

CHAPTER 5: SAVING A CACHE OF FISH



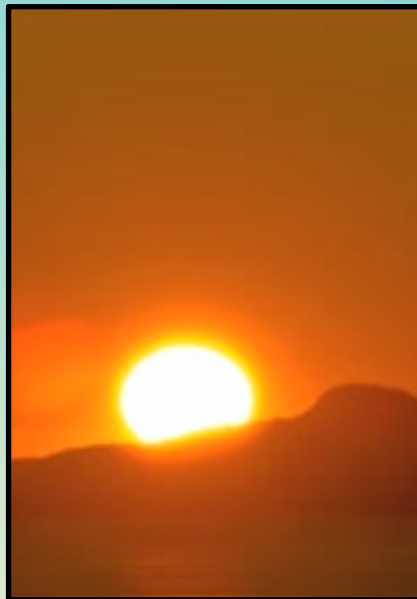
THEIR DAYS WERE SO FULL THEY HARDLY TOOK TIME TO EAT, AND AT NIGHT THEY SLEPT DEEPLY.



...SUSPICION LEFT THEM WARY OF WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN IF ANYONE WERE TO COME UPON THEM AND FIND THEIR GROWING STORE OF FOOD.



...THEY AGREED THEY SHOULD MOVE TO A PLACE LESS DESIRABLE - A PLACE OTHER PEOPLE WOULD NOT WISH TO EXPLORE, PERHAPS A PLACE WHERE IT WOULD BE HARD TO MANAGE THE SWARMS OF SUMMER INSECTS.



TOO SOON, THE SUN LAY ORANGE AND COOL ON THE EVENING HORIZON, AND THE WOMEN KNEW SUMMER WAS DWINDLING.



EVENTUALLY, THE WOMEN MADE STANDING CACHES FOR THEIR FISH, AND THEY PLACED GREAT BUNDLES OF THORNS AND BRUSH BENEATH THEM TO DISCOURAGE ANIMALS FROM BOTHERING THE FISH.



IT WAS A DAY OF ABANDON FOR SA'.



BUT TODAY, THE MOOSE DID NOT FEEL MUCH LIKE RUNNING, NOR DID HE FEEL THREATENED, SO THE OLD WOMAN WAS ABLE TO KEEP HIM IN SIGHT.



BY THAT TIME, AUTUMN WAS UPON THEM AND THE NIGHTS BECAME CHILLIER, REMINDING THE WOMEN THAT THERE WAS NO TIME TO WASTE IN GATHERING THEIR WINTER WOOD SUPPLY.



THEY FELT IT TABOO TO THINK OF THOSE WHO HAD ABANDONED THEM, BUT NOW THE TREACHEROUS THOUGHTS INVADDED THEIR MINDS.