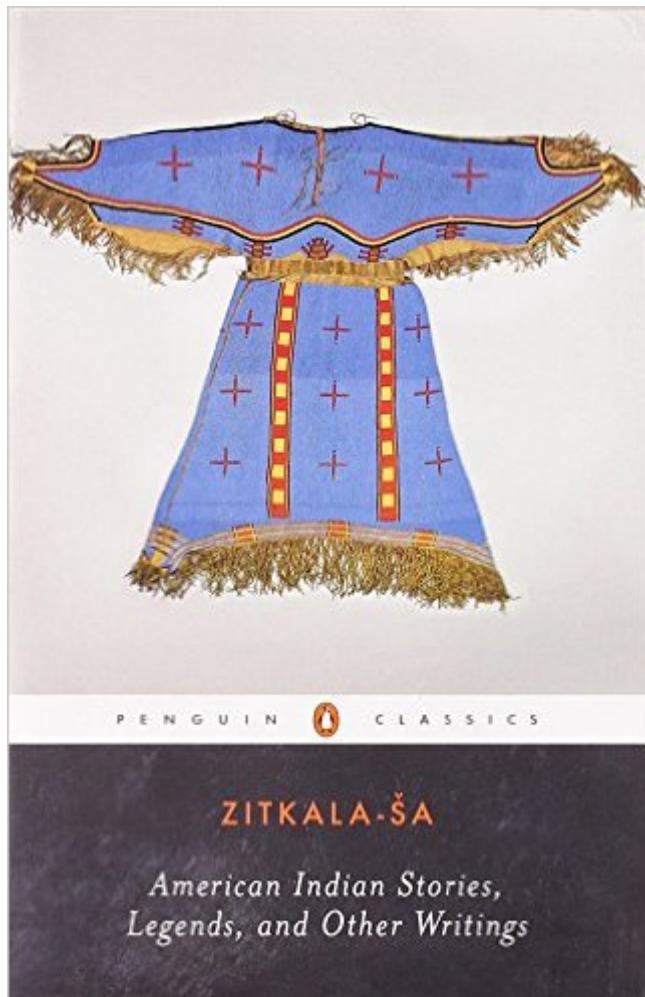


The book was found

# American Indian Stories, Legends, And Other Writings (Penguin Classics)



## Book Information

Series: Penguin Classics

Paperback: 320 pages

Publisher: Penguin Classics (February 25, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0142437093

ISBN-13: 978-0142437094

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.6 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (17 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #72,570 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #22 inÂ  Books > Literature & Fiction > Mythology & Folk Tales > Folklore #40 inÂ  Books > Literature & Fiction > Mythology & Folk Tales > Fairy Tales #117 inÂ  Books > Literature & Fiction > United States > Anthologies

## Customer Reviews

Zitkala-Sa: American Indian Stories, Legends, and Other Writings edited with an introduction and notes by Cathy N. Davidson and Ada Norris. Highly recommended.Zitkala-Sa (Gertrude Simmons Bonnin), a South Dakota Sioux (through her mother; her father was white) born in 1876, the year of the Battle of the Little Big Horn, was an educator, musician, writer, and activist. She served as the secretary and treasurer of the Society of American Indians (SAI) and as editor of SAI's American Indian Magazine.This collection of Zitkala-Sa's work includes background information about the author; a chronology of contemporary events; selections from "Old Indian Legends" (retellings of oral story traditions); "American Indian Stories"; selections from American Indian Magazine; and some of her poetry, pamphlets, essays, and speeches."Old Indian Legends" introduces Sioux traditions, including Iktomi (a trickster who often takes the form of a spider), Iya the glutton (able to consume whole villages), and the characters of the Sioux world-coyotes, ducks, the terrifying Red Eagle and the stranger who slays it, turtles, toads, mice, bears, badgers, and more. While at first these traditions and stories may strike the outsider as different and alien, to some extent they can evoke some European fairy tale traditions (which also may seem alien to modern sensibilities). Some of the most charming, like "Dance in a Buffalo Skull," are written in human terms but have no human characters. "Dance," with its "two balls of fire" growing "larger and brighter" and building of suspense, is an excellent short horror story as well.

"American Indian Stories, Legends, and Other Writings" is a collection of pieces by Zitkala-Sa (also known as Gertrude Simmons Bonnin). The book is edited, with an introduction and notes by, Cathy N. Davidson and Ada Norris. Born on the Yankton Sioux reservation in South Dakota in 1876, Zitkala-Sa worked as a writer and activist for Native American causes, and died in 1938. The editors divide Zitkala-Sa's writings into 4 main sections: "Old Indian Legends," "American Indian Stories," "Selections from American Indian Magazine," and "Poetry, Pamphlets, Essays, and Speeches." I really loved the legends, which are Zitkala-Sa's versions of tales that had been passed down orally. These stories are full of magic, transformations, fantastic beings, and amazing feats. Many tales feature Iktomi, a "spider fairy" who is a mischievous trickster. The section on stories features realistic narratives of Indian lives. All together these stories create a vivid and fascinating portrait, with details about Indian crafts, food preparation, and social customs. The many nonfiction pieces in the book cover a number of topics, such as Native American soldiers in World War I, Native American religion, and Indian political issues. Many of these pieces show the author to be a really forward thinking woman with a global perspective; her acknowledgement of the "universal cry for freedom from injustice" really seems to foreshadow the work of Martin Luther King, Jr. and other great activist-writers of the later 20th century. The book is full of great supplemental materials: a comprehensive introduction; a lengthy bibliographic list of suggestions for further reading; an informative note on the texts; and endnotes.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

American Indian Stories, Legends, and Other Writings (Penguin Classics) Indian Cooking: for Beginners - Indian Recipes Cookbook 101 - Indian Cuisine - Indian Culinary Traditions (Indian Food Recipes - Indian Food Cookbook for Beginners) American Indians and the Law: The Penguin Library of American Indian History (Penguin's Library of American Indian History) Last Steps: The Late Writings of Leo Tolstoy: The Late Writings of Leo Tolstoy (Penguin Classics) The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism: and Other Writings (Penguin Twentieth-Century Classics) The Interesting Narrative and Other Writings: Revised Edition (Penguin Classics) Pragmatism and Other Writings (Penguin Classics) The Book of Indian Crafts and Indian Lore: The Perfect Guide to Creating Your Own Indian-Style Artifacts The League of the Iroquois and other Legends: From the Indian Muse Ouija Board Stories: Chilling True Horror Stories Of Ouija Boards Gone Wrong (Ouija Board Stories, Ghost Stories, True Horror Stories, Ouija Board Nightmares, Haunted Places Book 1) American Indian Myths and Legends (The Pantheon Fairy Tale and Folklore Library) American Indian Jewelry I: 1200 Artist Biographies (American Indian Art Series) American Indians and the Law (The Penguin Library of American Indian History) Discourses and Selected Writings (Penguin

Classics) Poems, Protest, and a Dream: Selected Writings (Penguin Classics) Rashomon and Seventeen Other Stories (Penguin Classics) The Marquise of O and Other Stories (Penguin Classics) The Bloody Chamber: And Other Stories: 75th-Anniversary Edition (Penguin Classics Deluxe Edition) Selected Writings (Penguin Classics) A Woman in Arabia: The Writings of the Queen of the Desert (Penguin Classics)

[Dmca](#)