

# THE SUNDANCER



WI WANYANG WAĆI KIN

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YELLOW MOON WAS A LAKOTA BOY WHO THOUGHT HE WAS BETTER AND TOUGHER THAN EVERYBODY ELSE. HE DID NOT THINK THAT ANYTHING COULD HURT HIM. HE WAS RAISED BY HIS UNCI (GRANDMOTHER) BECAUSE HIS PARENTS WERE KILLED IN A BATTLE. ONE DAY HE WALKED INTO HIS UNCI'S TIPI AND SAID, "UNCI, I AM GOING TO DO THE SUNDANCE."

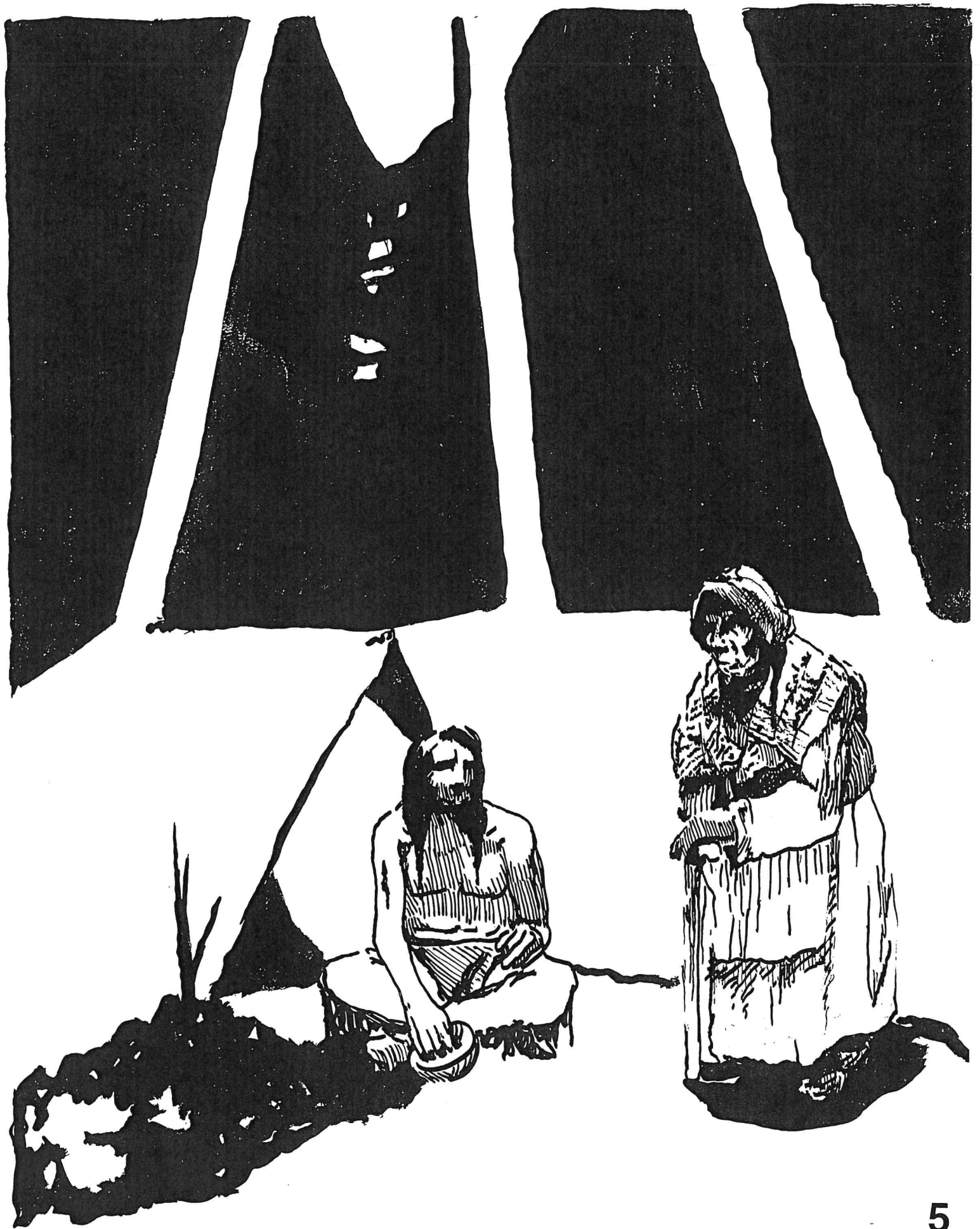
HOKŠILA WAN "WI ZI" EČIYAPI KI LE KUNŠITKU WAN IČAĤKIYE ČA ĤAWAČIN KI TOKEČA, TUWENI ISOM WAŠTE ŠNI NAINŠ TUWENI KAŠTAKA OKIHI ŠNI, HEČEL .IYUKČAN EHANNI, HUNKU/ATKUKU PI AHI WIČAKTE PI,

WATOHANL HOKŠILA KIN KUNŠITKU KI EL I NA HEYA KE, "UNCI, WI WANYANG WAWAČI KTE LO," EYA ČA KUNŠITKU KI HEYA KE.

SHE SAID TO HIM, "TAKOJA (GRANDSON),  
YOU SHOULDN'T DO THAT, BECAUSE THE  
SUNDANCE IS ONLY FOR MEN."

ANGRILY YELLOW MOON SAID, "WHAT DO  
YOU THINK I AM?" UNCI SAID NOTHING.

"TAKOJA, HEČUN ŠNI, HENA WIČA ČA  
EČELA WAČIPI KISTO," EYA KE, ČANKE,  
HOKŠILA KI WANČOK ČANZE HINGLE, NA HEYA  
KE, "LE UNČI, MATAKU HWO," EYAŠ KUNSITKU  
KI AYUPTTE ŠNI KE.





A YEAR PASSED, AND YELLOW MOON WAS READY FOR THE SUNDANCE. HE HAD SPENT THE YEAR GATHERING THE THINGS HE NEEDED. HE KNEW WHAT TO GET BECAUSE HE HAD SEEN THE SUNDANCE BEFORE. HE DID NOT ASK ANYONE FOR ADVICE BECAUSE HE THOUGHT HE KNEW EVERYTHING. HE DID NOT REALLY UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF WHAT HE WAS GOING TO DO.

HOĀA, HOKŠILA KI WANİYETU KI OPTA IGLUWINYEYA KE, TUWENI IYUNĜE ŠNI NAINŠ TOKE ŠKE WOĀUN KI LENA WAWINĜE ŠNI KE.



THE RELATIVES AND FRIENDS OF THE SUNDANCERS FASTED WITH THEM AFTER PURIFYING THEMSELVES IN THE SWEAT LODGE. THEY SEATED THEMSELVES AROUND THE SUNDANCE GROUNDS SO THEY COULD GIVE SUPPORT TO THEIR DANCERS. FRIENDS CAME AND TOLD HIS UNCI THAT YELLOW MOON WAS IN THE SUNDANCE. UNCI WENT TO THE SUNDANCE GROUNDS AND PRAYED AND CRIED FOR YELLOW MOON AS HE DANCED.

WANA BLOKETU EHANL A'KE WIWANYANG WAČIPI ČA HOKŠILA KI LE TAKOLAKU EYA HIPI NA UNČI OKIYAKAPI, "WI ZI, WAČI YELO" EYAPI KE, UNCI INIKAĞIN NA EKTA I NA LILA WAČEKIYA KE.





THE LAST DAY OF THE SUNDANCE IS THE TRADITIONAL TIME FOR THE DANCERS TO PIERCE. A SUNDANCE HELPER CAME TO YELLOW MOON AND SAID, "LAY DOWN ON THIS BED OF SAGE SO I CAN PIERCE YOU." THEN HE TOLD HIM THAT IT WAS ALRIGHT TO CRY.

ANPETU EHAKELA EL WANA WIĆAPAĤLOKAPI KTA ĆA IGLUNWINYE YAPI. WATOHANL, "WI ZI" NAJIN EL ITANĆAN KI .I NA PEJI HOTA OWINJAPI ĆA HEL IYUNKE ŠI KE, WANA HE KIĆI PAĤLO KIN KTA ĆA, NA HOKŠILA KI LILA YAZAN EHANTANŠ ĆEYE ŠI KE.

YELLOW MOON REPLIED, "I WON'T CRY; I AM NO BABY." THE OTHER SUNDANCERS CRIED TO SHOW THAT THEY MEANT WHAT THEY WERE DOING. THE PIERCER PINCHED THE SKIN ON YELLOW MOON'S CHEST TO DEADEN IT. HE SQUEEZED EXTRA HARD TO MAKE YELLOW MOON CRY, BUT YELLOW MOON WANTED TO PROVE HE WAS A MAN BY NOT CRYING.

EYAŚ HOKŚILA KI HEYAKE, "MA BEBE LA ŚNI YELO, ĆA WAĆEYIN KTE ŚNI YELO," EYA KE, WANA EL KUL IYUNKA ĆA MAKU KI HEL YUJIPYELA YUZI NA LILA AYUTINSTINS KE, HEĆEL YAZAN KTE ŚNI ĆA ON HEĆUN, HOKŚILA KI WIĆA IĆILA ĆA ĆEYE ŚNI KE,





THE TRUE SUNDANCER PIERCES BECAUSE HE IS SACRIFICING HIS FLESH FOR THE PEOPLE, BUT YELLOW MOON WAS DOING IT BECAUSE HE WANTED TO SHOW OFF, THE PIERCER UNDERSTOOD THIS AND DECIDED TO TEACH THE BOY A LESSON, HE PULLED ON THE SKIN FROM YELLOW MOON'S CHEST AND MADE TWO LITTLE CUTS IN IT WITH HIS KNIFE, THEN HE TOOK A LARGE WOODEN SKEWER AND SHOVED IT HARD THROUGH THE CUTS, WHEN HE DID THIS YELLOW MOON LET OUT A YELL AND STARTED TO CRY, WHEN HIS UNCI HEARD THIS SHE SAID, "OH MY, THEY ARE MAKING HIM CRY!" SHE PRAYED EVEN HARDER FOR HIM,

HOKŠILA KIN WANA WIKAN IKOYAGYA YUNAJIN KIYAPI NA ITANČAN KI WIKAN YUTIKTIKTAN ČA NAKE HOKŠILA KI ŠIČAHOWA IYA YE, ČA UNČI HEYA KE, "HUNHI, MIČAŠTAKA PELE," EYA KE,



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THE PIERCER PULLED YELLOW MOON OFF THE BED OF SAGE AND TIED HIS SKEWERS TO A ROPE ATTACHED TO THE SACRED TREE. THEN HE JERKED ON THE ROPE AND MADE YELLOW MOON CRY AGAIN. HE WAS TRYING TO LET YELLOW MOON KNOW THAT THE SUNDANCE WAS NOT JUST A PLAY THING. THE SUNDANCE WAS A TIME FOR ONE TO PRAY, TO BE HUMBLE, AND TO SUFFER FOR THE PEOPLE. IT WAS NOT A TIME FOR BRAGGING AND FEELING SUPERIOR.

WIWANYAB WAĆI ĤĈE KI LENA ĈEHPI ĶO  
YEKIYAPI NA NAKUN ĈEYA WAĆIPI, HEĈEL  
WAKANTANKA KIN ONŚI WIĈAKILA KTE, EYAŚ  
HOKŚILA KI LE INŚ OYATE WIĈI TO KAB  
IKPAZO ĈA HEON WAĆI,





YELLOW MOON WAS HURTING VERY MUCH NOW, WHILE THE OTHER DANCERS WERE DANCING AND PULLING ON THEIR ROPES, YELLOW MOON WAS JUST STANDING THERE SHAKING. THIS WAS NOT GOING THE WAY YELLOW MOON HAD PLANNED. HE HAD THOUGHT HE COULD MAKE THE SUNDANCE LOOK EASY.

ITANČAN KI HOKŠILA KI LE IKPAZO  
OGNA WAČI ČA ABLEZA KE, ONMA KI LILA  
WAČIPI EYAŠ, HOKŠILA KI YAZAN GLA ČA ON  
WANJI YUČANČANPI S'E NAJIN KE, HOKŠILA  
KI LE TUKTOGNA IYUKČAN K'ON HE IYEČETU  
ŠNI NA TOKA KTE ŠNI KE ČIN.

THE SUNDANCE CHIEF GAVE A SIGNAL FOR THE SUNDANCERS TO COME TOWARD THE MEDICINE POLE AND TOUCH IT FOUR TIMES, THE PIERCED SUNDANCERS PRAYED AND DANCED AS HARD AS THEY COULD, WHEN IT CAME TIME TO BREAK LOOSE, EVERYONE BRAVELY BROKE LOOSE EXCEPT TWO OF THE DANCERS, ONE WAS YELLOW MOON.

WANA, ITANČAN KI IYUHA ČAN WAKAN  
ETKIYA TOPA EYUTANPI NA HEHANL IGLU-  
PSAKAPI KA, ČA WANA EČUNPI, IYUHA ČANTE  
TINS KIČUNPI NA IGLUŠPU PI EYAŠ, NUM  
OKIHIPI ŠNI, HE HOKŠILA KI HE WANJI,





THE SUNDANCE HELPER WENT TO THE OTHER MAN, PUT HIS HAND ON THE MAN'S CHEST, AND PUSHED HIM SO HARD THAT HE BROKE LOOSE AND FELL TO THE GROUND. THEN THE HELPER CAME TO YELLOW MOON AND TOLD HIM, "I AM GOING TO GO AROUND FOUR TIMES AND IF YOU HAVE NOT BROKEN LOOSE BY THEN, I WILL HELP YOU."

ĪTANĀN KI IYAYIN NA ONMA KI MAKU EL APUTAKIN NA LILA PATINTA Ā IGLUPSAKIN NA GLIĤPAYE, HO, HEHANL HOKĖILA KI EL Ā LILA ŖKAN EYAŖ OKIHI ŖNI, Ā ITANĀN KI HEYA KE, "OHOMNI TOPA OWAKWINGĖIN KTE LO Ā OYAKIHI ŖNI KI OĀĀINYIN KTE LO," EYA KE,



YELLOW MOON WEAKLY TRIED TO PULL  
HIMSELF FREE FROM THE ROPE, THE HELPER  
CAME AROUND THE FIRST TIME AND GAVE  
YELLOW MOON A STAFF, HE SAID, "TAKE THIS  
STAFF AND USE IT TO HELP YOURSELF,"  
YELLOW MOON PUSHED HARD BUT HE COULD NOT  
BREAK LOOSE,

SAGYE WAN K'U KE NA HEON IKPATAK  
IGLUTITAN ŠI KE, LEHINČINTA IGLUTITAN KE  
EYAŠ OKIHI ŠNI,





AS HE GOT CLOSER, YELLOW MOON WAS PULLING SO HARD THAT SWEAT WAS POURING OUT OF HIS BODY, AND HIS SKIN WAS STRETCHING. HE WANTED TO GET LOOSE BEFORE THE HELPER GOT TO HIM. THE HELPER PUT HIS HAND ON YELLOW MOON'S CHEST AND PUSHED BACK VERY HARD. YELLOW MOON FINALLY BROKE LOOSE. AFTERWARDS, YELLOW MOON SAID, "IT FELT LIKE HE JUST PULLED THE INSIDES OUT OF MY CHEST."

ITANĀN KI MAKU EL APUTAKIN NA LILA PATITAN Ā IGLUPSAKA KE, NA HOKŠILA KI HEYA KE, "MAKU MAHEL TAKU MAON K'ON IYUHA YUAKANL IMAĀU WELO," EYA KE.

THE LAKOTA SUNDANCE IS A SACRED CEREMONY, IT IS A TIME OF THANKSGIVING AND RENEWAL. THE LAKOTA PEOPLE ARE GENEROUS AND WILL EVEN SACRIFICE THEIR FLESH FOR OTHERS, BUT THERE ARE SOME LIKE YELLOW MOON WHO HAVE TO LEARN THE HARD WAY.

LAĀOTA KI WI WANYANG WAĀIPI KI LE WAKANYAN EĀUNPI, HUNĀ WOPILA ON WAĀIPI NA HUNĀ WOWIĀALA APIKIYAPI ON WAĀIPI NA NAKUN OYATE AKAĀPEYA WAĀEWIĀAKIYAPI, LAĀOTA KI LILA WAĀANTE OGNAKAPI, TUWEKE EYAĀ, HUNĀ INĀ WOSTUKA ON WAIKPAZO WAĀIPI, HENA WIĀĀĀĀALA KI HEĀETU LAPI ŀNI,



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