

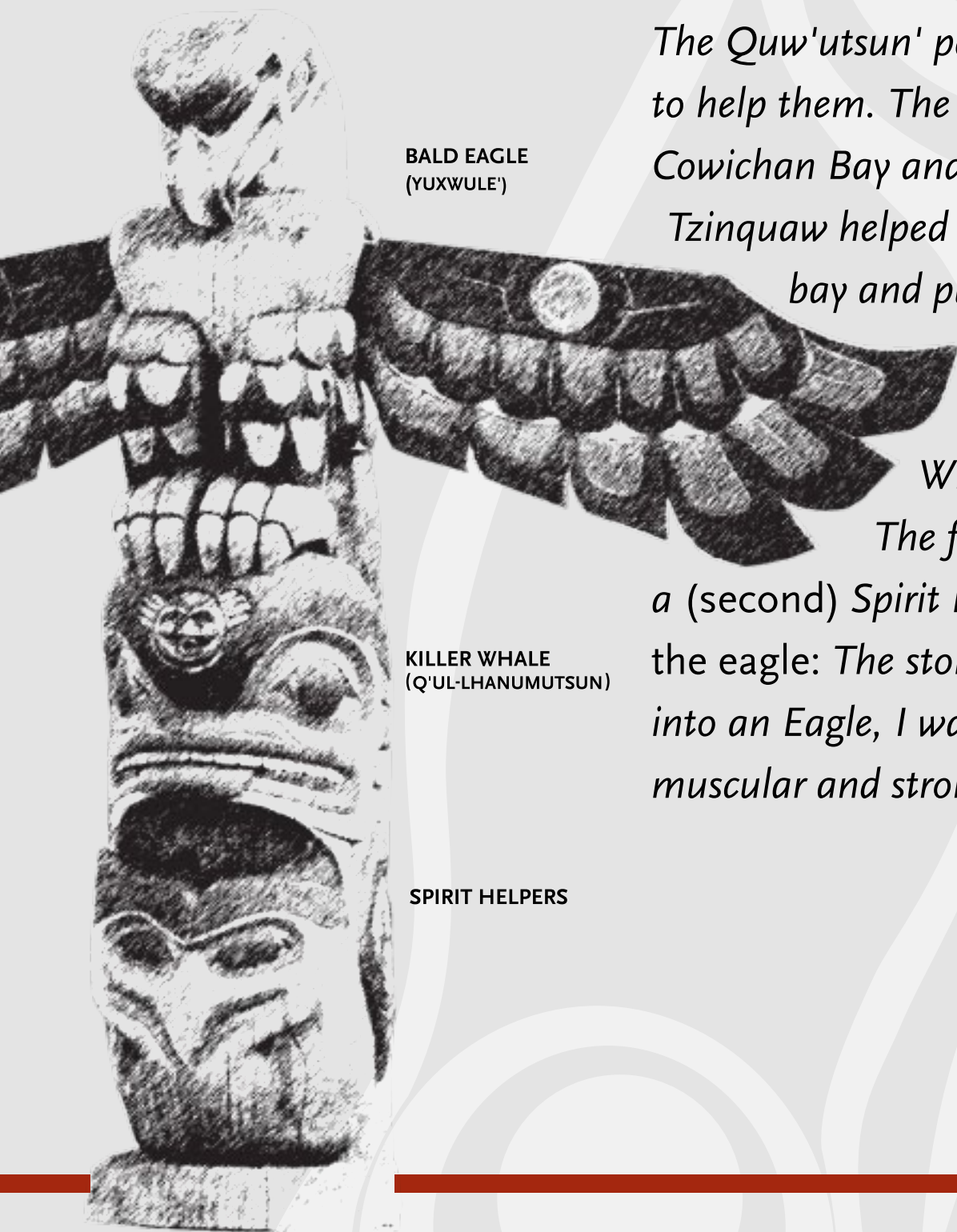
The Feast

This pole is based on a local Quw'utsun' legend.

The Quw'utsun' people called upon Tzinquaw (Thunderbird) to help them. The Killer Whale was eating all the Salmon in Cowichan Bay and the Salmon were not getting up the river.

Tzinquaw helped them by taking the Killer Whale out of the bay and putting it on top of Mount Tzouhalem, the mountain beside the bay, where Tzinquaw ate him. The Spirit-Helper face in the Killer Whale represents the blowhole of the Whale.

The face in the fluke (tail) of the Whale represents a (second) Spirit Helper. Doug explained the presence of the eagle: The story was the Thunderbird but I made the figure into an Eagle, I wanted to show the power of it, so I did the legs muscular and strong (Doug LaFortune, Interview, Sept 2012).[©]



BALD EAGLE
(YUXWULE')

KILLER WHALE
(Q'UL-LHANUMUTSUN)

SPIRIT HELPERS



1987 | Size: 11'8" (3.6 m)

Doug LaFortune (a.k.a. William Horne)

Doug was born in 1953 and grew up in Duncan. He is Coast Salish of Quw'utsun' (Cowichan) and Tsawout, WSÁNEĆ (Saanich) heritage. On his mother's side, his grandfather Dick Harry was a chief. Doug started carving when he was nineteen years old. Doug's brothers Perry, Howard, and Aubrey LaFortune all helped carve his poles for this collection. His other artistic passion is drawing.[©]



Courtesy of Jane Mertz.