

If My  
Drum Could Talk

by Jerome Jainga  
illustrated by Jeffrey Noel Jainga

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

### ***Jeffery Noel Jainga- Tsimshian***

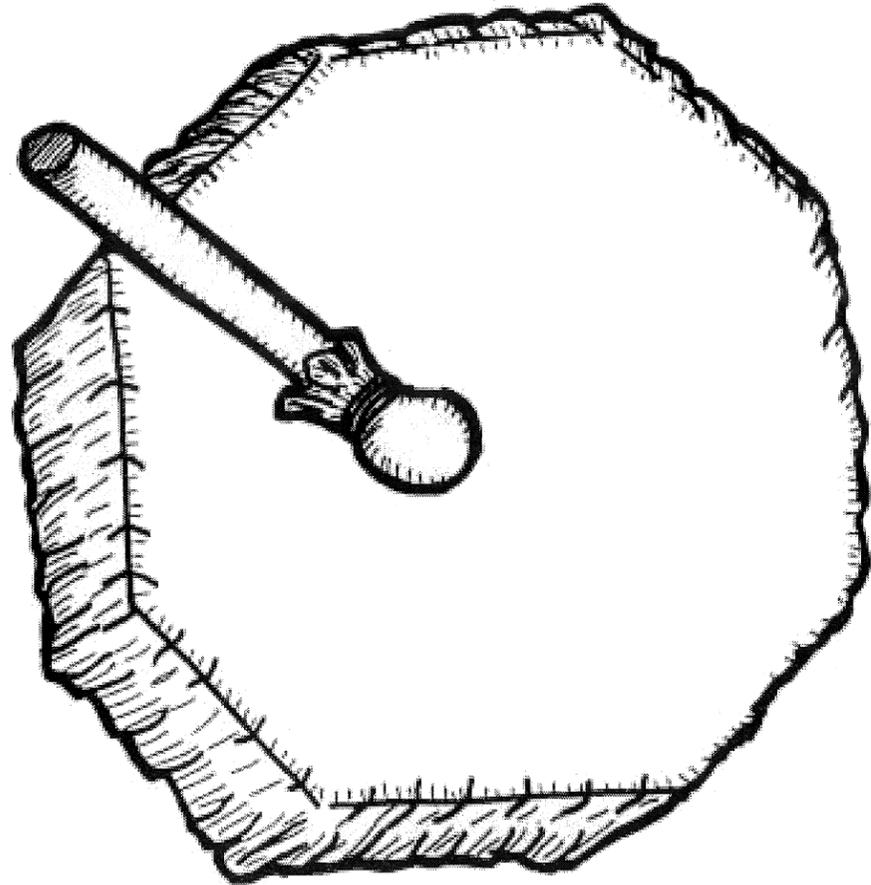
Mr. Jainga is a cartoonist, illustrator, videographer, editor and screenwriter. He has attended Seattle Central Community College's Advertising Art Program and DeAnza College in California for filmmaking. He has studied traditional Native Arts with David Boxley (Tsimshian Eagle), learning Alaskan Tsimshian 2-D design, mask and spoon carving and bentwood box construction. He worked for four years as a TV news camera soundperson at KOMO TV, for five years at LSI Logic Corporation editing, writing and producing video. He also took traditional native drum making classes with Mike Dangeli of Northwind Native Arts.

### ***Jerome M. Jainga- Tsimshian***

In addition to being a cultural specialist for the Suquamish Tribe, Jerome Jainga works for the Marion Forsman-Boushie Early Learning Center. He designs culturally appropriate curriculum and programs for young people ages 3-12. He manages the educational delivery of the Lushootseed Language and acts as an advocate for Native American Education. He holds an Associate's degree in Pastry/Foods from South Seattle Community College and is currently working towards a Bachelors/Masters in Human Development and Native Studies from Pacific Oaks College. Mr. Jainga is also active in the Puget Salish Language Council, the Native Curriculum Development Team and Washington State OSPI.

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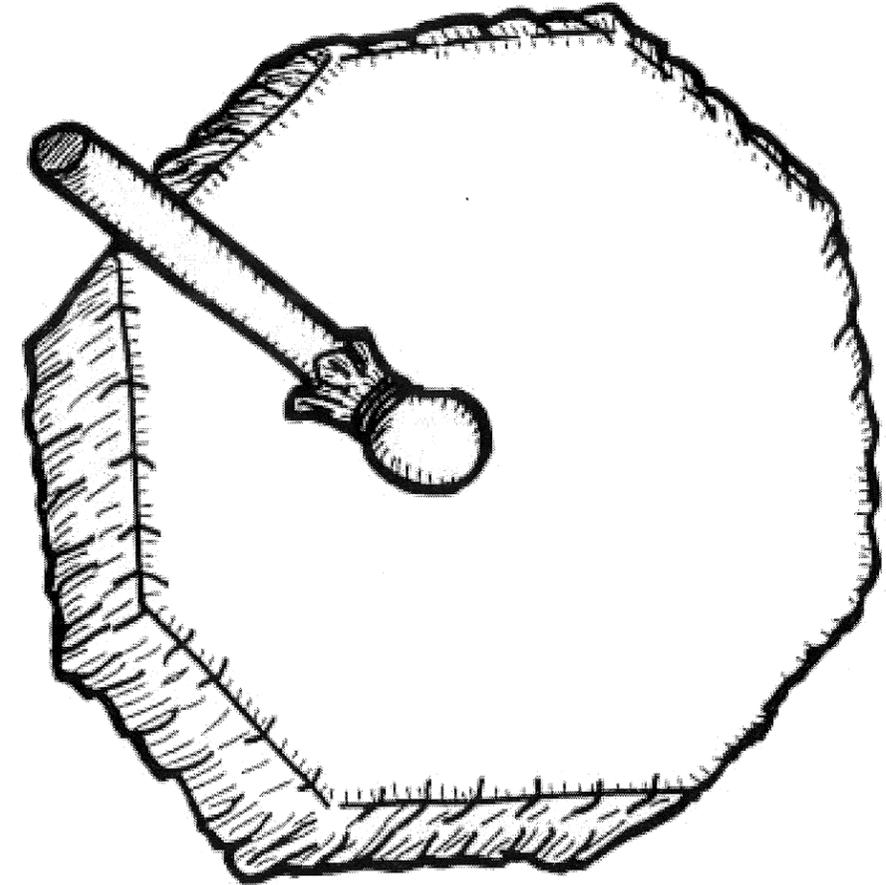


As I beat my drum, I think and I wonder, 'If my drum could talk, what would it say?'

"Boom! Boom, boom. I am your friend. I will always be with you, up to the very end."

"Boom! Boom, boom. Remember as you sing your songs, please always respect me and my beat will stay strong."

"Boom! Boom, boom. I'm the beat of your heart. Please use me to help you and I'll always do my part."

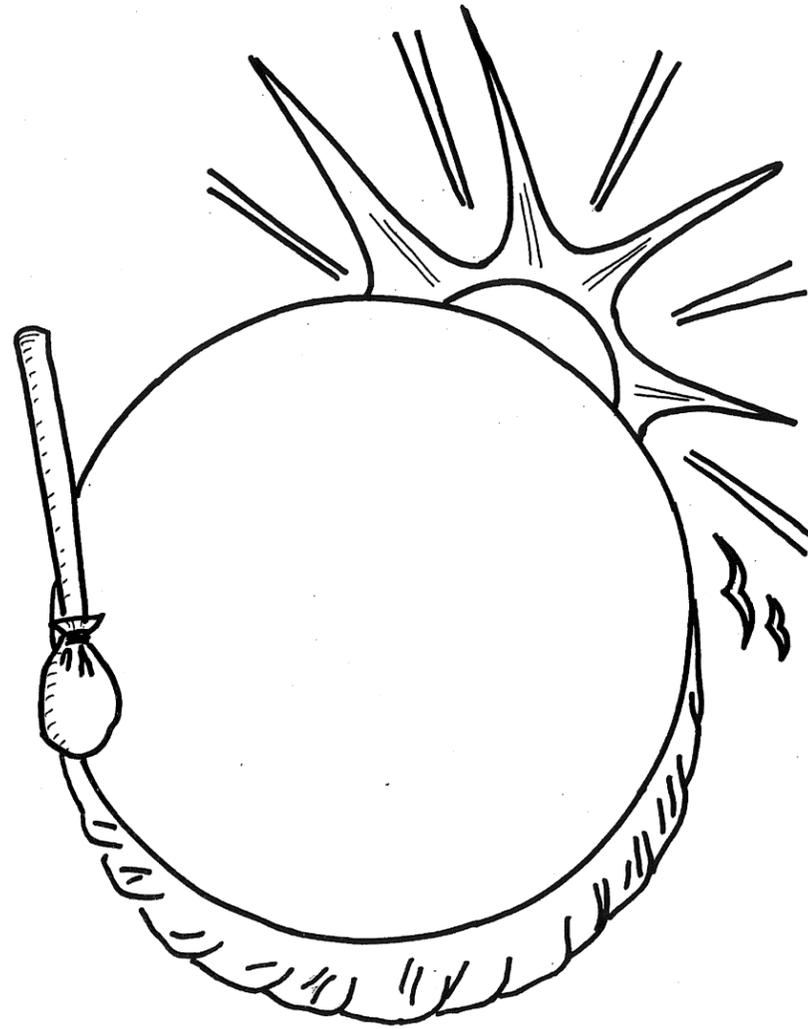


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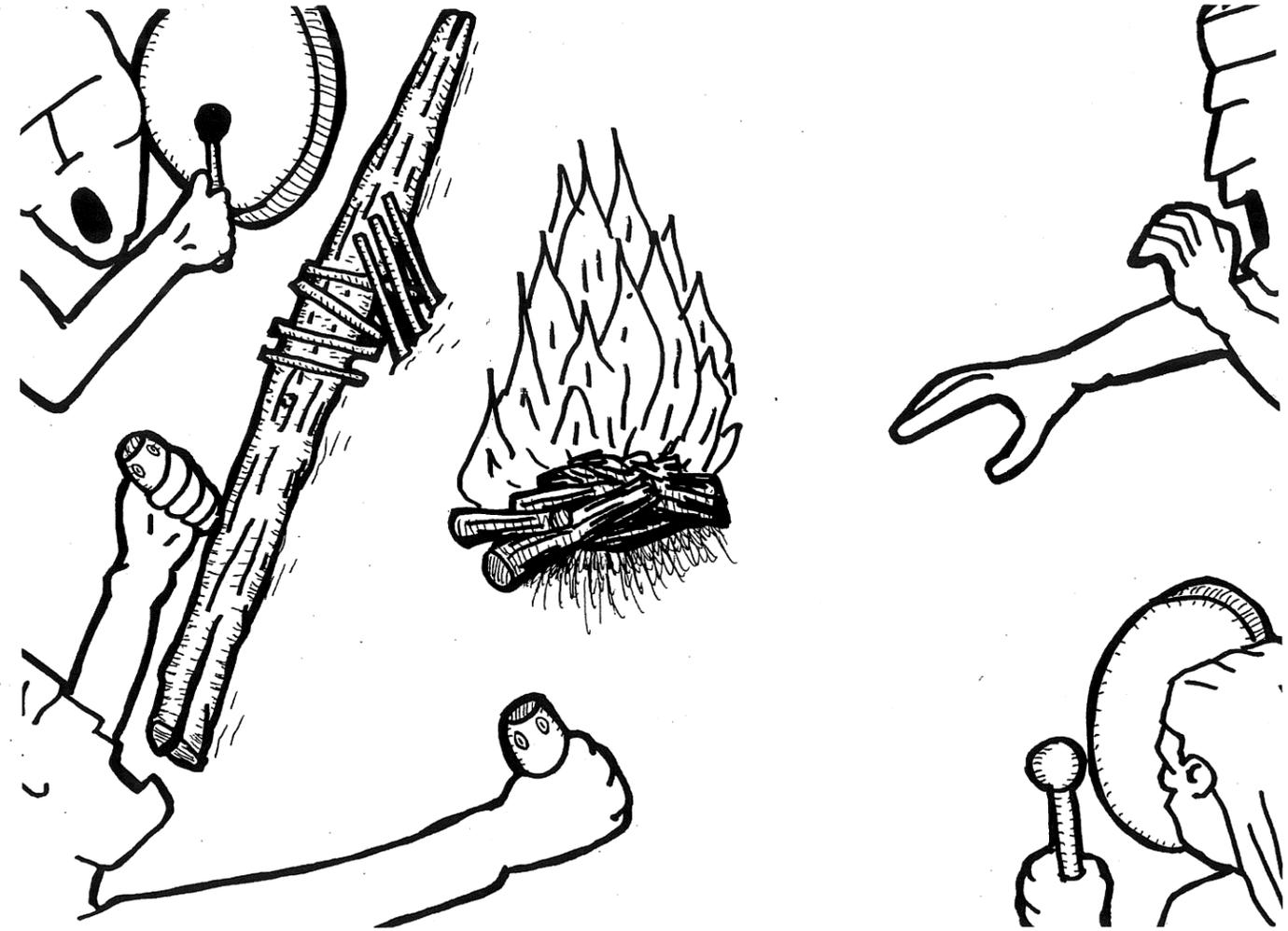
"Boom! Boom, boom. I'm the beat of your heart. Please use me to help you and I'll always do my part."



As I beat my drum, I think and I wonder, 'If my drum could talk, what would it say?' It might ask our people to remember to pray.

"Boom, boom. Like the beat of my heart, I pray Great Spirit help me to be strong and do my part.

"Boom, boom. I am thankful to you, for giving me the strength in all that I do."



As I beat my drum, I think and I wonder, 'If my drum could talk, what would it say?' It might help our people as they gather to play.

"Boom, boom. Boom, boom. Stay alert, and be quick, focus as we begin. Keep your eyes on the other team and don't let them win.

"Boom, boom. Boom, boom. Sing loud and sing strong. Make every move count, don't let us guess wrong."