



STORY NUMBER 6

Andrew from the Mountain: a Prophet

Andrew was a Chief of the Mountain people. He was a good man. When Andrew was a child, he saw a vision, in a way similar to the vision that Ayah saw. Similarly, he was advised to be a good man. Andrew was about sixty years old when the vision appeared to him again. In the vision, a holy man told him, “I will come more often now and tell you what to preach.”

Andrew was a good, loud speaker and he preached a good message. He preached about God, just like a priest. Andrew was a big help to the church. He helped to make people who were good all the time. Nobody ever drank whiskey while he was alive.

Andrew was very fond of children, and parents

would take their children to his tent to listen to him preach. His method was about the same as that of Ayah, in that he could see into the future and talk about it.

At one time, the vision offered Andrew some songs. The vision said, “Make yourself a drum and I will offer you holy songs. Sing these holy songs to your people from now on. From time to time, a drum will appear to you and the new holy songs will come from the drum. We will give you the power to sing these holy songs. You will sing these songs that you hear to your people right away. When you sing, all your people will become more focused on the true God in heaven. The people will pray to the Creator as they wish and ask the Creator for whatever they need. And that

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is the way your people will pray.”

From then on, Andrew came out with new drum songs the people had never heard before. The songs came out in visions to Andrew more often. There were no set times or schedule for the visions and songs to be revealed. They just occurred anytime and anywhere.

The Mountain people travelled a lot to different areas to find big game animals. The year that Chief Andrew received holy songs was a great year for the people of the Mountain group. Legend has it that sometimes, as the people travelled along in the cold of winter, Andrew would yell to the people, “A holy song is coming to me.” They would stop right there, with no time to make a proper fire. They would gather some dry leaves, set fire to it and heat the drums over it for Andrew. Right away, Andrew would start singing the new song that was being revealed to him – right there on the land in the intense cold of winter.

It's a miracle that Andrew did not have to practice to sing the new songs. He immediately went ahead and began singing the new song that was revealed to him. When he received a new song, the drummers practiced the new song that very night. Almost everybody would begin to sing the new song right away.

That particular winter, a great religious movement began amongst the Mountain people because many new songs were revealed to Andrew. That winter, Andrew received fifty-three new holy songs. And all of Andrew's family and drummers sang the holy songs that summer in Fort Norman.

Many visitors came from far away to hear and listen to the holy songs. Some came from Fort Simpson, Wrigley and Good Hope. All Dene people were moved deeply when they listened to these holy songs. The people became more religious and behaved better. This movement showed that the people really benefited from the true church. Because Andrew was a good prophet, the people have never forgotten his good deeds and work on the path to a true religion.

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