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Teton Sioux Music And Culture



Synopsis

Frances Densmore's Teton Sioux Music and Culture is one of the many volumes that resulted from her prolific life-long project to record and transcribe the traditional music of American Indian peoples. The book explores the role of music in all aspects of Sioux life, and is a classic of the descriptive genre produced by members of the Smithsonian's Bureau of American Ethnology. Music serves as the vehicle for organizing this detailed account of traditional religion, warfare, and social life, enriched by first-person narrations by the Lakota men and women who worked with Densmore from 1911 to 1914 to preserve their songs by means of a wax cylinder recorder, the modern technology of that period. The evident quality of the narratives, translations from Lakota, as well as the complete transcription and translation of all the Lakota lyrics to the songs, resulted from Densmore's close collaboration with Robert P. Higeagle, who shared her dedication to the project and was an exceptionally capable translator and cultural mediator. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

Paperback: 589 pages

Publisher: University of Nebraska Press (March 1, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0803266316

ISBN-13: 978-0803266315

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1.5 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

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Customer Reviews

I was told by people in Wakpala, SD, that this is the best account of the coming of White Buffalo Calf Maiden. She came to the people who lived in this area of South Dakota, and the current residents are their descendents. When Frances Densmore came and asked to record their music and culture, the whole Tribe consulted and having heard of her reputation for honesty and integrity, they agreed to tell her the whole story of the White Buffalo Calf Maiden(Woman) and how she gave

them the Sacred Pipe. And they told her all of their sacred rituals and songs. The scores and words are all here, interwoven with the text.

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