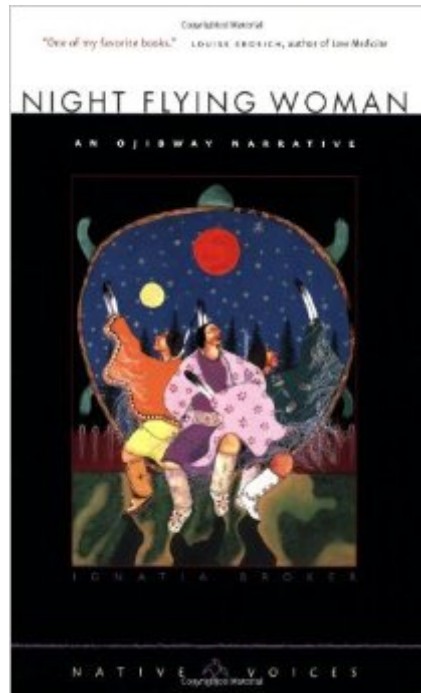


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Night Flying Woman: An Ojibway Narrative (Native Voices)



Synopsis

With the art of a practiced storyteller, Ignatia Broker recounts the life of her great-great-grandmother, Night Flying Woman, who was born in the mid-19th century and lived during a chaotic time of enormous change, uprootings, and loss for the Minnesota Ojibway. But this story also tells of her people's great strength and continuity.

Book Information

Series: Native Voices

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Customer Reviews

In "Night Flying Woman, An Ojibway Narrative," Ignatia Broker tells the story of the forest people, the Ojibway. She shows how the white man's ways desecrated the rituals, laws and beliefs of the Native People, all but erasing their long culture. Classed as caricatures in a land that once honored them, Brokers shows how the Native People "faced bias, prejudice and active discrimination." The Ojibway philosophy for living, that of keeping in balance the purity of man and nature, is revived through Broker's telling of Oona's story, the story of many as seen through the "eyes cast down" of one. An insightful story that continues the Ojibway circle and gives us all the hope of the past for the future.

Night Flying Woman is a marvelous little book that captures the essence of the Ojibway way of life. The story speaks about reverence of all - the earth, the animals, the trees, and our fellow women and men. We are all intertwined in a reality that encompasses all. Although this is a major lesson in

the Judeo-Christian heritage as well, we Christians have forgotten this lesson from the story of creation. Night Flying Woman helps to reconnect with this web of life of which we are all a part. In addition to the wonderful story, the book contains evocative and moving artwork. It also contains something that is missing from too many books - a glossary of words that are unfamiliar to the average reader. This was a GREAT help.

I sat and read this in one sitting. It was that good. An excellent lesson in not needing all the gadgetry this world offers in order to be happy. A great reminder for all of us that we need to care for each other in order we all can survive.

Ignatia Broker through the eyes of Oona engages the reader in a world of change. Oona learns to adapt to her environment and listens to her elders voices. This story engages the reader from the first page to the last. With beautiful drawings and a tale of survival the reader gains an indepth perspective into Oona's reality. It touched me on an emotional level and reminded me of a past which must be remembered.

This book had a lot of interesting history in it, but the prose isn't terribly exciting. The writing style is kind of dull, and drags down what could be a truly amazing story. I'd watch a movie adapted out of this book in a heartbeat, but it was so slow-moving as a book that I don't see myself re-reading it.

It was a great read. The more I read about the Ojibway the more I wish I had been born sooner so that I could have lived with my ancestors the way we were meant to. I cried when I was done reading it. I would recommend this book to anyone whether you care about the people or not!

Assigned this in my university Religions in America course along with Sherman Alexie's The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian. Held together these books are especially powerful. This one made an even stronger impact on undergraduate students unfamiliar with the topic, history, people, complexities of economics, cultural imperialism of U.S. Christian "missions" intersection U.S. politics (land grabbing and exiling / brutalizing First People's)

I traditionally read this book every Thanksgiving to remind myself of the deep blessing of the First Thanksgiving. This land was a land with a rich and caring history long before Europeans arrived. Native Americans enrich our lives by their art, history, language, spirituality and way of life. The

conversations between Oona and her grandfather are filled with wonderful spiritual wisdom. I remember my joy of the power shared by women and the working through living with these strangers dotting their horizon. Wisdom rings true and pure throughout these pages. I highly recommend reading this book to your grandchildren on Thanksgiving to better understand who they are and who they can become living in harmony with the land and with all people. This book is as beautiful as Ignatia Broker herself back in 1983. The new cover is beautiful. Read and you will be changed and blessed.

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