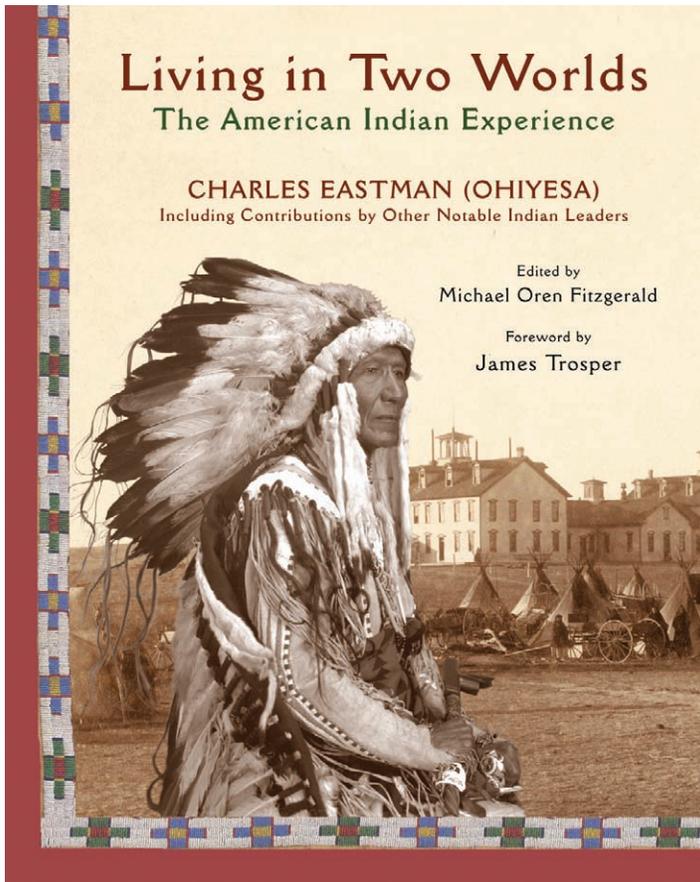


LIVING IN TWO WORLDS — WISDOM TALES DISCUSSION GUIDE



Winner of the ForeWord Book of the Year Gold Medal
in the “Social Science” category;

Winner of the Benjamin Franklin Gold Award for “Multicultural”
3 Gold Midwest Independent Publishers Association Book
Awards for: “Culture,” “Interior Layout,” and “Color Cover”

Winner in the “Multicultural Non-Fiction” category of
The USA “Best Books 2011” Awards

“[This] is a powerful book and can be used effectively to teach young adults about the American Indian experience. The many photographs and illustrations add life to the narrative.... Grappling with this book enables readers to go beyond the stereotypes that cloud a more meaningful encounter with American Indian culture.”

—Richard Davies, Culver Academies

\$24.95, 226 pages, paperback, 8x10
275 maps, sepia and color illustrations
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SUMMARY

- From buffalo hunter to medical doctor and author, discover the fascinating life of Charles Eastman (Ohiyesa)
- Award-winning editor Michael Oren Fitzgerald expertly selects passages from renowned author Charles Eastman’s (Ohiyesa) writings to tell the American Indian experience of “living in two worlds” over the last four centuries
- Fully illustrated with more than 275 color and b&w photos, paintings, vignettes, historical timelines, and maps
- With a Foreword by Chief James Trosper, Shoshone Sun Dance chief and features nine interviews with contemporary American Indian leaders
- Contains extensive discussion questions and helpful lists of free supplementary study materials

ABOUT THE BOOK

From buffalo hunter to medical doctor and author, this is the compelling story of Charles Eastman (Ohiyesa) who embraced a life of the traditional cultural ideals of his nomadic ancestors while living in the modern industrialized world. Filled with first-hand accounts, personal stories, interviews, timelines, maps, and over 275 stunning vintage photographs and paintings, this beautifully illustrated award-winning book presents a vivid account of the American Indian experience.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ohiyesa, also known as Charles Alexander Eastman, was the first great American Indian author, publishing 11 books from 1902 until 1918. Ohiyesa was raised by his grandparents in the traditional manner until the age of 15 when he entered the “white man’s world.” He graduated from Dartmouth College and Boston College with a medical degree, and he was the first doctor to treat the survivors of the Wounded Knee massacre. Ohiyesa was one of the main characters in the HBO film “Bury my Heart at Wounded Knee.” He died in 1939.

ABOUT THE EDITOR

Michael Oren Fitzgerald is editor of numerous award-winning titles, including *Indian Spirit: Revised and Enlarged* and *The Spirit of Indian Women*. He is an acknowledged authority of the culture and religion of the Plains Indians, and has taught at Indiana University.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR OF THE FOREWORD

James Trosper is a Medicine Man and Sun Dance chief of the Shoshone Tribe. He is a direct descendent of Washakie, the great Eastern Shoshone chief. Trosper is also a director of both the Chief Washakie Foundations and the Grand Teton National Park Foundation. He is also a trustee of the University of Wyoming.

Wisdom Tales
Stories from Around the World

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1. Consider the consequences of living under the Iroquois Constitution, where only women can vote and only men can sit in the council.
2. Does the Iroquois system provide a check and balance that will force elected officials to give more consideration to the needs of future generations?
3. Consider the validity of this sequence: Contact—Failure to Communicate—European Incursion—Tribal Crisis—Violence—Displacement—Forced Confinement—Forced Assimilation.
4. Can a democracy become a tyranny against a minority when fueled by the greed of the majority?
5. Is “truth” an objective fact, or does the majority in a democracy practically speaking create its own truth?
6. Was there ever any possibility that the Native Peoples could have “won”? If so, what form could this victory have taken? If not, why not?
7. What methods did the U.S. government use to subdue and control American Indians?
8. What other challenges did American Indians face?
9. How and why is the traditional Native attitude toward wealth and material possessions different from today’s prevailing values?
10. Did their traditional values help American Indians overcome the challenges of the past four centuries?
11. What values do you share with traditional American Indians?
12. To what extent is each of us living between two worlds if we are trying to maintain traditional values in our daily lives?
13. What is a reservation: a sanctuary, or a trap, or both? How has this changed over time?
14. Industrialized nations will struggle over the next century to control the earth’s shrinking natural resources.
 - * What ethical obligations do we owe to underdeveloped nations that are rich in natural resources?
 - * Will other industrialized countries share our altruism?
 - * Will the governments of underdeveloped countries recognize the human rights of their indigenous peoples?
 - * Is there a possibility that history can repeat itself in certain respects?
15. Has the U.S. government adequately compensated American Indians for four centuries of injustice?
 - * Consider what other actions might be possible or appropriate.
16. Do whites still consider themselves to be culturally superior to indigenous peoples?
 - * If so, how does it affect the majority view on native culture, land title and “inalienable rights”?

