

The Apostle Islands
(Chippewa Legend)

Winneboujou was hunting in the Brule River country. He had for weapons his powerful bow and a quiver filled with arrows slung over his back. In the big woods of the Brule he saw the fresh tracks of a deer which he followed. It was a large animal, and Winneboujou looking over the tree tops, could trace its movements as the deer ran. The forest was so dense that only now and then could he catch a glimpse of it. Then he shot an arrow to the spot, but the trunks and foliage always prevented his striking the fleet animal.

Winneboujou followed the deer all the day and shot away all of the arrows he had in his quiver. So he threw away his bow. When the hunted deer reached the shore of Lake Superior it ran into the water and swam away. When Winneboujou reached the shore the deer was already far out in the water. He became so angry at his failure to get the deer that he grabbed up handfuls of rocks and threw them in the direction which the deer had taken. Those, falling into the water, became the Apostle Islands, lying where we see them today.