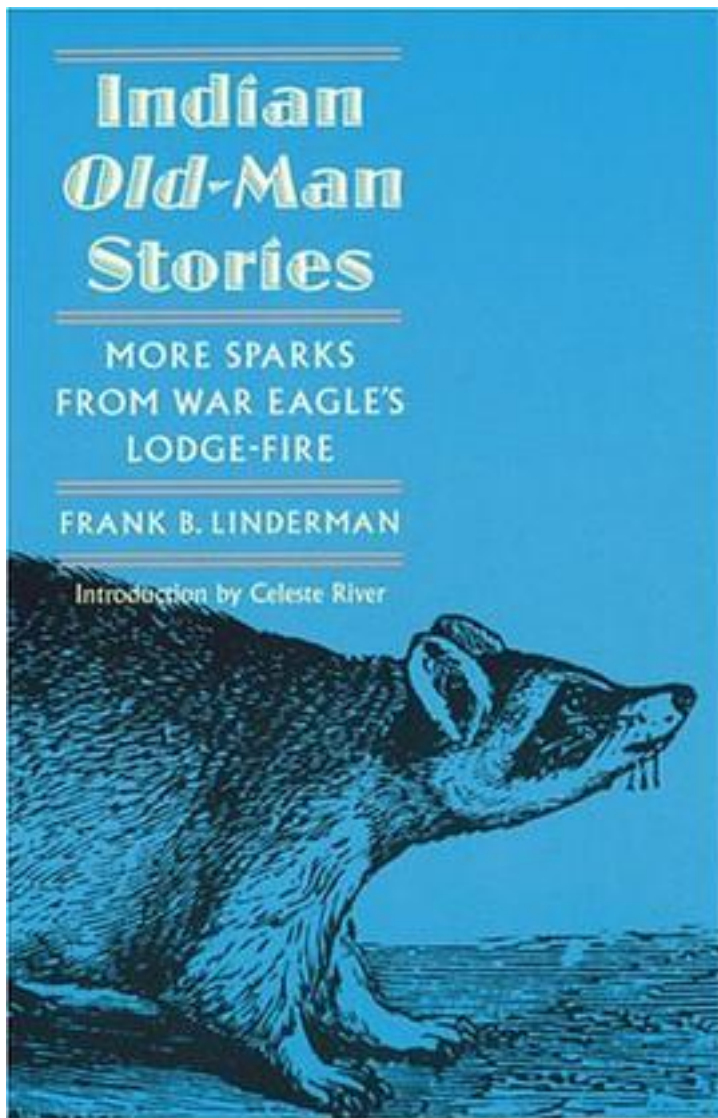


Indian Old-man Stories



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出版者:Univ of Nebraska Pr

出版时间:2001-9

装帧:Pap

isbn:9780803280014

The Indians of the northwestern plains always laughed at the tales about Old-man, heard around the lodge fire in the wintertime after sunset. For a powerful character, he was comically flawed. Old-man made the world but sometimes forgot the names of things. Victim and victimizer, he seemed closer to common experience than the awesome god Manitou. Frank B. Linderman thought Old-man was, under different names, a god for many Indian communities. These stories-collected from Chippewa and Cree elders and first published in 1920-are full of wonder at the way things are. Why children lose their teeth, why eyesight fails with age, why dogs howl at night, why some animals wear camouflage-these and other mysteries, large and small, are made vividly sensible. Frank B. Linderman (1869-1938) spent his adult life in Montana, first as a trapper and then as a publisher, politician, and businessman. He lived closely with the Flatheads, Blackfeet, Crows, and other Native Americans in the region for many years. A number of his works are available in Bison Books editions, including Indian Why Stories, Kootenai Why Stories, Pretty-Shield: Medicine Woman of the Crows, and Henry Plummer: A Novel. Celeste River is a Montana scholar, photographer, and research consultant who has lectured throughout the state on the life and writings of Linderman.

作者介绍:

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