and he warns the elk. He has a crane too, also one of the killdeer birds, a raven, These four watch him all the time. It was the coyotes duty to travel around the sides of the lake and to report any danger from there. The raven sat around the lake on the trees to see if anyone was coming and he too let them know. The crane and killdeer watched the edges of the water. If anyone came around in the night, the killdeer and crane would fly up and make a noise so that the elk would know that there was someone around.

The young man cried seeking for help and he heard a voice calling him and saying, "Come over this way, and the young man walked over where he heard the voice calling him. He found a ground mole and the mole said, "I know what you are after. I will help you get him. Early in the morning before daybreak, the coyote will howl; that is the signal that there is no one around. There will be a big fog come out of the lake early in the morning; that is the time the elk comes up. I know where the elk feeds and there is one spot where he lies down to sleep before going back into the lake. I will begin from here and make a hole right to where he feeds. I will make the hole until I get to the place he lies and I will make it winding up to where he is. You go out and hide yourself someplace and when the lek comes out of that water, I will whistle. When you hear me, you come over there."

The young man hid himself and he lay there watching and he soon heard the coyote howl far off and the elk came out and the mole whistled to the young man and the young man went to the place and the mole said, "You get in the hole and follow me. Follow me until I stop" and the young man followed the mole until they stopped. Soon the elk came over and lay down over the hole; his heart was over the hole and the mole said, "You shoot straight up and your arrow will go through his heart. The elk will jump up, run his horns into the earth, tear the ground up, but he will fall over and die." The mole left the young man and the elk came up and lay right over the hole and the young man took his bow and arrow and sent the arrow and it pierced the heart. The elk jumped up straight into the air, tore the ground up with his horns, and fell and his horns were so long that they broke to pieces. The young man jumped out and gathered up the horns and broke off the section still clinging to the animals head. He lay his arrow down in the ground pointing towards the camp and said, "Now I am going home" and he took two steps and he was home.

He said to Little Owl, "I have killed the elk and have the horns piled up on the ground" They took two steps and they were back to the lake. They tied the horns together like firewood and went home. The Big Owl was happy and he said, "I knew these human beings can do anything. That was why I got this young man to do this deed for me." Little Owl said, "My leader uses these horns to make soup with the dry meat and I cook dry meat and this small horn fat and it makes the soup rich and fatty."

Little Owl and the young man prepared food for their leader and took it to him and the Big Owl got up and danced around his fireplace; then die. Big Owl said to young man, "This time I am going to ask you to go down east of here, there is a young there in the village who has long hair. His hair is striped four times. His name is Striped Hair. I want that head and the hair. I will call you a coward if you fail to get that head and hair for me. You can go when you are ready."

Little Owl and his friend went back to their lodge and ate their morning meal. Little Owl said, "This is a very hard thing or you to do. This is something that is impossible and I think you will never be able to accomplish what he wants. However, I will direct you where to go. This

place where you are going is an island and on it is a village; that is where this Striped Hair lives. When you go and night comes, you lay down your bow and arrows and have the points of your arrows pointing east. You lay there and sleep and next morning you go on again. It will take you four nights to make the trip.”

Little Owl gave him some food to carry on the journey. The young man said, “I am not afraid so he started on the expedition and cried all day and fasted too. Night came and he lay his bow and arrows as directed and went to sleep. Next morning he arose and went on his journey. He did not drink or eat and cried all the way, seeking for help. Night came and he did as the night before. Next morning he travelled, still fasting and crying.

The third night he lay down his arrows pointing east and went to sleep beside them. The next morning he rose and continued his journey without food or water, crying as he walked. Night came and he went to sleep again. When morning came he rose, cried, praying for the spirits to help him. He saw a large white tipi and he walked up to it and stopped at the door. A voice inside said, “Come in” so he went in and it was the old grandmother sitting there. She said, “There is no body around here and now you came. Tell me what your mission is.” He told her how they went out trapping eagles, how the big stone fell on the hole, how he felt the ground and dug out, discovered the two men, and how long he stayed there, how the older man told him to go and get the elk’s horns or he was a coward, and how he killed the Elk and now the same man told him to go get the Striped Hair’s head and hair or he was a coward. “All this happened to me.”

Old Grandmother said, “I know all about it and I know all about that man, Big Owl. You stay here tonight and the first thing in the morning I will fix you and help you. This is what everyone should do to help one another, in case of sickness, trouble, and if anyone is in poverty we should help each other. That is why I will help you. That is the reason I had you come to my tipi.” She gave him water to drink, food, and he sat down and ate.

Next morning the old grandmother said, “Let us go to the creek. She put her hands in the water and made waves and when the water was smooth she ducked into it and changed herself to a young woman. The young man also bathed and she rubbed herself against the young man and he was change to a young woman too. He was the old grandmother. That Striped Hair comes here to visit me and he is after me and wants me.” She gave him four cornballs and said, “You go straight east and when you come to this water, it is so wide that there is nobody able to swim across, then you will find four turtles on the edge of the water. You will say to the turtles, ‘Pull me across’ and you will give two cornballs to two turtles. They will ask you to take your moccasins off and stand on their backs. When you take your moccasin off put one foot on one turtle and one on the other so that when they move, you will be over on the other side on that island.

She gave him a large knife and said, “You keep this in your sewing bag. There are four things that stay around the edge of the water to watch for enemies. They are the crane, killdeer, raven and coyote. When you walk up towards the village, do not look around; look down and walk slowly and then the men who will be on the outskirts of the village gambling, and you will see some children gambling around there. Ask them where Striped Hair’s lodge is. The older folks will see you and say, ‘There comes Striped Hair’s girl’ and his mother also has striped hair but it is short and only comes down to her shoulders. She travels all over and she comes back and watches her son. When you come to the lodge, they will ask you to come in and his mother has a sister also. She will invite you in and she will ask you to go over and sit down on his bed. Soon the other will come through the smokehole and land on the floor. The first thing she will do will

be to bring four round yellow stones and she will put them in the corn mill and you take your stick and pound down into the hole four times pushing twice towards you and twice away, then pull the stick out and the mother will come and look at the corn and it will be ground fine. Then she will say, 'This is alright. Stand there and face me' and you do so. She will look through you and then she will ask you to stand with your back towards her and when you turn that way she will examine you to make sure you are a woman. She will notice the blood veins on the calf of your legs. The blood veins there on your leg are not a woman's but a man's. I was not able to change those or you could not run. The sister will speak up and say, 'You always make some remarks. You should say less, you know Striped Hair wants her' but the mother will say, 'I know what I want' and will get mad and go out through the smokehole and leave. You and the young man will go to bed together and he will try intercourse but you tell him that you travelled so far that you are tired. Along towards morning he will go to sleep and you take some old rags with you and you cut his throat and when you cut it, there will be some kind of a noise as he struggles and you stuff them into his throat. His mother's sister will say, 'What is that I hear?' then you will say, 'Grandmother, I passed air; that is what you heard.' You will find his neck chokecherry. Cut that cherry tree and say to his mother's sister, 'I am sick. Give me a robe so I can go out and lie in the entrance' and she will say that is the best think to do and she will help you. You go back and make a pillow to look like Striped Hair is lying there.

"When you come to the shore, climb on the turtles and they will take you across. You must get to my tipi before the mother overtakes you or you are lost. Run just as hard as you can.

He did all these things according to instructions. When he got the head, he ran and jumped on the turtles' backs and ran as hard as he could when he reached shore. The mother in law learned of her son's death and flew up into the air and towards where the man went. He came to the tipi door and threw himself at the door. The woman came and said, "Throw him out or I will come in and destroy both of you. The old Grandmother rubbed her tipi with her hands and the tipi turned into a stone, but there were cracks where the seams were. Striped Hair's mother flew up and charged at the tipi, running her tail which was sharp, into the cracks but she could not get loose. The Old Grandmother went out and caused the blizzard to come and freeze her to death. This Striped Woman was one of the evil spirits and her tail was a flint knife she used to cut her enemies to death.

The old Grandmother went out after the storm stopped and took the old woman down; then she changed her lodge back to a hide tipi again. She took the young man to the creek and he bathed and changed back to his own self again. They went back to her tipi and she said, "You take the woman's scalp and take the young man's scalp off too" and he did. You go home with these two scalps and when you get back to that Large Owl's lodge, you give the long hair and the old Woman's hair to your friend. This Owl Man will take care of you and show you the way to your home and you will get home safely. On the way, you will meet some obstacles. The spirits of these two people you killed will meet you but you need not pay any attention to them; you must have patience and not fear anything."

He took the long hair and gave it to the Owl Man and he gave the other scalp to his friend. He stayed with the Owl Men for several days until he was rested again. Large Owl said "It is time now for you to return to your home." This young man's name was Black Wolf. He said, "There were two things that were very hard to get. (elk and striped hair) You got both of those things for me and I will give you two things I will give you these arrows, all ten of them, and a bow." He gave him an owl skin. "These two things will be with you and take care of you. On your way and before you reach the hills, just before you reach Plum River, (Meuse today)

and you will meet a young woman who will come up to you and call you by your name. She will throw her arms around your neck and will ask you to sit down and you will have to refuse her and go on.

Before he left the Old Grandmother, she said to Black Wolf, "We have killed the old woman with striped hair and her spirit will appear to you four times and she will try to make you fall down and forget your memory and if you weaken and fall down, that means death."

Owl Man told him the same thing, "When you leave the woman behind you, she will try to frighten you so that you will fall and when she does that, you hoot like an owl and then she will leave you and you can go about your way. This will happen to you four times and the fifth one you meet will come up and speak to you and say, 'Let's sit down and talk' and you select a good place where there are stones to sit on and you sit down there with the young woman. Then you tell her all about your travellings and the things you encountered from the time you went eagle trapping, how the owl people took you into their tipis, how you killed the elk, how you went onto the island and killed Striped Hair and his mother, tell all about yourself. After you have told your whole story to the woman, she will be afraid of you. Now she will say to you, 'Let's go home' and you go with her and she will lead you to Dog Den and take you in. There will be seven men and this woman. This woman is a sister of the eight men; you will stay there a while and the men will say 'Our sister is married now and we have a brother-in-law. We should have a little fun and dance' and they will jump up and dance around; they will cut themselves up; some will cut their feet off, arms, even heads but the limbs will be off but they will jump up and down. You will take the Owl Skin and throw it to the head of the tipi and this owl will sit up, shake himself, and commence to hoot. All these dancers will rush for the door and go out. About that time the old Grandmother will change the weather and it will snow and get cold. These dancers will beg for their lives and they will call to their sister, "Tell our brother-in-law that we are getting cold and want to get in.' You will take you owl back, wrap it up, and put it away. Then you say to the wife, 'Your brothers can come in.' The men will come in, pick up their limbs, then you will marry their sister and she will be your wife."

He stayed with the woman after he married her for a long time and while he was there he learned that these men were the children of that white dog and that Cedar Between the Eyes and Blows Through Hole were the two oldest. These two would go out every day and then tell what happened, how they met a ma and made him lose his mind, made him think he saw a big fire, and kept him following until he froze to death. The other would say he saw a big fight over there and that he made them do the fighting and caused several deaths so Black Wolf saw that they were evil people so he said to his wife, "I want to go back to my people now. If you wish to go with me, come along; otherwise you can stay. I know you are half G.V. and half something else (Father was that dog)" She said, "I will go with you back to our home" and the two started out.

They reached home. The Village was where the Grandson went up to the skies and left the 'Trail' to the skies. The people were glad to see him back and then he told them everything he

Note: Can't find rest of story; stops on p. 11