

[Library ebook] Living the Sky: The Cosmos of the American Indian

Living the Sky: The Cosmos of the American Indian

Ray A. Williamson

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Ray A. Williamson : Living the Sky: The Cosmos of the American Indian before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Living the Sky: The Cosmos of the American Indian:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four StarsBy Philip M. BlacetA true wealth of information, and food for thought. A reference book, not intended for casual reading!2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Factoids that I did not knowBy Kindle CustomerHas a lot of new information that I had not known about. I have seen some rock art involving star configurations andthis has helped me to understand them better.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Interesting but outdatedBy BlueI bought this book at Chaco Canyon, thinking it was a new publication as I had not seen it before.However, after a couple of chapters, it ocured to me that it was not really up to date (no mention of Chimney Rock Archeological Site in Colorado, for example) and when I checked, I noticed that it was written in 1984!All in all, an interesting book on an interesting subject, but terribly outdated as there have been many new findings on archaeoastronomy in the last few decades.

Imagine the North American Indians as astronomers carefully watching the heavens, charting the sun through the seasons, or counting the sunrises between successive lunar phases. Then imagine them establishing observational sites and codified systems to pass their knowledge down through the centuries and continually refine it. A few years ago such images would have been abruptly dismissed. Today we are wiser.Living the Sky describes the exciting archaeoastronomical discoveries in the United States in recent decades. Using history, science, and direct observation,

Ray A. Williamson transports the reader into the sky world of the Indians. We visit the Bighorn Medicine Wheel, sit with a Zuni sun priest on the winter solstice, join explorers at the rites of the Hopis and the Navajos, and trek to Chaco Canyon to make direct on-site observations of celestial events.

About the AuthorRay A. Williamson holds a Ph.D. in astronomy from the University of Maryland. He is a Project Director in the Office of Technology Assessment, U.S. Congress.