

## *Weaving and Quilting*

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1st voice:

My grandmother's hands wove the cedar and bear grass  
Into this fine basket I hold in my hands  
To hold bitter roots, camas, fern, tiger lilly  
Blackberries, cranberries - gifts from the land

My great-grandma Towsalee passed on her knowledge  
To her daughter Sally - she was only six then  
Our tribes own designs such as Salmon Gill, Trail of Eel,  
Flowers for women and deer for the men

2nd voice:

My grandmother's hands worked with bright colored fabrics  
Taken from dresses I wore long ago  
With strong cotton thread and the finest of needles  
Weaving my memories in patterns she'd sew

My great grandma Eleanor passed on her knowledge  
To her daughter Susan when she was just nine  
Lone Star, Log Cabin, the sweet Rose of Sharon  
Basket, Medallion - her favorite designs

Chorus: (Round-Both voices)

Salmon Gill, Trail of Eel, Flowers and Deer  
Bringing the lives of our ancestors near  
Lone Star, Log Cabin, Basket design  
Weaving and Quilting, our stories entwine

Notes:

This song was inspired by oral interviews with women of the Klickitat tribe who described their basketweaving traditions. The idea had also come up during a songwriting workshop I did with members of the Lummi tribe. A Centennial collection of Washington women's quilts gave me the quilt names.