



· T S E N A H A L E ·

The Tsenahale were two of the Anaye, the Alien Gods who inhabited the land of the Navajo in time immemorial. At that time men and women had separated, and women resorted to unnatural practices to reproduce. From the union of a woman with a lot of feathers the two Tsenahale came out, but they were so monstrous

that their mother abandoned them. However they managed to survive, and became monstrous creatures, giant birds similar to harpies. The male Tsenahale hunts and eats men, while the female Tsenahale is dedicated only to women. Nayenezgani, the assassin of the Alien Gods, discovered the Tsenahale's nest and confronted them. Although the male grabbed him and threw him from the sky to the nest, the hero was protected by a feather of life, and survived. Thinking that he had killed him, the creature left him to feed his chicks. When they returned to the nest, unsuspecting, Nayenezgani crossed with arrows to the monsters, ending his life. The chicks, on the other hand, forgave their lives and turned them into an eagle and an owl. With the feathers of the Tsenahale he created all the bird races of the world.





Tsenahale is a **NAVAJO** creature
Current population: 300.460



The Navajo are an American Indian people, with roots in the Athabaskan language peoples of Alaska, from where they migrated southward in the thirteenth century. From culture initially based only on hunting and gathering, the Navajo soon learned agricultural techniques from their new neighbors, the Puebloans, for which they added the cultivation of corn, beans and zucchini to their way of life. Of the Spaniards, in the seventeenth century, they learned sheep farming. The Navajo live in very extensive, matrilineal family clans, where property is inherited from mothers to daughters. The clans live in small houses of wood and adobe, separated for men and women, and have

several locations for their seasonal migrations.

According to the Navajo cosmogony, the world we live in is the fourth that exists. The first world was small and black, and in the sea an island emerged, where the first woman, the first man, and also the Coyote appeared. The second world is aerial and blue, and was populated by birds. In the third world, mountainous and yellow, people were immortal. It is in this world when men and women became angry, and begot creatures like the Tsenahale.

The Hózhóójí is a code of conduct that teaches the Navajo to maintain good relations with the people, the clan, the animals and the spirits.

The conquest of the West Coast by the USA in the nineteenth century was made at the cost of terrible wars with the native peoples, among them the Navajo. After massacres and deportations, the Navajo managed to survive and, in 1868, began to recover their communal lands. The Navajo Nation is today the largest Indian reservation in the USA, with 71,000 square kilometers, and half of the Navajo Americans live there. Despite the poverty and marginalization they suffer, they preserve their culture and traditions, as well as their language and, to some extent, their religion.

