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Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve

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Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve : Grandpa Was a Cowboy and an Indian and Other Stories before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Grandpa Was a Cowboy and an Indian and Other Stories:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Must ReadBy AlbinaIf read for the wrong reasons, it is possible to come away from this book with the wrong impressions. It may further codify and substantiate the stereotypical

understanding of "Indianness" that an inexperienced reader may bring. Yet, it is a valuable, well written collection of stories, ringing truer than anything in Silko's "Storyteller." Sneve's "The Medicine Bag" alone tells more about contemporary Indian life than anything written by Alexie and without his extraneous sexual references. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great! By A Customer When I first read the title of the book I thought it was going to be boring...I was wrong! This book is very interesting and wonderful.

"'Grandpa,' I quietly asked, 'how come when you talk about the past, you say you were a cowboy and an Indian?' I sensed the regret in his short laugh when he answered, 'Cause I was both and both ways are gone forever.' With great imagination and vigor, award-winning Lakota storyteller Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve treats readers to a collection of her best stories. She first spins tales of Lakota and Dakota generations today, of what the youngest can learn from their elders, if they choose to listen. The second group of stories, set in the turbulent and tragic years of the nineteenth century, teaches the need for understanding across cultures. The collection ends with spellbinding ancient Sioux tales about the birth of the universe, the deeds of legendary beings, and an unforgettable story about Old Woman, whose quill work maps out the end of the world.

From Booklist Sneve, a Lakota storyteller raised on a Sioux Indian Reservation in South Dakota, blends history and folklore in this brief collection. In part one, "Generations," children, gently guided by loving parents and grandparents, are schooled in Native American traditions: a girl is taught the meaning of the seasons, a boy is challenged to capture an elusive white stallion, and a grandfather tells of his life as both cowboy and Indian. In the second segment, "Long Ago," set in the late 1800s, boarding-school children celebrate their first Christmas, and young warriors rescue white women and children held captive by a rival tribe. The final group of tales, "Legends," brings together Sioux creation stories, including the flight of the eagle, the origin of sunflowers, and the formation of the Badlands. Most of these stories, particularly in the first and last sections, are based on strong oral traditions and would be perfect for reading aloud. With deceptively simple language and effective imagery, the tales will bring Native American traditions and values to twenty-first-century readers. Candace Smith Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved "[A] charming collection of short narratives." "Most of these stories...are based on strong oral traditions and would be perfect for reading aloud. With deceptively simple language and effective imagery, the tales will bring Native American traditions and values to twenty-first century readers." "A charming collection of short narratives." "Multicultural" "Most of these stories . . . are based on strong oral traditions and would be perfect for reading aloud. With deceptively simple language and effective imagery, the tales will bring Native American traditions and values to twenty-first century readers." "Booklist" "[A] charming collection of short narratives." "Multicultural" About the Author Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve is the author of twenty books and numerous short stories and essays about Native American life and culture. Her memoir *Completing the Circle* (Nebraska 1995) won the North American Indian Prose Award, and she is a recipient of the National Humanities Medal.