Contents

Preface xi

1 'There Was Might in Their Tongues': Oral Traditions 1

IGLULIK 5 Ivaluartiuk: Cold and Mosquitoes 5 Aua: A Magic Prayer 7 Words Which Make Heavy Things Light 7 Words to Stop Bleeding 7 A Walrus Hunt 7 Tûglik: An Old Dance Song 8 Naukatjik: Women Become Dangerous When They Have No Husbands 10 William Okomâluk: Origin of the Sadlermiut Origin of the Sun and Moon The Revenge of the Orphan Boy 17 Felix Kopak: The Crow and the Two Eider Ducks 20 Uvavnuk: Ecstasy 21 Inugpasugjuk: Tutukatuk, Who Was Carried Off by the Moon for Breach of Taboo 22 NETSILIK 23

Orpingalik: The Genesis of Song 23
My Breath 24
Caribou Magic 27
A Song of Derision 27
Uvlunuaq: A Mother's Lament 28
Qaqortingneq: The Origin of the Indians 29
The Fate of the Franklin Expedition 31

COPPER 32

Uloqsaq and Ikpakhuaq: The Origin of the Clouds 33

Netsit: Dead Man's Song 34 Itireitok: A Sea Chant 36

CARIBOU 36

The Death of a Son 36

Kibbârjuk: The Owl Woos the Snow-bunting 37

The Old Man's Song 38 Mother and Child 38

WESTERN ARCTIC, BAILLIE ISLAND 39

A Whaling Chant 39

Magic Words to a Whale 39

The People of the Caribou Antler 40

An Incantation for Good Weather 40

Unalina and Cukaiyoq: The Joy of the Dance 41

BAFFIN ISLAND 41

The Song of the Pintailed Duck in Competition with the Ptarmigan 42

Sedna and the Fulmar 42

Kiviung 44

ungava 48

A Healing Chant 48

LABRADOR 48

Rose Pamack: Tikisiak 49

Winter's Exodus 50

EASTERN ARCTIC 51

Creation 51

Unaleq: The Creation of Man 51

MACKENZIE 52

The Raven and the Red Fox 52

2 'What Great Creatures Are These': Early Contact Literature 55

Karpik's Conversation with Jens Haven, 1769 58 Mikak to Jens Haven, 1770 60

Mikak to the Moravian Missionaries, 1795 60 Attuiock's Impressions of London, 1772 Kingminguse's Renunciation, 1776 61 Aula's Response, 1776 61 Eketcheak and Wife's Responses to Captain George Cartwright's Proposal, 1786 61 First Meeting, 1818 62 Inuluapik's Letter to Mr Hogarth, 1840 63 Kallihirua's Letter, 1853 64 Kallihirua's Letter, 1856 64 Ugarng's Impressions of New York 65 Ipirvik and Taqulittuq 65 Tagulittug's Complaint to Hall about the Whalers 67 Tagulittug's Object Lesson in Geology 68 Tagulittug's Letter, 1864 68 Ipirvik's Testimony to the New York Herald, 1873 69 Taqulittua's Testimony, 1873 70 Tagulittug's Letter to Mrs Budington, 1873 71 Ipirvik's Reactions, 1875 72 Hans Hendrik's Memoirs (an extract) Iohn Bull's Testimony 77 Zecharias' Confession to Brother Kahle 77 Pomiuk's Letter to Mr Martin, 1897 78 Uisakassak's Impressions of New York. 1898 79 Minik Wallace's Dilemma 80 Mergusag: An Epic Arctic Journey 85 John Aggâkdjuk's Report 89 Tannaumirk's Reactions to Stefansson, 1910 92 Ada Blackjack Johnson's Diary 93

3 'When All Meat Was Juicy and Tender': Personal Narratives, Letters, and Transitional Literature 101

Christian Testimony: Jonathan / Peter / Simeon 105 Abraham's Diary 109 Abraham's Letter to Brother Elsner, 1881 111 Lydia Campbell's Autobiography (an extract) 112 How Igjugârjuk Acquired His Shamanic Powers 115 How Aua Became a Shaman 120 Aua: The Soul 125

Peter Tulugajuak: A Letter of Complaint, 1922 126 Opartok's Diary 127
Ohnainewk's Diary 130
Sister Pélagy's Letter to Father Thibert, o.m.i., 1951 132
Madeleine's Letter of Request 134
Thomas Umaok: Interview 134
Victor Allen: The Snow Goose and the Mosquito –
A Question of Development 137
John Ayaruaq's Autobiography (an excerpt) 138
Abe Okpik: What Does It Mean to Be an Eskimo? 140
Atuat's Grim Tale of Cannibalism 141
Luke Issaluk: I See Your Face 147
Markoosie: Wings of Mercy 148
Joe Panipakuttuk: The Historic Voyage of the St.
Roch 155
Bernard Irqugaqtuq: The Song of the Aircraft 163
Jimmy Patsauq Naumealuk: Wondering in Silence 164
Dorothy: Old Woman's Song 165
Alexis Pamiuq Utatnaq: Blood Thirsty Enemies 165
Peter Pitseolak: The Sinking of the Nascopie 166
Kowmageak Arnakalak: Northern Lights 171
Isa Smiler: Inukjuak: Making Ready for Winter 171
A Matter of Life and Death 174
Eric Anoee: My Writings 176
Paulosie Kasudluak: Nothing Marvellous 180
Felix Nuyaviak: Mangilaluk Adrift on the Ice 183
Bessie Andreason: No Way Out 189
Double I III all the stay out 107

4 A People Who Refuse to Disappear: Modern Writing 199

Willie Thrasher: Our Land 203
Alice French: My Name Is Masak 203
John Amagoalik: Will the Inuit Disappear from the Face of This Earth? 209
Armand Tagoona: Thoughts of Armand Tagoona 211

Davidialuk Alasuaq Amittu: La Parole changée en

pierre 217

Joshua Obed: The Spanish Flu, 1918 223 Leah Idlout d'Argencourt: C.D. Howe 225 Part II – The Hospital 231 Minnie Aodla Freeman: Living in Two Hells 235 Alootook Ipellie: Frobisher Bay Childhood 243 Damn Those Invaders 248

Tumasi Quissa: Come to Our Place Since You Got a Seal 253

William Kalleo: The Known Mystery of Seals 253

Susie Tiktalik – From Her Life Story 254

Zebedee Nungak: Equality before the Honey Bucket 258

Mark Kalluak: I Want to Learn Syllabics 260

Samuel Metcalfe: Wooding 260

John Amagoalik: Amagoalik's Closing Remarks, 1984 263

Pitseolak Ashoona's Courtship and Marriage 264 Mary Simon: The Role of Inuit in International Affairs 265

Mary Carpenter Lyons: Nunavut! - Denendeh! = Northwesterritories 273

Martha Flaherty: I Fought to Keep My Hair 274

Aksaajuuq Etuangat: The Whalers of Pangnirtung 278

Leah Arnaujaq: In the Days of the Whalers 280

Peter Ernerk: The Inuit as Hunters and Managers 281

Angus Anderson: The Tree 283 Liz Semigok: My Little House 284

My Cooking Pot 285

Taguk Curley: Who Would Want to Live Here? 286 Nellie Cournoyea: Everybody Likes the Inuit 286

Glossary / Historical Terms 287 Bibliography 291 Acknowledgments 301 Picture Credits 305 Index 307

