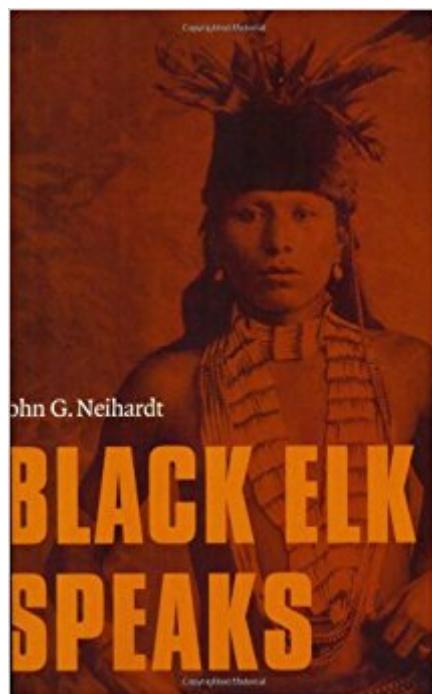


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Black Elk Speaks: Being The Life Story Of A Holy Man Of The Oglala Sioux



Synopsis

Black Elk Speaks is the story of the Lakota visionary and healer Nicholas Black Elk (1863-1950) and his people during the momentous twilight years of the nineteenth century. Black Elk met the distinguished poet, writer, and critic John G. Neihardt (1881-1973) in 1930 on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota and chose Neihardt to tell his story. Neihardt understood and conveyed Black Elk's experiences in this powerful and inspirational message for all humankind. When Black Elk received his great vision, white settlers were invading the Lakotas' homeland, decimating buffalo herds, and threatening to extinguish the Lakotas' way of life. The Lakotas fought fiercely to retain their freedom and way of life, a dogged resistance that resulted in a remarkable victory at the Little Bighorn and an unspeakable tragedy at Wounded Knee. Black Elk Speaks offers much more than a precious glimpse of a vanished time, however. As related by Neihardt, Black Elk's searing visions of the unity of humanity and the earth have made this book a venerated spiritual classic. Whether appreciated as the poignant tale of a Lakota life, a history of a Native nation, or an enduring spiritual testament, Black Elk Speaks is unforgettable. This new edition features two additional essays by John G. Neihardt that further illuminate his experience with Black Elk; an essay by Alexis Petri, great-granddaughter of John G. Neihardt, that celebrates Neihardt's remarkable accomplishments; and a look at the legacy of the special relationship between Neihardt and Black Elk, written by Lori Utecht, editor of *Knowledge and Opinion: Essays and Literary Criticism of John G. Neihardt*. For more information on John G. Neihardt, visit www.neihardt.com

Book Information

Paperback: 312 pages

Publisher: University of Nebraska Press; New edition edition (2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0803283857

ISBN-13: 978-0803283855

Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 0.6 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 39 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #54,512 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #17 in Books > History > Americas > Canada > First Nations #36 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Ethnic & National > Native American #102 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Specific

Customer Reviews

Black Elk Speaks is the story of the Lakota visionary and healer Nicholas Black Elk (1863–1950) and his people during the momentous twilight years of the nineteenth century. Black Elk met the distinguished poet, writer, and critic John G. Neihardt (1881–1973) in 1930 on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota and chose Neihardt to tell his story. Neihardt understood and conveyed Black Elk's experiences in this powerful and inspirational message for all humankind. When Black Elk received his great vision, white settlers were invading the Lakotas' homeland, decimating buffalo herds, and threatening to extinguish the Lakotas' way of life. The Lakotas fought fiercely to retain their freedom and way of life, a dogged resistance that resulted in a remarkable victory at the Little Bighorn and an unspeakable tragedy at Wounded Knee. Black Elk Speaks offers much more than a precious glimpse of a vanished time, however. As related by Neihardt, Black Elk's searing visions of the unity of humanity and the earth have made this book a venerated spiritual classic. Whether appreciated as the poignant tale of a Lakota life, a history of a Native nation, or an enduring spiritual testament, Black Elk Speaks is unforgettable. This new edition features two additional essays by John G. Neihardt that further illuminate his experience with Black Elk; an essay by Alexis Petri, great-granddaughter of John G. Neihardt, that celebrates Neihardt's remarkable accomplishments; and a look at the legacy of the special relationship between Neihardt and Black Elk, written by Lori Utecht, editor of *Knowledge and Opinion: Essays and Literary Criticism of John G. Neihardt*.

This book is so profound and the story changed my life. I love this book, definitely a must read for any one living in North America

One of the most moving and enlightening books I have ever read. It should be required reading in our public schools.

Enjoyed this book, great story, well written.

One of my favorite books. I consider it an 'American' Classic.

For use with clients in Chemical dependency treatment in Native treatment center

I thoroughly enjoyed the richness of Black Elk's testimony of the historical and the visionary experiences he had. It immerses one into a world that has passed us by, one in which the unconscious mind and its contents pays a pivotal role.

Fantastic! Have read it twice now, will use as reference for years to come.

The book has some notations and a little stain, but that in no way diminishes its value. It's what I expected from the description.

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