

“**Totem Poles of Chief Mountain (Boas)** (111b: 573, 574). Some time after a burial the son or nephew of the deceased erects a column in his memory (*ptsan*). As the meaning of such is not yet clear by any means, I asked ‘Chief Mountain’ to describe to me the festivals which he gave after the death of his father, who was a Gyispawaduwada. His father had a squid for his protector (*nagnok*). After the death of his father he invited all the people to his house. During the festival the ground opened and a huge rock, which was covered with kelp, came out. This was made of wood and bark. A cave was under the rock and a large squid came out of it. It was made of cedar bark and its arms were set with hooks which caught the blankets of the audience and tore them. The song of the squid was sung by the women sitting on three platforms in the rear of the house.”

—Marius Barbeau, *Totem Poles*: 1950 page 35

(meaning the deceased
the
Gyispawaduwada
)
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squid
set with hooks

meaning

his father

covered with kelp,

made of cedar bark

and

song

ground open

the rock

tore the
platform

and

sung

“

column
clear

cave

blankets

squid
house ”

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who was a This was made
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