Legend of the Fall City Totem

When local fishermen complained that they couldn’t see at night to fish, Quq, the Raven, Chief of the Gods (1), promised he would help by rescuing the Moon Child, Hlawahs (10) from Celestum, God-of-Light (9), who had been selfishly hiding him way up river.

So, Raven and Naraat, the Old Man of the Waterfall (6), built a strong canoe (7). But they needed the magic paddle (4) held by Newtauw, an Evil Spirit (3). Raven changed the Old Man of the Waterfall into dancing Grizzly Bear (2). The dancing Bear lured Evil Spirit away from her house, allowing Narh’as, the Flying Frog (8), to grab the paddle. Then Bear turned back into Old Man and he and Flying Frog began to paddle away.

But before they got far, Evil Spirit’s friend, Kingfisher (5), attacked Old Man of the Waterfall, and forced him into the water. Old Man became very sad, and waterfalls streamed down his cheeks. Luckily, Flying Frog wrapped his legs around Old Man and rescued him from Kingfisher.

They continued paddling up river to where God-of-Light held the Moon Child. Working together and quickly, they snatched the Moon Child away and paddled back down the river to Raven’s house. Raven immediately flew up into the sky with the Moon Child and flung him into the heavens, where he has shone from that day on.

(excerpted from the story presented by Mrs. Marie Hinds in 1934)