

TAFFY

"You can look over my shoulder, but you mustn't joggle. First I'll draw Daddy fishing . . . ."

(humming as SHE sketches)

"FIRST I'LL DRAW DADDY FISHING.

HERE'S HIS ARMS. AND HERE'S HIS LEGS."

(off the sketch)

"Woops! That one's a little long!"

(hums some more)

"AND HERE'S HIS FINGERS:

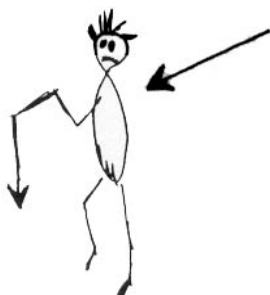
ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR . . . FIVE.

It isn't very like him, but Mummy will know, because I'll draw his spear all broken. And, I'll draw the other spear that he wants, the big black spear . . . .

HERE'S HIS SPEAR.

I'M DRAWING DADDY'S SPEAR,  
THE ONE WHICH IS ALL BROKEN."

(SHE hums some more, and sketches until it looks approximately like this:)



TAFFY

"Oops, it looks as if it was sticking in Daddy's back, but Mummy will know what it means. [See, Stranger, the big black spear -- that's the spear I want you to fetch. Can you say 'big black spear?'"

(Silence. SHE encourages him.)

TAFFY

"BIG BLACK SPEAR."

STRANGER

"BLIGG BLAGG BLEER."

TAFFY

"No, it's

BIG BLACK SPEAR."

STRANGER

(trying to tell her something)  
"BLIBBA BLABBA BLEEB,  
BLEEBA BIBBA BEEBA,  
BLIBBA BLABBA BLOOB BLUBBA  
BLIGG BLAGG BLEER."

TAFFY

(completely baffled)  
"Dear me!" I'd better draw some more.] Here, I'll draw a picture of me 'splaining to you.  
(Hums and draws:)



TAFFY

There! My hair doesn't stand up like I've drawn, but it's easier for me to draw that way. Now, I'll draw you."

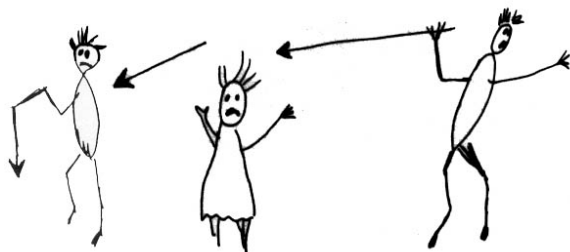
STRANGER

"BLIBBA BLABBA BLEEB,  
BLEEBA BIBBA BEEBA,  
BLIBBA BLABBA BLOOB BLUBBA  
BLIGG BLAGG BLEER."

TAFFY

(over his singing)  
 "I THINK YOU'RE NICE, REALLY,  
 BUT I CAN'T BACK YOU PRETTY IN THE PICTURE,  
 SO YOU MUSTN'T BE 'FENDED.  
 THERE! THAT'S YOU . . . ."

(The STRANGER looks closely; he is not flattered. HE studies the picture:)



STRANGER

(pointing to the picture)  
 ["Hmm, spears, frightened looking people -- and this poor thing here, isn't *she* in a state!]  
 THERE MUST BE A BIG BATTLE  
 GOING TO BE FOUGHT SOMEWHERE,  
 AND THIS EXTRAORDINARY GIRL-DAUGHTER  
 IS TELLING ME TO CALL  
 ALL OF HER FATHER'S TRIBE TO HELP THEM!"

TAFFY

["I think he's getting it!"]  
 (Draws and hums.)  
 "Look! Remember the big black spear Daddy wants? I'll draw it in your hand, just to remind you that you're to bring it. [Alright?]"

STRANGER

"Blubble-lubble."

TAFFY

"Here.  
 HERE'S THE SPEAR.  
 I'M DRAWING IT IN YOUR HAND!  
 And now, quickly,] I'll show you how to find where my Mummy lives."

STRANGER

(to audience)

"Patience . . . !"

TAFFY

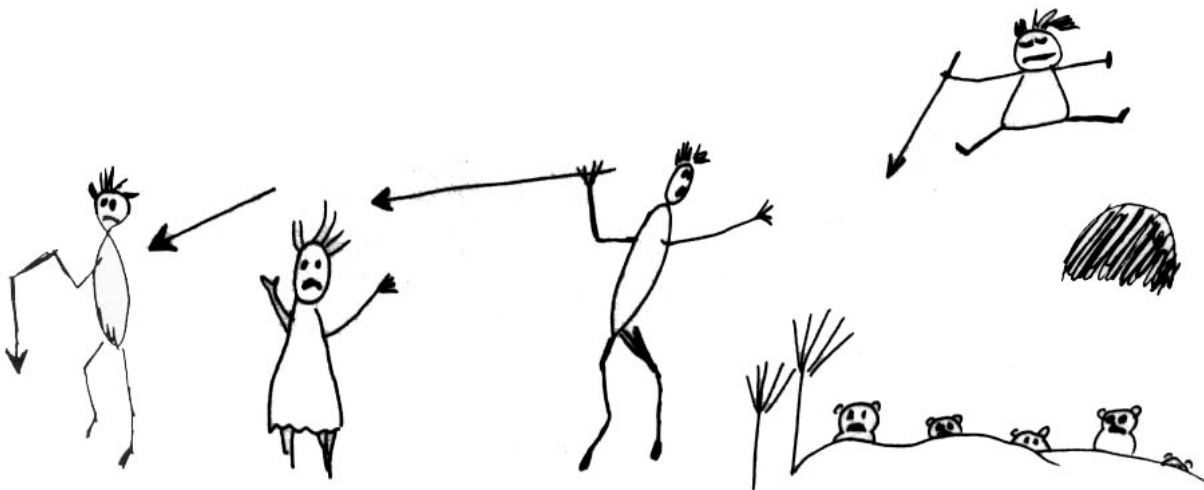
"No, no, you must hurry! You go along till you come to two trees (those are trees) and then you go over a hill (that's a hill) and then you come to a beaver-swamp all full of beavers. [Can you say `beavers'?]"

STRANGER

"Bleebbers."

TAFFY

"Aha.] Well, I'll draw just their heads, because that's all you'll see of them when you cross the swamp. Then our Cave is just beyond the beaver-swamp, and here's my Mummy outside. Here -- I'll draw her holding up her hands because she'll be so pleased to see you. There! Isn't it a beautiful picture?"



STRANGER

"Bloobibul bliggard . . . !"]

TAFFY

["Take it, take it -- hurry! There's a shoal of very big carp going up the river -- and just when Daddy needs his spear! Daddy! Look in the river -- look!]

(SHE runs off to join her father. The Stranger contemplates the picture.)

STRANGER

(off the picture)

The Stranger hurried away with the picture and ran for some miles till quite by accident he found Taffy's mother at the door of her cave.

(Enter TAFFY'S MOTHER, dressed in slightly outrageous prehistoric garb.)

STRANGER

["Your great Chief is about to be slain by his enemies, O Great Mrs. Chief!"]

TAFFY'S MOTHER

"Bubblain by his beddibbies? Bubbayoo dogging gaboo?"

STRANGER

"Not this again!"] So the Stranger smiled politely and handed Taffy's mother the picture.

(HE hands her the picture.)

TAFFY'S MOTHER

(off the picture, growing agitated)

Taffy's mother looked at the picture. "Here is Taffy's father. Oh! With his arm broken! And here is a spear sticking into his back! Here is a man with a spear ready to throw. Oh! and here is a whole pack of people -- ugly-looking people!"

[STRANGER

(trying to explain the picture)

"Thubbooze bleebles."]

(TAFFY'S MOTHER stares at the STRANGER and then flies at him, screaming.)

TAFFY'S MOTHER

"It's as plain as the nose on your face you have stuck Taffy's father all full of spears and frightened Taffy so that her hair stands all on end, and not content with that, you bring me a horrid picture of how it was done!" And she filled the Stranger's hair with mud and rolled him up and down on knobby pebbles --

STRANGER

(recoiling)

"No, no, patience, patience!"

TAFFY'S MOTHER

And sat upon him and thumped him and bumped him till he could hardly breathe!

STRANGER

(dodging her)

And though he did not understand her language, he was almost sure that the names Taffy's mother called him were not ladylike.

(The STRANGER flees, as TAFFY'S MOTHER calls after him.)

TAFFY'S MOTHER

["Rubbett strammber! Mubby vibbin! &c."]