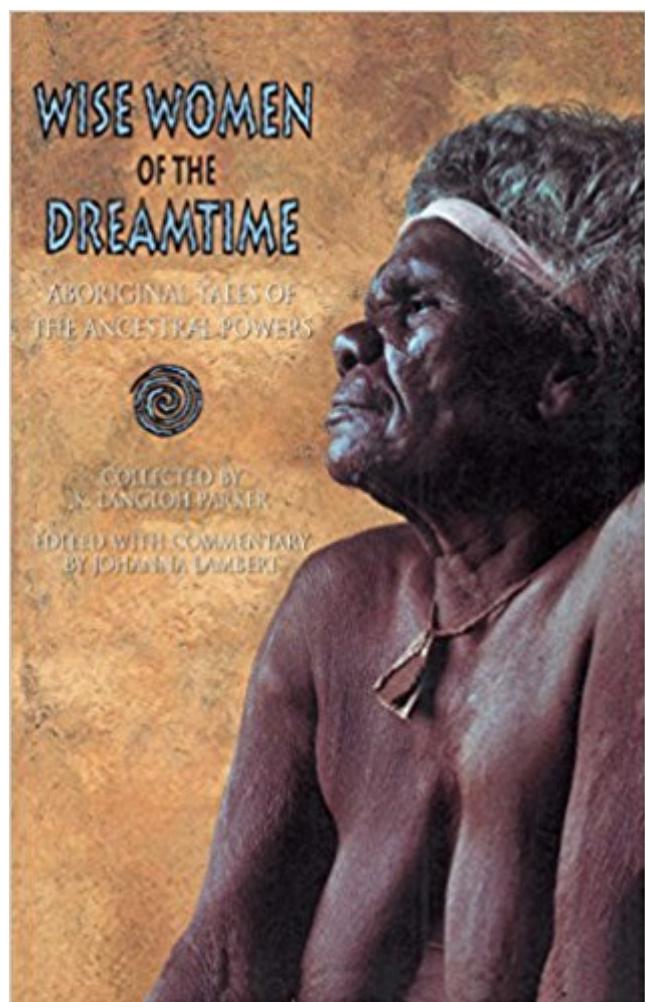


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Wise Women Of The Dreamtime: Aboriginal Tales Of The Ancestral Powers



Synopsis

Extending deep into the caverns of humanity's oldest memories, beyond 60,000 years of history and into the Dreamtime, this collection of Australian Aboriginal myths has been passed down through the generations by tribal storytellers. The myths were compiled at the turn of the century by K. Langloh Parker, one of the first Europeans to realize their significance and spiritual sophistication. Saved from drowning by Aboriginal friends when she was just a child, Parker subsequently gained unique access to Aboriginal women and to stories that had previously eluded anthropologists. In the stories, women tell of their own initiations and ceremonies, the origins and destiny of humanity, and the behavioral codes for society. Included are stories of child-rearing practices, young love in adversity, the dangers of invoking the spiritual powers, the importance of social sharing, the role of women in male conflicts, the dark feminine, and the transformational power of language. *Wise Women of the Dreamtime* allows us to participate in the world's oldest stories and to begin a new dream of harmony between human society and nature.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (13 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #223,443 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #89 inÂ Books > History > Australia & Oceania > Australia & New Zealand #111 inÂ Books > Literature & Fiction > Mythology & Folk Tales > Folklore #131 inÂ Books > Literature & Fiction > Mythology & Folk Tales > Fairy Tales

Customer Reviews

I bought this book with the hope of finding something more authentic than some of the more popular books on Australian Aboriginal culture I'd read. Though these stories have been collected, translated and compiled by Anglo Australians, my impression is that the authenticity of these stories has been retained. I do believe my authenticity-meter is pretty accurate. However, I have no authority on the subject, and would love to see a review here from someone who does. In absence of such, I hope my review is helpful to others. Each story is followed by Johanna Lambert's

commentary. Lambert draws parallels between concepts in these stories, and myths of other cultures. She also explains the contextual beliefs of Aboriginal people in a way that I found helpful and seems respectful to me. At times the psychoanalytical perspective seems a bit forced when applied to these stories and Aboriginal culture in general. I wonder if psychoanalysis is universal enough to be applicable to something so ancient and whole in and of itself. For the most part, though, I found the analysis helpful, and if you don't, you can just read the stories and skip the analysis which follows. If your exposure to Aboriginal culture from the women's perspective is limited to Lynn Andrews or Marlo Morgan, I highly recommend you read this book. Also a great book for anthropologists and students of shamanism or global spirituality. Or, if you enjoyed "Rabbit-Proof Fence," if you just like to hear about different perspectives than your own or want to understand the various people of the world, this book is for you. Recommended. ~heidimo

This book contains stories of the dreamtime and with each is a work of discussion discussing the story and similarities with those of other cultures. It lends itself to a better understanding of both story & the aboriginal people. A must for anyone interested in mythology &/or aboriginal stories.

A very good introduction to Australian Aboriginal stories - the book provides the traditional story and then explains its function as a tool for teaching young people.

Oz stories from the female perspective- a good balance to the books that focus solely on the male side of hunter gathering. Another facet of a seldom studied culture.

I have loved the books about the Aboriginal country so much Thank you

This book was interesting but not what I expected. Guess I was hoping for more personal accounts than retold mythology.

Would not buy again.

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