

WILLIE THE GREAT

by Kyden Krause (Grade 6)

About fifty years ago, a big walleye came down from heaven. There's a story about that there fish. Yesere, he was as big as a baby whale. If you want me to tell you 'bout it, I can. You do? Well, here goes....

Ari, Bella, Farid, Paul, and I just got back from fishing when we were led to a town meeting. The meeting was 'bout too much fish bein' caught. It was pitch-black outside then.

All of a sudden, a big flame danced around in the clouds, and the whole town lit up. A whale looked like it was floating on the Red Sea. No, wait! It was a fish, a really big fish!

While it was coming down, people just stared. They weren't panicking or anything, just standing there. The fish started to speak. "I heard that too much fish is bein' caught," said the fish.

I had to speak up because nobody else was gonna. "Why are you here and where are you from?" I yelled.

He answered back as if there was nothing exciting happening. "I came to save the starvation before it arrives. I came to save the fish in the river. I came to watch over all of you for generations to come. I... .. am from heaven." Then he whispered as if it would wake the entire world if he didn't, "You may go to bed now, I'll come back tomorrow."

The next day, as was promised, he came back. The great fish gently hopped from one wavy cloud to another. He landed on the great big hill, the one looking over the river. "I'll keep you as safe as I can," he said. "And, if something bad happens, I'll come back to life for you." He winked three times...before he turned to stone. We inspected him then, and figured out he was a walleye.

Farid said, "Let's name him Willie. Yes, we'll call him Willie the Wall-eye."

"Yeah," Ari said, "because he had the will to die for us!" We all had tears in our eyes as we whispered to each other that it was true. In honor of him, we named the hill he stood on after him, Willie Walleye Hill!

... ..and that, my dears, is the story of the great walleye. The kids all cheer Willie the Great! Now, ain't that the best story to tell on Willie Walleye Day? I believe so, too.

You know, ever since then, we haven't had a problem with fish, or any other problem really. We are the safest town on Earth, with an angel of a fish watching over us forever.