

Some people went out on a hunt and one young man fell asleep and the people packed up and left him sleeping. When he woke up he did not see anyone and did not know where the hunting party went to so he was lost. There were many days that he roamed around and he came a hill and stood there. Soon he saw an eagle coming and the bird flew in a circle and came down; when the boy looked down, he saw magpies around sitting on the ground but when the eagle lit it disappeared into the ground. The boy walked over where the eagle had disappeared and another little boy came out of the hole carrying the eagle. The one said to the lost boy, where are you from and who are you?"

The G.V. boy said, "I am an Hidatsa and I am lost. I don't know where they are." They boy with the eagle said, "You come with me; we are camping over there." The two went together. He found that they were all bears, Grizzly bears, ha-shi-ra. The boy noticed that there were many kinds of eagle tails, wings, and feathers scattered around. When the boy found out that these bears were catching eagles, they did not care for the tails or feathers but were eating the eagles. The boy said, "Among our people, these things are very valuable and the bears said, "You can have all the feathers."

The boy stayed there they fed him well and he grew stronger. The time came for the boy to go trapping again and the Bear said, "You better take your brother along with you" so the Hidatsa boy went along with the Bear boy. They went into the pit together. One eagle came but that was a white-tailed eagle, i-ba-tu-ki, and he said to the Hidatsa boy, "You take him" and the boy reached up to take him with his right hand and as he reached up with his left hand he was not quick enough, the eagle caught the boy's hand and ran his claw right through. He let the bird go and it flew away. His hand was painful and he suffered much. The two climbed out of the pit and went back to the camp. When they reached it, the hand was already swollen up to the elbow. He was in great pain. The other bears did not know what to do for it. They said that the boy would die. The boy got up and went out and took a piece of tallow and went over to the timber and he thought of Spring Boy and Lodge Boy so he looked around and saw Black Medicine and said, "I know that Spring Boy and Lodge Boy turned themselves into Black Medicine so that they could help the people. Now I am asking you to help me out and I am going to take you out and use you in doctoring my brother who is suffering."

He took the piece of tallow and placed one on the ground and pulled one plant out and put it beside the tallow. He went to another and pulled that out. He pulled four out and each time he took one out of the ground he would offer it a piece of tallow. Then he took four roots and went back to the lodge and said, "Now I wish to doctor my younger brother for his suffering." The leader of the bears was thankful and said, "That will be a kind deed." The Hid. boy chewed the black medicine and chewed it very fine. At that time the boy was suffering with pain. He blew the Black Medicine onto the hand and forearm and the boy felt better at once. He did that four times and the boy was healed.

Before he blew the medicine on his arm, he prayed to the Spring Boy and Lodge Boy and said, "Lodge Boy and Spring Boy, you promised my people that you would help us when we were ill. I am going to use this medicine on the boy and I ask you to help me so that my brother will be made well." He blew the medicine four times and all the pains had stopped, and he stretched his arms out and said, "I am well." He asked for something to eat and they fed him. The bear people were thankful and the leader said, "How would it be if we kept this Black Medicine here in our lodge" and the boy said, "You have seen what the black Medicine did for the boy. It will be well to have the Black Medicine to go with the eagle trapping" so that is why the Black Medicine is always tied in a bundle and hung with the other sacred things when trapping eagles.

The boy was well again. He and his brother gathered all the eagle tails and put them together and those were rather dirty they hung out and the wind and rain cleaned up. Then they put them in a big bundle and told the bears that they were valued by his people. He got the men to take a piece of tallow and he took them out and each man pulled these plants out and every time they pulled one out, they offered some of the fat. All of them got Black Medicine and he had four. The boy and the G.V. brother went to a tree and being fall there was one with no leaves on it. Hid. boy blew some of the black med on the tree and soon there were buds on the branches and the second time he blew it on the tree the buds were larger, the third time they broke open and the fourth time there were leaves on the trees. The bearpeople were surprised what the Black Medicine would do and they went back to the lodge and the boy said, "There is one thing I wish to ask for. I wish you people would give me the rights to trap eagles" and the Bears said, "Yes, you can have that right" and they showed him the things that went with eagle trapping and the songs. He said, "I am going home now" and they showed him the way to get back to his people. He went back home, "You know now where our camp is and the next time you come out, come right here"

After he got home, and a year passed he was a young man and married. He came back to the place where the Bear People were trapping. He arrived there and they were all glad to see him. They told him that they were not afraid to catch the white-tailed eagles since they had the medicine of the wounds. The young man said, "I am going to set up a camp over there to begin catching eagles" and the young bear said, "I wish to go with my brother and be with him all the time" and the leader of the bears said he could go. The leader of the eagle trappers said to the G.V. boy, "You take the boy out and throw him down and tickle him around the belly and arm pits and he will laugh until he faints and dies. Then you skin him and take the skin off carefully and let the body lie there" He tickled the boy and the boy laughed until he pitied him. He did that three times and the leader said, "Don't be sorry for him for he will be with you all the time for when you take the hide, he will be with you and come back to life." The fourth time he tickled him until the boy stopped breathing and then he took the skin off carefully. He stretched the hide out carefully and the boy came back to life. He went to trapping and caught many eagles and went back home and took the hide along with him. When he reached home, he made a little scaffold and placed the Bear skin on it and every time he smoked, he offered some to the skin. Every time they made cornballs they would take a cornball to give to the hide. One day the young man's mother in law was grinding corn to make cornballs and while she was at work, she hurt herself, striking herself on the forehead. She became angry and she said, "What is the use of making cornballs for that Bear skin." She was angry at the skin. When the young man came back, he noticed that there were tears in the young bear's eyes and he said, "What is wrong, my brother? You are crying." The skin said, "Yes, I was insulted. Your mother in law was mean to me. Now I want to go back among my people and leave here." The young man said, "Alright, you can go home." The young bear went back and the next year the young man went out eagle trapping and he saw the young bear with the other trappers and the leader of that party told the Hid. boy that he was angry because the young bear had left him.