

The concept for this song is strongly linked with the relationship that the Northern people have with the river, the annual 'boat trips' up and down the river. The people of the 'Big River' are very familiar with all the sounds of the river/water. Children know from travels with their parents the sounds of the paddle to the water. The sounds "ch'uúm and ch'ulím" can be associated with the sound an object entering the water can make, even a rock by especially a paddle.

VERSE: Dehro tu náátse dúyé
Dehro tu dééghe
Elá t'áh ts'a?ó
T'oo teats'ehgeh

The water is strong on the big river
The water is calm on the big river
We travel by boat
We dip our paddle into the water

VERSE: Dehro nihts'i séé náátse
Dehro tu náátlah
Elá t'áh ts'a?ó
T'oo teats'ehgeh

The wind is very strong on the big river
The water is swift on the big river
We travel by boat
We dip our paddle into the water

CHORUS: Tu zhíh ch'uúm godi (2X)
Undáá ts'é hidi goale
Tu zhíh ch'ulím godi (2X)
Ch'uúm ch'ulím godi

In the water it goes 'ch'uúm' (2X)
We are heading down the river fast
In the water it goes 'ch'ulím'
It goes 'ch'uúm ch'ulím'