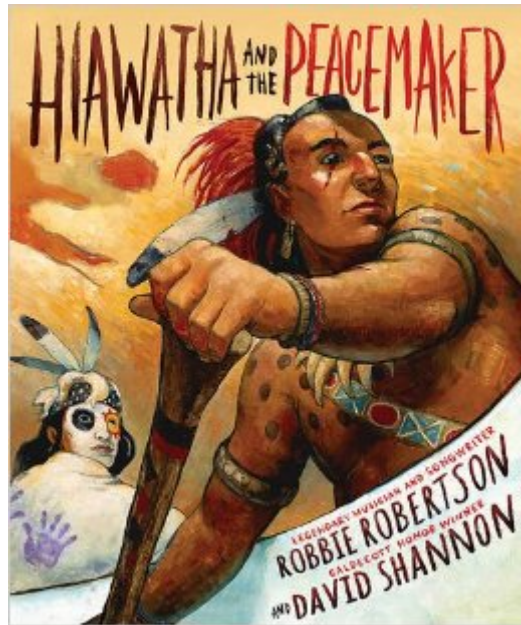


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Hiawatha And The Peacemaker



Synopsis

Born of Mohawk and Cayuga descent, musical icon Robbie Robertson learned the story of Hiawatha and his spiritual guide, the Peacemaker, as part of the Iroquois oral tradition. Now he shares the same gift of storytelling with a new generation. Hiawatha was a strong and articulate Mohawk who was chosen to translate the Peacemaker's message of unity for the five warring Iroquois nations during the 14th century. This message not only succeeded in uniting the tribes but also forever changed how the Iroquois governed themselves—a blueprint for democracy that would later inspire the authors of the U.S. Constitution. Caldecott Honor-winning illustrator David Shannon brings the journey of Hiawatha and the Peacemaker to life with arresting oil paintings. Together, Robertson and Shannon have crafted a new children's classic that will both educate and inspire readers of all ages. Includes a CD featuring a new, original song written and performed by Robbie Robertson.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars See all reviews (26 customer reviews)

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Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

Robbie Robertson is widely known for his work in the icon group, The Band, and was born of Mohawk and Cayuga descent. He creates a story of Hiawatha, and his spiritual guide, the Peacemaker, to pass on as part of the Iroquois oral tradition. When Robbie was only nine years old

his mother took him to hear an elder tell the story of Hiawatha which dated back from the 14th century. The elder has his audience spellbound as he pours forth how Hiawatha is strong and articulate and is chosen by the Peacemaker to spread unity and peace amongst the five warring Iroquois nations. Hiawatha's entire family has just been killed in a raid by the evil and dreaded Onondaga chief, Tadodaho. When the Peacemaker approaches Hiawatha he is in a state of shock and solitude and his one desire is to seek revenge on Tadodaho and his tribe. The gentle and persuasive Peacemaker convinces him that there is a much better way. He urges Hiawatha to be moved not by warring and destruction but by forgiveness and peace. He asks Hiawatha to take that peace that he can find deep down in his heart to the other tribes lest they all destroy each other in their violent acts of terror. The pair travel together in the Peacemaker's stone canoe to the Mohawk, Cayuga, Seneca, Oneida, and Onondaga tribes. It is not an easy task to convince these strong, brave but unforgiving warriors to cast aside their weapons, put away their bitterness towards each other, and join together as one. Finally, overcoming many barriers and difficulties, they vanquish resistance and lay down the foundation of the 1722 Six Nations Iroquois Confederacy. The power of the spirit and unconditional love is so strongly presented that even the wicked, disfigured and evil Tadodaho is touched and transformed.

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