

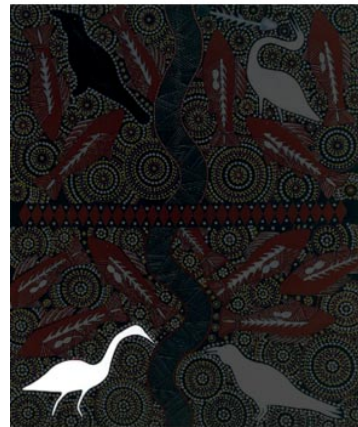
This is the story about the painting *The crane and the crow* as told by the artist Tex Skuthorpe

Text version

The crane and the crow



Garraagaa, the crane, was a great fisherman.



He could catch many fish

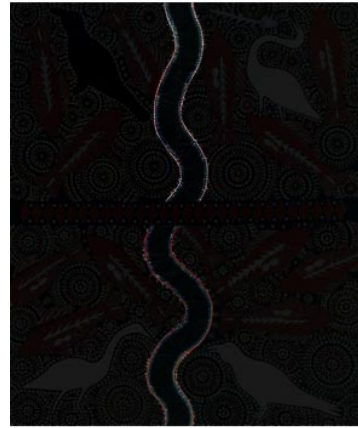


by hunting them out, with his feet, from under the log
in the creek.

When the crosshatching design



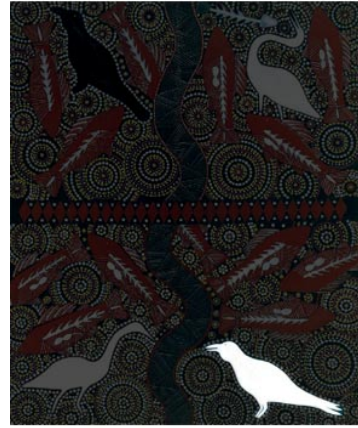
is contained within two curvy lines



it represents water.



One day, when he had a lot of fish on the bank of the creek, Waan, the crow, which was white at the time, came up and asked the crane to give him some fish.

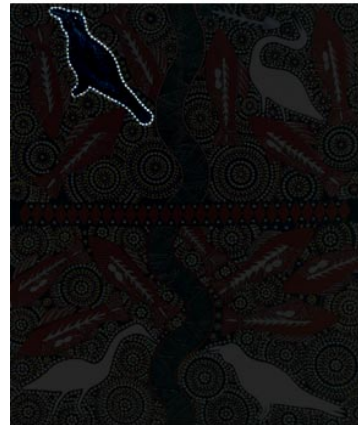


The crane told the crow to wait until the fish was cooked but the crow was hungry and impatient. He kept bothering the crane, who was telling him to wait. When the crane turned his back, the crow snuck up and was just about to steal a fish when the crane saw him. He grabbed the fish and hit the crow across the eyes. The crow was blind for a few minutes and fell on the burnt grass and into the fire and rolled around in his pain.

When he got up his eyes were white

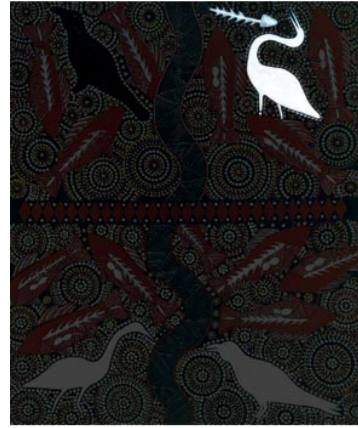


and the rest of him black as the crow has been ever since.

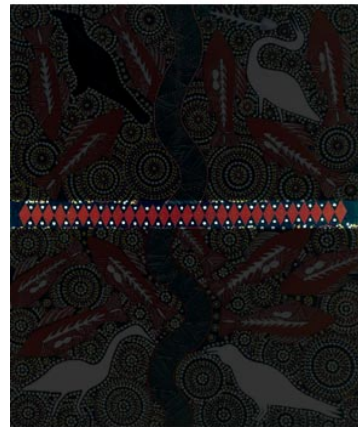


The crow then sorted out his revenge. He waited for his chance and one day, when he saw the crane fall asleep on his back with his mouth open, he crept up and stuck a fish bone right across the roof of the crane's tongue.

When the crane woke up, when he opened his mouth to yawn he felt a choking. He tried to get the bone out of his throat but in effort, he made a screeching noise – 'gah-rah-gah, gah-rah-gah'.



The diamond design across the centre of the painting is one of Tex's traditional designs from Nhungghal country.



The circular designs are also from Nhungghal country.

