

# THE FRONT

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## COLE PAULS

Front Cover: Cole Pauls, “Nàdäy gän, Dry Lynx Mountain” (detail), *Kwändür* (Wolfville, NS: Conundrum Press, 2022).

Back Cover: Cole Pauls, “Känt’ay kay gùyät sòhän yè k’ädadlù, She is sewing a slipper with some pretty beads” (detail), *Kwändür* (Wolfville, NS: Conundrum Press, 2022).

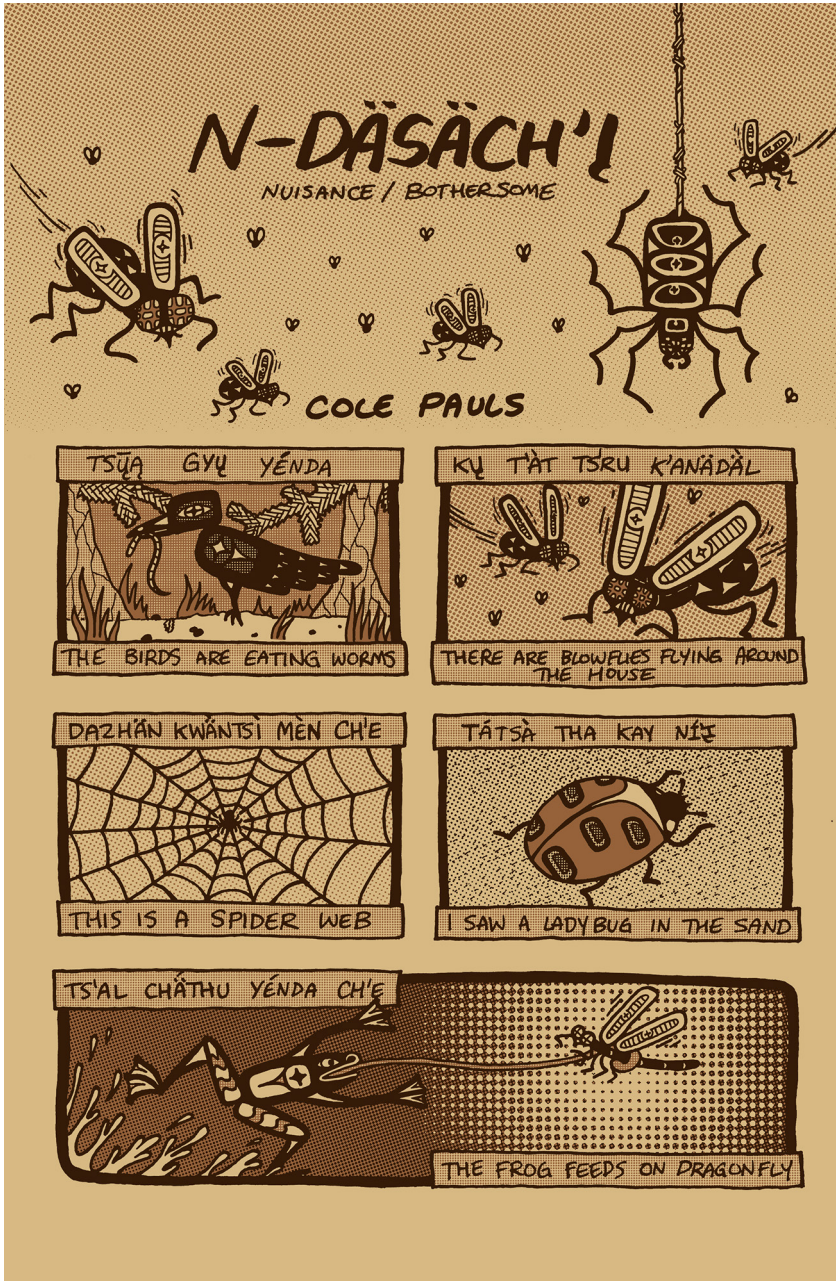
## ARTIST STATEMENT

**K**WÄNDÜR IN Southern Tutchone translates to “Story.” This book is a collection of short stories, and when I was thinking what to title this collection, I kept thinking back to the previous Southern Tutchone books published before me. One of them is called *Kwänday Kwändür*, which translates to “Long Ago Story.” My stories might not be as old as the ones in that book but I loved the name and decided to pay homage to it by calling my book simply, *Kwändür*.

For Nàdäy Gän, Dry Lynx Mountain, I wanted to illustrate a moment of my childhood and highlight sliding culture. It was an activity we did as a family growing up and when I think of the Yukon and the mountains, I think of sliding down those hills haha.

For Känt’ay kay gùyät sòhän yè k’ädadlù, She is sewing a slipper with some pretty beads, I wanted to illustrate the momentum of beadwork and how much effort it takes to create a pair of slippers. I see so many talented beaders I know complain about how people try to haggle down their prices and I think that’s ridiculous. Non-beaders have a hard time trying to grasp how hard it is to finish a project so I wanted to show some of the struggles you experience beading.

For N-däsäch’ì, Nuisance/Bothersome, I wanted to challenge myself by creating some unconventional formline. My community has legends about mosquitos and the origins of insects and I’ve never seen that portrayed in media so I’d like to go back to this subject and illustrate some legends.



Cole Pauls, "N-däsäch'j, nuisance/bothersome," *Kwändür*, (Wolfville, NS: Conundrum Press, 2022).

## ARTIST BIO

Cole Pauls is a Champagne and Aishihik citizen and Tahltan comic artist, illustrator, and printmaker hailing from Haines Junction (Yukon Territory). He holds a BFA in Illustration from Emily Carr University. Residing in Vancouver – on the unceded territory of the x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm (Musqueam), Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətaʔ (Tsilil-Waututh) Peoples – Pauls has created three graphic novels: *Dakwākāda Warriors* (2019), *Pizza Punks* (2021), and *Kwändür* (2022). In 2017, Pauls won Broken Pencil Magazine’s Best Comic and Best Zine of the Year Award for *Dakwākāda Warriors II*. In 2020, *Dakwākāda Warriors* won Best Work in an Indigenous Language from the Indigenous Voices Awards and was nominated for the Doug Wright Award categories The Egghead & The Nipper. In 2022, Artspeak Gallery, Vancouver, held the first solo exhibition of Pauls’s work, *Dazhän Kwändür ch’e (This is a Story): Cole Pauls*.