COYOTE AND THE FURTLE'S DREAM

The Graphic Novel

Volume Four ABOY MUST helmus

^{Created by} The Native Diabetes Wellness Program Written by Terry Lofton Illustrated by Patrick Rolo

The Eagle Books



In the original Eagle Book series, a young boy, Rain that Dances, discovers an unhappy eagle. Mr. Eagle is tearful because many of the people in the community are developing a disease called type 2 diabetes. Rain that Dances invites his friends Thunder

Cloud, Little Hummingbird, and Simon to hear what the eagle has to say about staying healthy. The great bird assures the children that people can help to prevent type 2 diabetes by eating nourishing foods, being active, and following the traditions of their ancestors.

Coyote and the Turtle's Dream



In the original Eagle Books stories, Rain and his friends were about six years old. However, in this new story, Coyote and the Turtle's Dream, they are entering the 7th grade. Once again, the eagle gives a warning to Rain, but this time it is about the disappearance of water on their

reservation. Never forgetting the health messages taught to them by the eagle, the kids embark on a mystery/adventure to solve a riddle about ancient fossils that will restore the water's flow.

Hummingbird's Squash



In *Hummingbird's Squash*, our young heroes continue their adventures under the watchful eyes of Sky Heart, the eagle, and Thistle, the rabbit. In this story, Hummingbird pursues an ambitious plan to grow healthy foods that will help the community prevent type 2 diabetes.

Little does she know that Coyote is leading her, Rain, Boomer, Simon and her new "sister," Arianna, on a path of knowledge that reveals what it means to embrace all of one's relatives and honor the wisdom of ancestors.

To obtain free copies of the Eagle Books series and the youth novels, please go to the CDC's Native Diabetes Wellness Program website at http://www.cdc. gov/diabetes/projects/diabetes-wellness.htm. Books can also be requested by Phone: toll free 1-877-CDC-DIAB (877-232-3422) or e-mail: diabetes@cdc.gov.

About Diabetes

Diabetes is a disease in which blood glucose levels are above normal. Most of the food we eat is turned into glucose, or sugar, for our bodies to use for energy. The pancreas, an organ that lies near the stomach, makes a hormone called insulin to help glucose get into the cells of our bodies. When you have diabetes, your body either doesn't make enough insulin or can't use its own insulin as well as it should. This causes sugar to build up in your blood.

Type 1 diabetes, which was previously called insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus (IDDM) or juvenile-onset diabetes, may account for about 5% of all diagnosed cases of diabetes. The causes of type 1 diabetes appear to be much different than those for type 2 diabetes, though the exact mechanisms for developing both diseases are unknown. The appearance of type 1 diabetes is suspected to follow exposure to an "environmental trigger," such as an unidentified virus, stimulating an immune attack against the beta cells of the pancreas (that produce insulin) in some genetically predisposed people. Researchers are making progress in identifying the exact genetics and "triggers" that predispose some individuals to develop type 1 diabetes, but prevention remains elusive.

Type 2 diabetes, which was previously called non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus (NIDDM) or adult-onset diabetes, may account for about 90% to 95% of all diagnosed cases of diabetes. A number of studies have shown that regular physical activity can significantly reduce the risk of developing type 2 diabetes. The Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP), a major federally funded study of 3,234 people at high risk for diabetes, showed that people can delay and possibly prevent the disease by losing a small amount of weight (5 to 7 percent of total body weight) through 30 minutes of physical activity 5 days a week and healthier eating.

For more information, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Diabetes Public Health Resource at http://www.cdc.gov/ diabetes/consumer/index.htm Coyote and the Turtle's Dream Created by the Native Diabetes Wellness Program Written by Terry Lofton Illustrated by Patrick Rolo Produced by Westat Graphics Linda Beatty, Graphic Designer

Linda Beatty, Graphic Designer Shayna Heller, Graphic Arts Manager Gary Mosteller, Art Director Monelle Williams, Coordinator Edmond Ng, Color Scanning Michael D'Amato, Print Production

Based on the original Eagle Books characters by Georgia Perez







U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Division of Diabetes Translation Native Diabetes Wellness Program Indian Health Service Division of Diabetes Treatment and Prevention

Preface

To all the fans of the Eagle Books, CDC's Native Diabetes Wellness Program is pleased to present *Coyote and the Turtle's Dream: the Graphic Novel.* We hope that our readers enjoy this adaptation of the original youth novel, *Coyote and the Turtle's Dream.* The story is shorter, but we have enlivened the plot with new characters and more action. We think you will really like the dream scenes—Rain's dream of the eagle and a new dream in which our young hero swims with the Great Turtle in her ancient underwater world. Coyote's encounter with a bad tooth and illustrations of the fossil poaching gang in their hide-out are pretty exciting, too. Needless to say, the graphic novel puts you right in the picture when Rain and his friends bring the eagle's messages about preventing type 2 diabetes to their school and community.

On behalf of Terry Lofton, our author, and Patrick Rolo, our illustrator, we hope that the "power of words" (and imagery) take you on an adventure with Rain, Boomer, Hummingbird, Simon and Arianna that you will long remember.

Acknowledgements

The Native Diabetes Wellness Program would like to thank the following people and organizations that played a role in the development of *Coyote and the Turtle's Dream: the Graphic Novel*.

First, we want to recognize the Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee (TLDC) for its unfailing support of the Eagle Books project. Buford Rolin, Chairman of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, Chair of the TLDC and Vice Chair of the National Indian Health Board (NIHB); Judy Goforth Parker, Chickasaw Nation Health System, former TLDC member; and H. Sally Smith, NIHB board member and Alaska Area Representative, former TLDC member, all saw the potential for storytelling as a way to reach children with a message of hope. As a result of their support, children who read the *Coyote and the Turtle's Dream: the Graphic Novel* will learn that healthy foods and physical activity can help to promote health and prevention of type 2 diabetes.

Many thanks also go to Indian Health Service, Division of Diabetes Treatment and Prevention, and CDC's Tribal Advisory Committee (TAC) for their continued partnership and support.

Additionally, the Wellness Program wants to express its gratitude to Georgia Perez, the author of the original Eagle Books, and to the Baros Family for all their insights regarding type 1 diabetes.

And lastly, we acknowledge our great partners on the Eagle Books project, Westat, and Kauffman and Associates, Inc. For readers who have not read the previous volumes of *Coyote and the Turtle's Dream: the Graphic Novel*, the following re-caps tell you what has happened up to now in the story:

Volume 1, The Vanishing

Grandmother Turtle warns Sky Heart and Thistle that the water on the reservation is disappearing because the remains of an ancient turtle ancestor are being stolen. The animals agree that Sky Heart should seek the help of Rain that Dances. That afternoon, Rain and Boomer see their classmate, Jimmy, throw away two strange objects in a trash can. They retrieve the bony-looking objects and Rain takes them home. Later that night, Sky Heart visits Rain in a dream, giving him clues about the vanishing water and pleading with him to "help us." At school the next day, Rain shows the "bones" to Simon and Hummingbird who agree that they are fossils. Unaware that their school is being watched by a shadowy figure, the four friends gather in the school courtyard where they learn that Jimmy has mysteriously vanished.

Volume 2, The Cave Where the Giants Sleep

Our young friends agree that the fossils and Jimmy's disappearance are linked. They ask Miss Swallow, the science teacher, for advice. She promises to identify the fossils, warning that fossil poachers may be involved. In the meantime, the boys learn about type 1 diabetes from Arianna, a new girl who will be living with Hummingbird's family. That evening, they are all puzzled by a speeding truck that swerves past the car driven by Rain's father. Their stares make Rain suspect they are looking for Jimmy. Unnerved by the "drive-by," Rain is even more shaken the next day when he and Simon interview his great-grandmother for a school assignment. She tells them a story about the day she and her brother, Delbert, followed a coyote to a mysterious cave at Shell Ridge. Inside, Delbert discovered the skeletons of giant scary-looking creatures. Not thinking, he took a bone from one of the long-dead animals—a bone that Granma now places in Rain's hand. It is identical to the two bones that Jimmy ditched. Rain doesn't know what is going on—but he knows the eagle does!

Volume 3, A Trail of Bones

The friends "play detective." Comparing notes, they determine that the bones are from a cave at Shell Ridge. The boys check out Shell Ridge where they spy two men who could be fossil poachers. Later that day, Rain and Boomer go to the park where they discover Jimmy and his dog, Rocky. Jimmy reveals that a coyote took him to a cave where he found fossils like the two he threw away. He was soon selling them to a stranger named Vernon Smeed at Nelson's Rock and Smoke Shop. Unwisely, Rain volunteers that his Granma and her brother followed a coyote to that same cave when they were kids. Frightened, Jimmy tells the boys that Smeed will hurt him if he doesn't show him the cave's location. The boys promise Jimmy they won't tell anyone about the threat. Unfortunately, Jimmy is grabbed that night by Nelson's men. Smeed threatens to feed Rocky to a tank of fish if he doesn't take him to the cave. Desperate, Jimmy bargains with Smeed, promising to give him the name of someone who knows where the cave is. Will Rain ever be able to forgive him?

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Vernon Smeed, the notorious fossil poacher, fixed his eyes on the small dust cloud that drifted above a faraway ridge.

ARE those

There they were! At last! But why were Lefty and Ditto using *that* road? That wasn't the plan!

Smeed tightened his grip on the binoculars, willing a car to emerge from one of the many gullies that fractured Shell Ridge into hundreds of dead ends.

But as he watched, the dust cloud dispersed and floated away—along with the last of his "cool." Sweat began to trickle down the back of Smeed's neck. The sun was beating down now its white hot glare revealing the tools of Smeed's trade... and his mounting fury.

The fossil poacher angrily punched in the phone number—again. Success!

















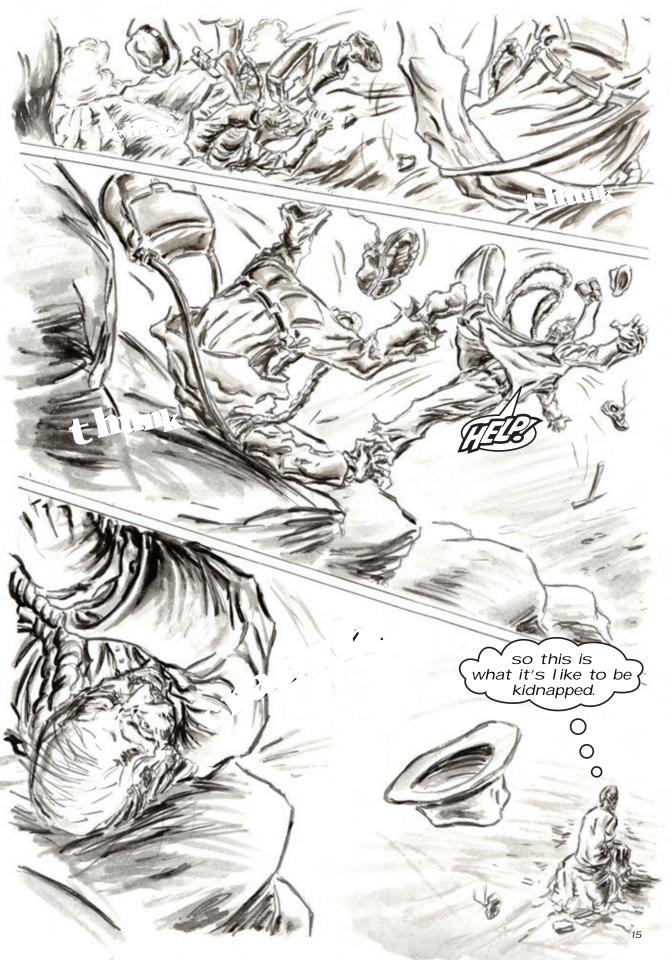
















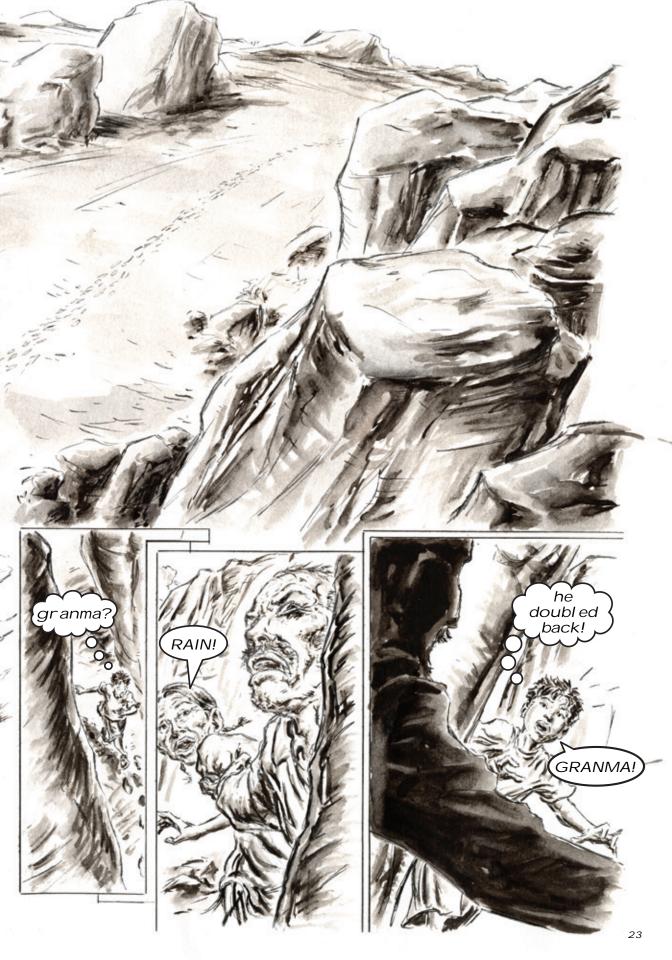
























oh, man. i can't believe it! look at her! she's j ust--HUGE!

> yeah, she Looks like she could carry the whole WORLD on her back!







she was with the rabbit.

> it won't be long now, greatgrandmother.

you will イ dream again soon.

what are you waiting for, boy?

> you've come to help us, haven't you?

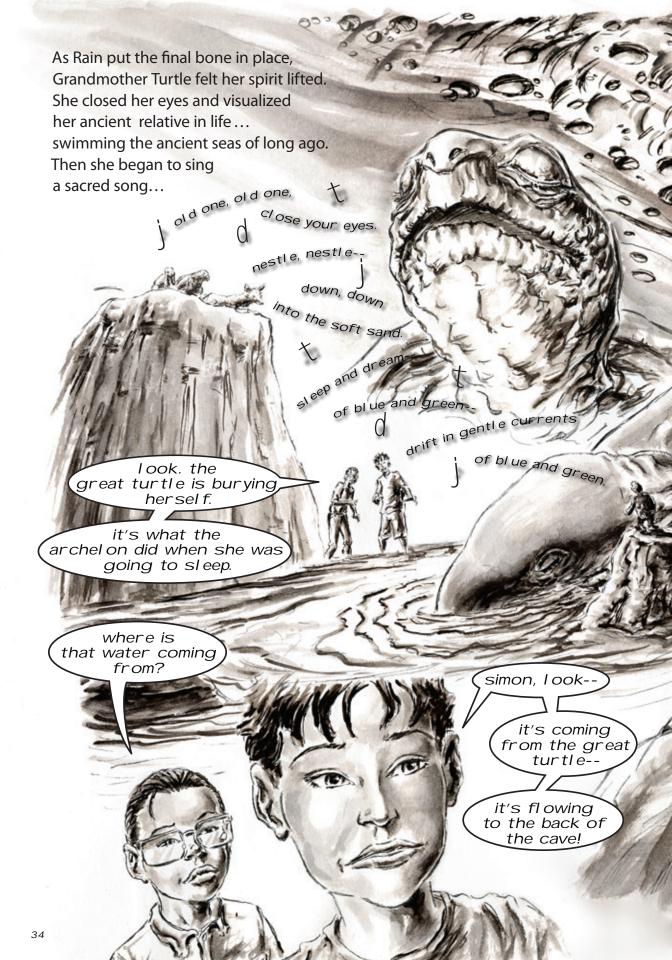
she's looking at you, rd







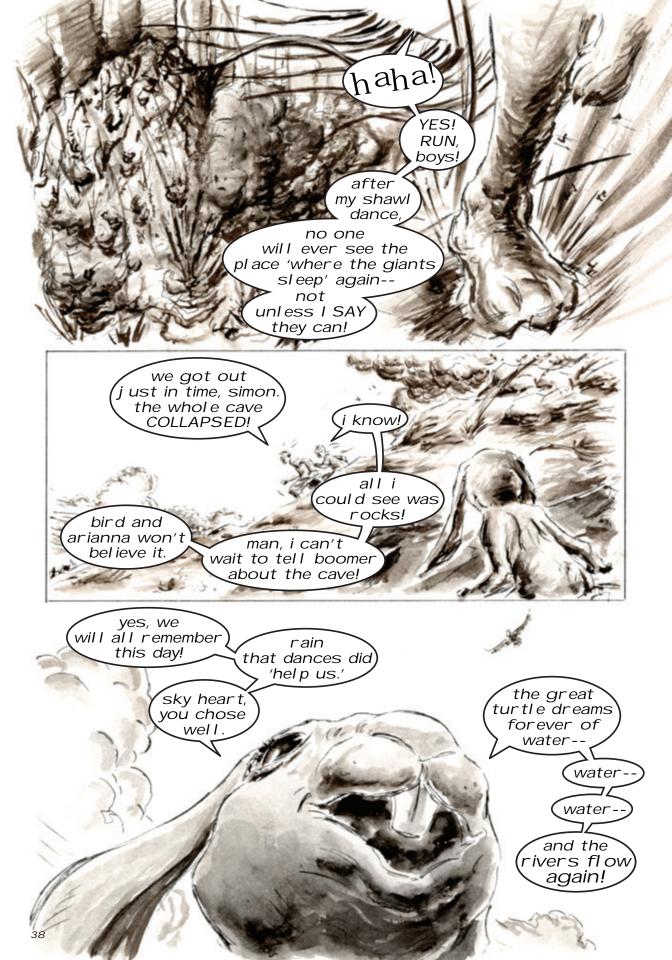
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Boo waited all afternoon for Rain and Simon. When he saw them coming, he ran to meet them.

Bundling them into his old truck, Boo proudly drove the boys to where their much-relieved families were waiting.



By nightfall, reporters from local TV and radio were calling. Of course, the boys didn't give them the whole story, and Rain tried to be humble about taking down Vernon Smeed.



Of course, Coyote had a copy of the newspaper, too — from his favorite dumpster. The storytelling pleased him greatly.

hmmm, the boy stood up pretty well to my tricks.

> To express his good feelings, Coyote sniffed out a small patch of sweetgrass and rolled the plant's dried stems into a braid.

Coyote held the sweetgrass tightly in his paws until it began to smolder. Then, he fanned the smoke high into the sky. He watched the gray plume touch the clouds and then fall gently back down to earth, placing a blessing upon the land. His spirit smiled.

you were right, sky heart, my friend.

> rain that dances will be the boy who helps us.

> > he End



We invite those who have not read the novels, Coyote and the Turtle's Dream and Hummingbird's Squash, to contact the CDC for free copies.

Phone: toll free 1-877-CDC-DIAB (877-232-3422)

E-mail: diabetes@cdc.gov

http://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/projects/diabetes-wellness.htm



About the Native Diabetes Wellness Program

The mission of the Native Diabetes Wellness Program is to work with a growing circle of partners to address the health inequities so starkly revealed by type 2 diabetes in Indian Country. With social justice and respect for Native and Western science as grounding principles, we strive to support community efforts to promote health and prevent diabetes.

For more information about diabetes and diabetes prevention, go to the National Diabetes Education Program's website, http://ndep.nih.gov. Under "Find Publications for Me," select the drop down box for "Age" and find "Teens and Children." Posted are tips for teens with diabetes, and tips for how kids can lower their risk for developing type 2 diabetes.

About the Author

Dr. Terry Lofton is a senior study director at Westat. She has been Westat's project director for the Eagle Books project since 2002 and has worked in public health for almost thirty years. A former middle school science teacher, Dr. Lofton often drew on the lessons of Native science in her classroom activities. She says that the collaboration with the illustrators of *Coyote and the Turtle's Dream* and the Eagle Books project's many friends in Indian Country has been the highlight of her career.

About the Illustrator

Patrick Rolo, Bad River Band of Ojibwe, draws from his rich Native American heritage to illustrate the Eagle Books. Mr. Rolo's career includes newspaper, magazine, comic book, and court room illustrations. Also a painter, his works in oil hang in galleries in Minnesota and Washington.

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