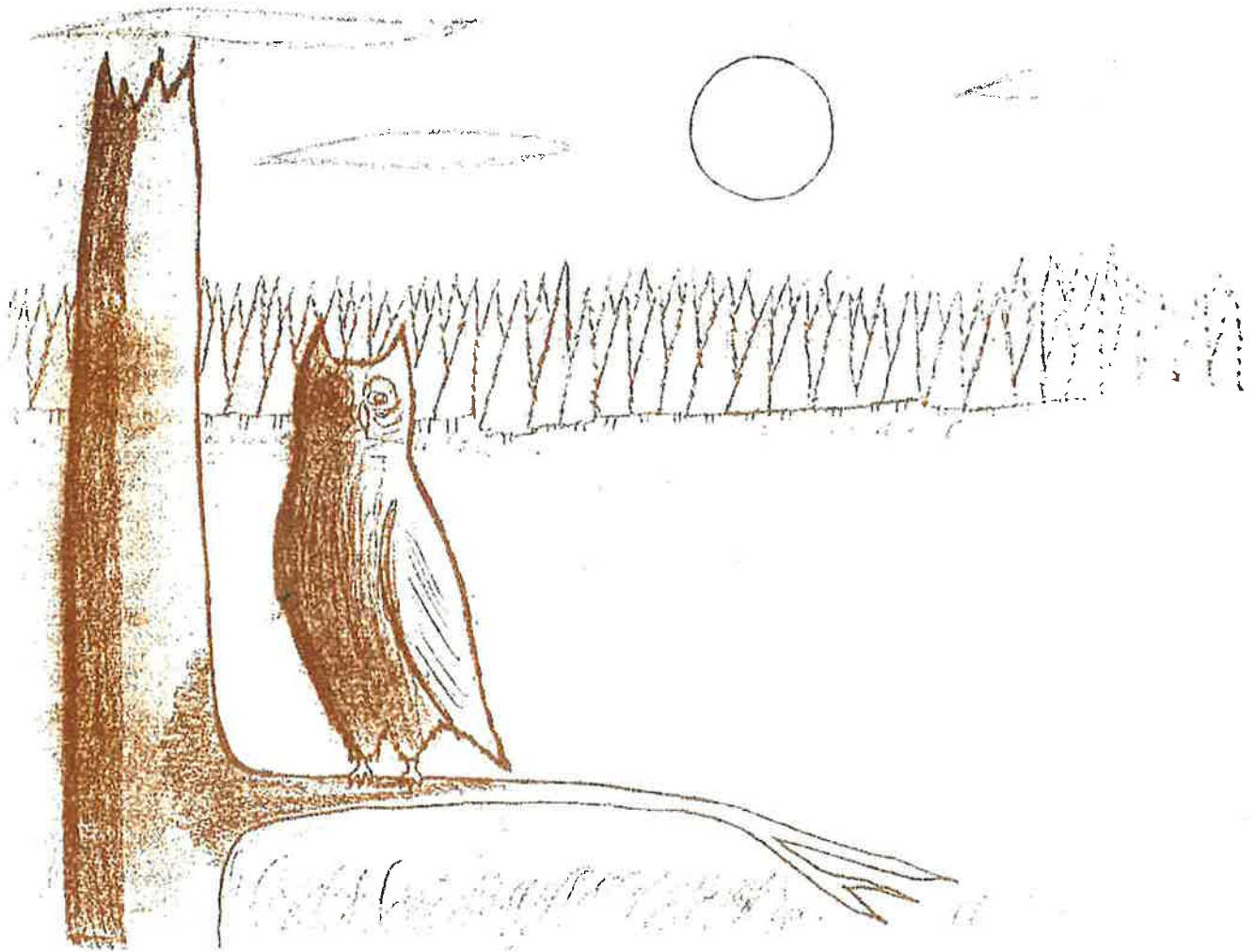


Great Horned Owl and the Rapids



told by Isaac Gliddy
transcribed and translated by Evelyn Baxter
illustrated by Andrew Anderson

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This legend was collected from northwestern Ontario. It was transcribed from the original Oji-Cree and later translated into English. Attempts have been made to retain the authenticity of both versions while ensuring their readability.

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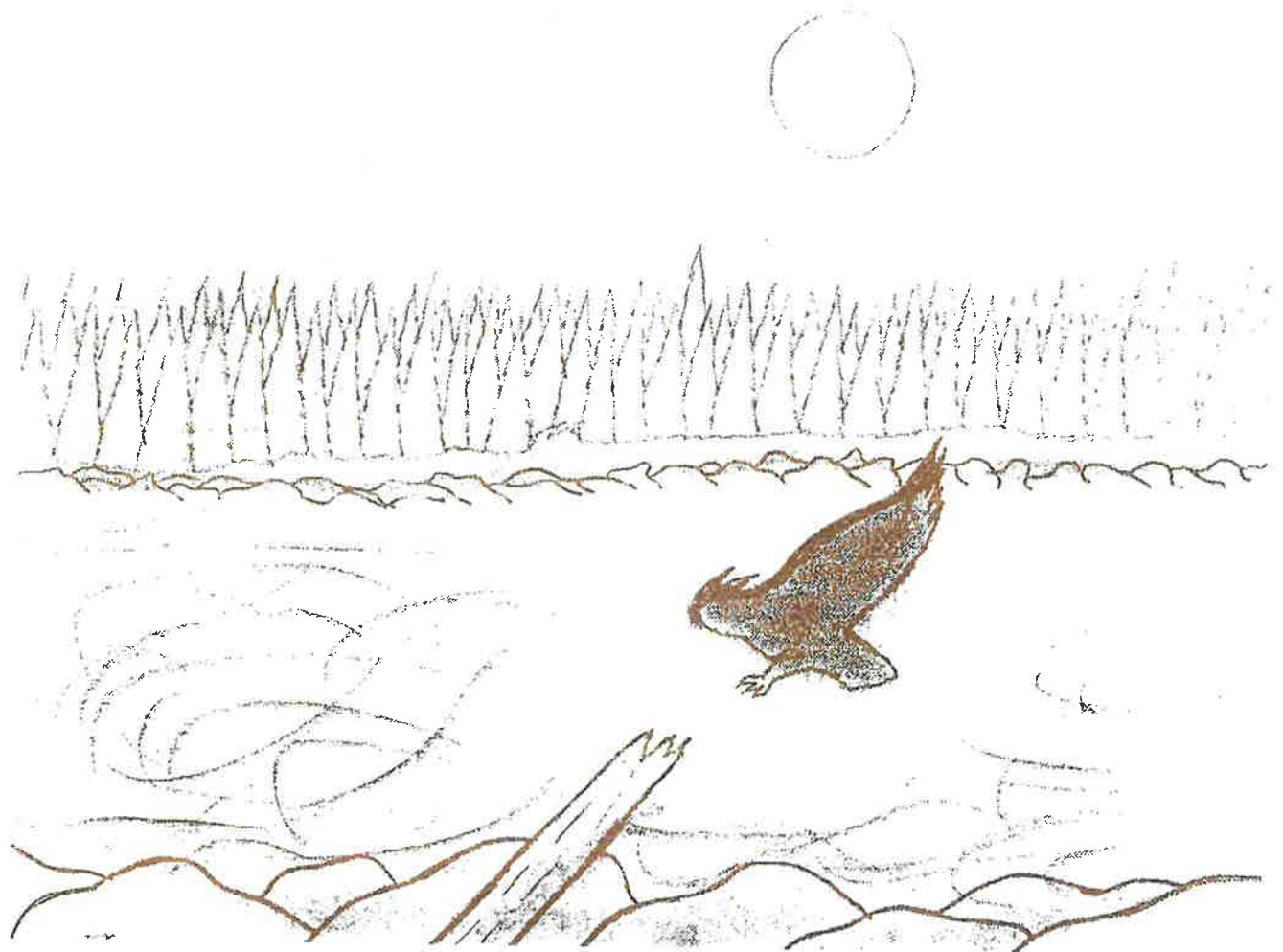
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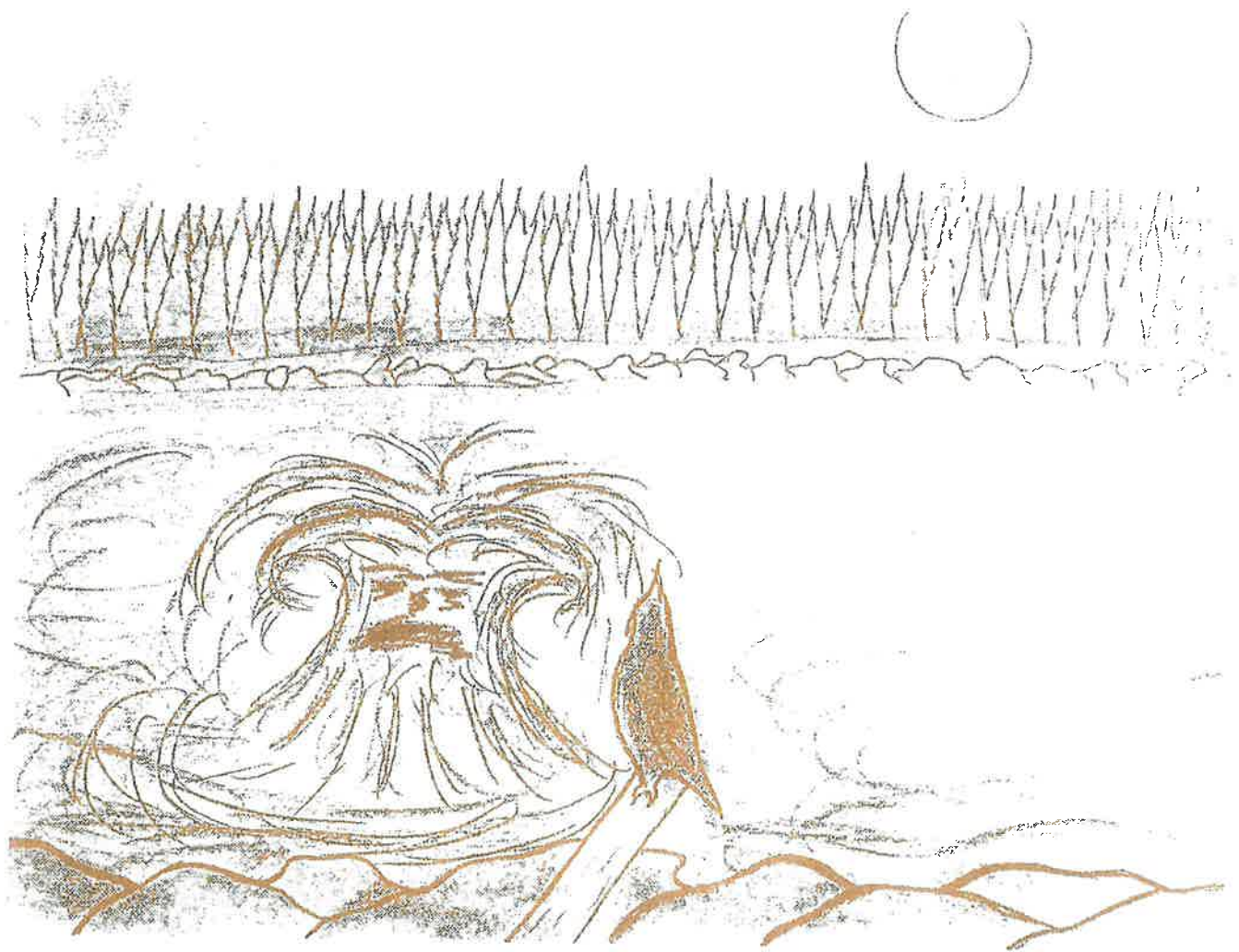


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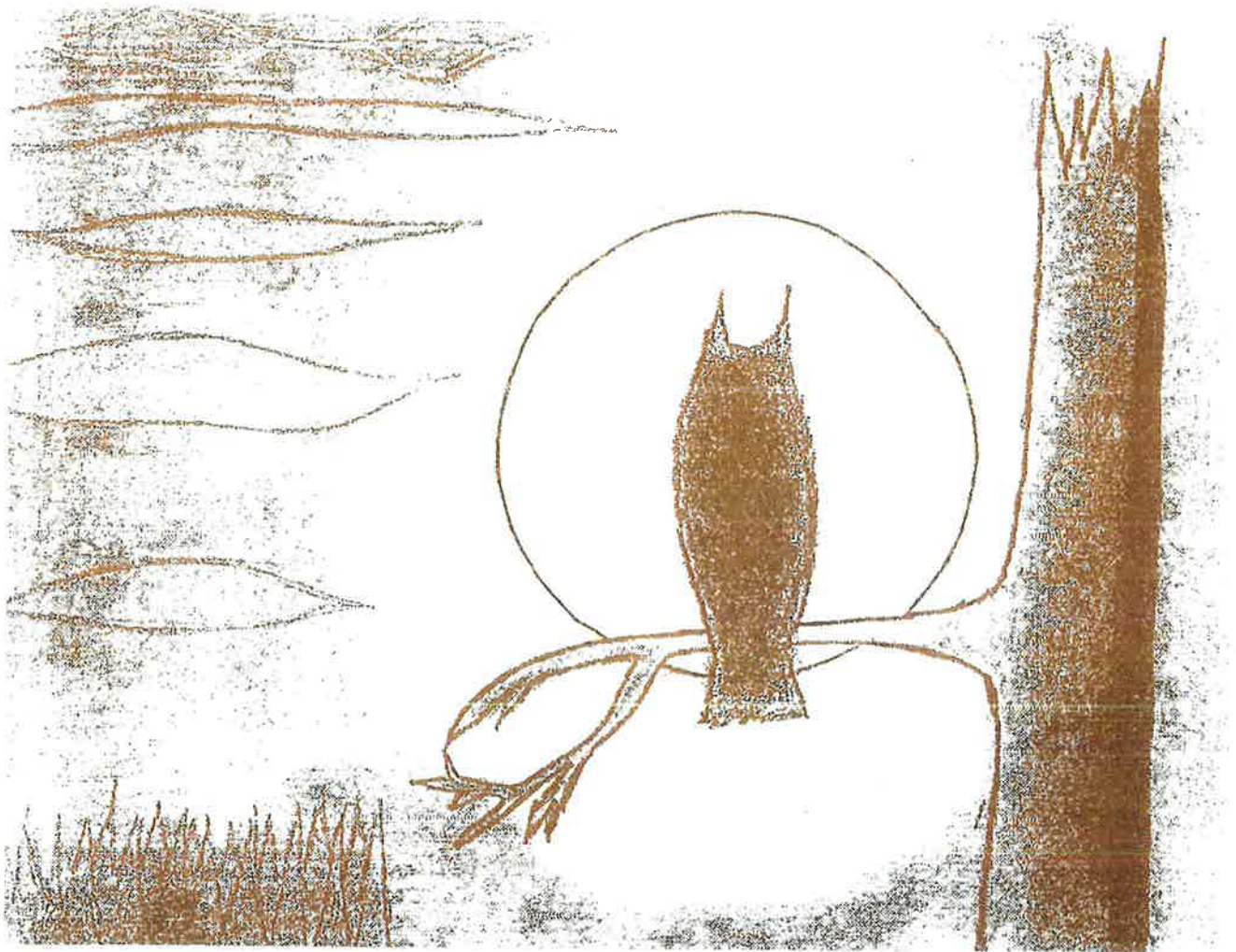
Owl came upon a river. He heard something. The noise was either up the river or down the river. It was rapids that he heard. Owl flew over that way and came upon some very big rapids.





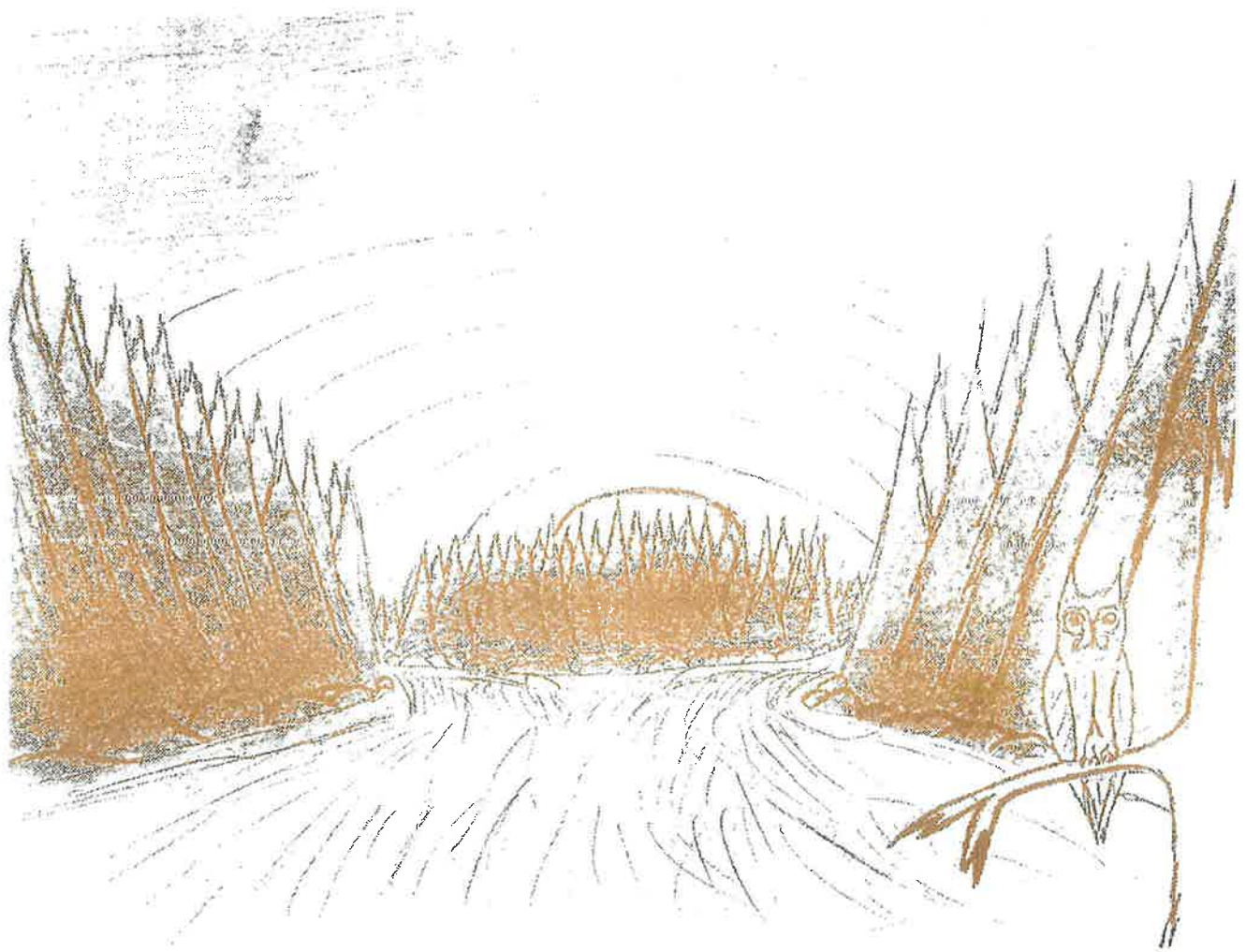
He spoke to the rapids. "Rapids," said owl. "What," replied the rapids. "Is that the noise you make all the time?" asked owl. "Yes," answered the rapids. "This is the noise I make all the time." "You make that noise always?" asked owl again. "Yes, I will make this noise as long as the world is here," responded the rapids. "The only time I don't make noise is in the winter, but then only for a while." "You're just kidding," said owl. "I make noise too," he continued.



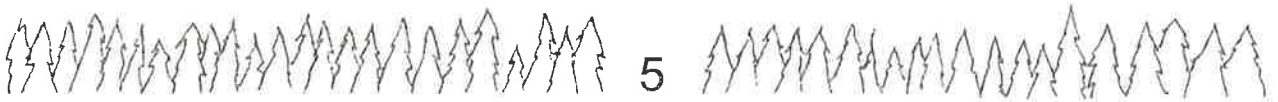


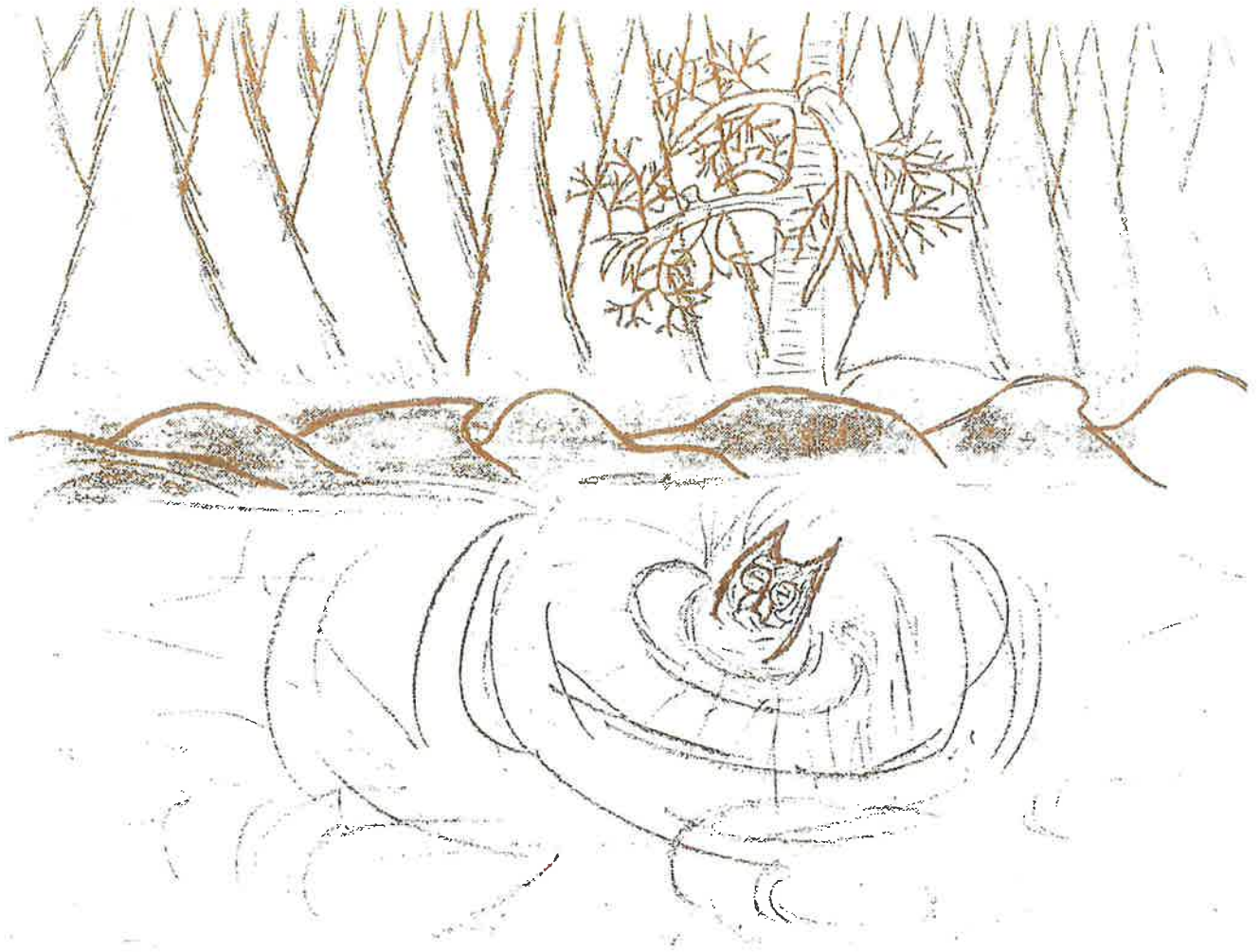
“Let's have a contest,” said owl. “Okay, you can make noise,” said the rapids. The rapids asked Owl to perch on a tree that was leaning over the river. The top of this tree was right over the middle of the rapids. Owl was told to perch on the top of that tree. Owl started to make his noise, that awful noise he makes without stopping. He made that noise all night.





Great Horned Owl and the rapids were trying to beat each other making noise. Both were trying to see who would last the longest making noise. Owl sat there on a branch making his noise. He made his noise early in the morning until late in the evening. After a while, Owl sounded different.





All of sudden, something fell into the water. The animal people did not know where it came from. It was Owl's head floating down the river. Great Horned Owl lost his head trying to out do the rapids.

