

# SMOOTHING THE GROUND

ESSAYS ON NATIVE AMERICAN ORAL LITERATURE



*edited by*  
BRIAN SWANN

# Smoothing The Ground Essays On Native Am

**M Mark**



## **Smoothing The Ground Essays On Native Am:**

**Handbook of Native American Literature** Andrew Wiget, 2013-06-17 The Handbook of Native American Literature is a unique comprehensive and authoritative guide to the oral and written literatures of Native Americans. It lays the perfect foundation for understanding the works of Native American writers. Divided into three major sections: Native American Oral Literatures, The Historical Emergence of Native American Writing, and A Native American Renaissance 1967 to the Present, it includes 22 lengthy essays written by scholars of the Association for the Study of American Indian Literatures. The book features reports on the oral traditions of various tribes and topics such as the relation of the Bible, dreams, oratory, humor, autobiography, and federal land policies to Native American literature. Eight additional essays cover teaching Native American literature, new fiction, new theater, and other important topics, and there are bio-critical essays on more than 40 writers ranging from William Apes, who in the early 19th century denounced white society's treatment of his people, to contemporary poet Ray Young Bear. Packed with information that was once scattered and scarce, the Handbook of Native American Literature, a valuable one-volume resource, is sure to appeal to everyone interested in Native American history, culture, and literature. Previously published in cloth as *The Dictionary of Native American Literature*.

**The Sound the Stars Make Rushing Through the Sky** Jane Johnston Schoolcraft, 2007 Introducing a dramatic new chapter to American Indian literary history, this book brings to the public for the first time the complete writings of the first known American Indian literary writer, Jane Johnston Schoolcraft. Her English name or Bamewawagezhikaquay, her Ojibwe name Woman of the Sound, the Stars Make Rushing Through the Sky. 1800-1842. Beginning as early as 1815, Schoolcraft wrote poems and traditional stories while also translating songs and other Ojibwe texts into English. Her stories were published in adapted, unattributed versions by her husband, Henry Rowe Schoolcraft, a founding figure in American anthropology and folklore, and they became a key source for Longfellow's sensationallly popular *The Song of Hiawatha*. As this volume shows, what little has been known about Schoolcraft's writing and life only scratches the surface of her legacy. Most of the works have been edited from manuscripts and appear in print here for the first time. *The Sound the Stars Make Rushing Through the Sky* presents a collection of all Schoolcraft's extant writings along with a cultural and biographical history. Robert Dale Parker's deeply researched account places her writings in relation to American Indian and American literary history and the history of anthropology, offering the story of Schoolcraft, her world, and her fascinating family as reinterpreted through her newly uncovered writing. This book makes available a startling new episode in the history of American culture and literature.

**American Literary Environmentalism** David Mazel, 2000 Through these literary studies, Mazel demonstrates how broadly American culture is saturated with the wilderness mystique and how the construction of the environment is an exercise of cultural power. **BOOK JACKET** **Living Sideways** Franchot Ballinger, 2006-08-31 Native American tricksters can be buffoons, transformers, social critics, teachers, and mediators between human beings, nature, and the gods. A vibrant part

of American Indian tradition the trickster has shown a remarkable ability to adapt into the twenty first century In *Living Sideways* Franchot Ballinger provides the first full length study of the diverse roles and dimensions of North American Indian tricksters While honoring their diversity and complexity he challenges stereotypical Euro American treatments of tricksters Drawing from the most influential scholarship on Native American tricksters Ballinger shows how many critics have failed to consider both the specifics of trickster stories and their cultural contexts Each chapter concentrates on a particular aspect of the trickster theme such as the trickster s ambiguous personality the variety of trickster roles and the trickster s role as social critic Ballinger further considers issues of sex gender and humor the use of trickster tales as instructions on social values and community control and the trickster as an emblem of modern Indian survival *Living Sideways* also includes illustrative trickster stories at the end of each chapter a comprehensive bibliography and discussion of the literary aspects of tricksters Examining both the sacred power of tricksters and the stories as literature *Living Sideways* is the most thorough book to date on Native American tricksters

*The SAGE Handbook of Qualitative Research* Norman K. Denzin (ed), Yvonna S. Lincoln, 2005 A thoroughly revised updated edition this volume includes new chapters on auto ethnography critical race theory queer theory testimonies

**Narrative Deconstructions of Gender in Works by Audrey Thomas, Daphne Marlatt, and Louise Erdrich** Caroline Rosenthal, 2003 Study of three North American women novelists combining the standpoints of gender studies and narratology By analyzing the works of Thomas Marlatt and Erdrich through the lenses of subjectivity gender studies and narratology Caroline Rosenthal brings to light new perspectives on their writings Although all three authors write metafiction that challenge literary realism and dominant views of gender the forms of their counter narratives vary In her novel *Intertidal Life* Thomas traces the disintegration of an identity through narrative devices that unearth ruptures and contradictions in stories of gender In contrast Marlatt in *Ana Historic* challenges the regulatory fiction of heterosexuality She offers her protagonist a way out into a new order that breaks with the law of the father creating a monstrous text that explores the possibilities of a lesbian identity In her tetralogy of novels made up of *Love Medicine* *Tracks* *The Beet Queen* and *The Bingo Palace* Erdrich resists definite readings of femininity altogether By drawing on trickster narratives she creates an open system of gendered identities that is dynamic and unfinalizable positing the most fragmented worldview as the most enduring By applying gender and narrative theory to nuanced analysis of the texts Rosenthal s study elucidates the correlation between gender identity formation and narrative Caroline Rosenthal is Professor and Chair of American Literature at the Friedrich Schiller University in Jena Germany Her book *Narrative Deconstructions of Gender* was published by Camden House in 2003

**The Oxford Handbook of American Folklore and Folklife Studies** Simon J. Bronner, 2019-08-06 The *Oxford Handbook of American Folklore and Folklife Studies* surveys the materials approaches concepts and applications of the field to provide a sweeping guide to American folklore and folklife culture history and society Forty three comprehensive and diverse chapters delve into significant themes and methods of folklore and folklife

study established expressions and activities spheres and locations of folkloric action and shared cultures and common identities Beyond the longstanding arenas of academic focus developed throughout the 350 year legacy of folklore and folklife study contributors at the forefront of the field also explore exciting new areas of attention that have emerged in the twenty first century such as the Internet bodylore folklore of organizations and networks sexual orientation neurodiverse identities and disability groups Encompassing a wide range of cultural traditions in the United States from bits of slang in private conversations to massive public demonstrations ancient beliefs to contemporary viral memes and a simple handshake greeting to group festivals these chapters consider the meanings in oral social and material genres of dance ritual drama play speech song and story while drawing attention to tradition centered communities such as the Amish and Hasidim occupational groups and their workaday worlds and children and other age groups Weaving together such varied and manifest traditions this handbook pays significant attention to the cultural diversity and changing national boundaries that have always been distinctive in the American experience reflecting on the relative youth of the nation global connections of customs brought by immigrants mobility of residents and their relation to an indigenous urbanized and racialized population and a varied landscape and settlement pattern Edited by leading folklore scholar Simon J Bronner this handbook celebrates the extraordinary richness of the American social and cultural fabric offering a valuable resource not only for scholars and students of American studies but also for the global study of tradition folk arts and cultural practice

**The Journal of American Indian Family Research - Vol. IV, No. 1 - 1983** , *Transcending Conquest* Stephanie Wood, 2012-08-31

Columbus arrived on North American shores in 1492 and Cortés had replaced Moctezuma the Aztec Nahua emperor as the major figurehead in central Mexico by 1521 Five centuries later the convergence of old and new worlds and the consequences of colonization continue to fascinate and horrify us In *Transcending Conquest* Stephanie Wood uses Nahuatl writings and illustrations to reveal Nahua perspectives on Spanish colonial occupation of the Western Hemisphere Mesoamerican peoples have a strong tradition of pictorial record keeping and out of respect for this tradition Wood examines multiple examples of pictorial imagery to explore how Native manuscripts have depicted the European invader and colonizer She has combed national and provincial archives in Mexico and visited some of the Nahua communities of central Mexico to collect and translate Native texts Analyzing and interpreting changes in indigenous views and attitudes throughout three hundred years of foreign rule Wood considers variations in perspectives between the indigenous elite and the laboring classes and between those who resisted and those who allied themselves with the European intruders *Transcending Conquest* goes beyond the familiar voices recorded by scribes in central colonial Mexico and the Spanish conquerors to include indigenous views from the outlying Mesoamerican provinces and to explore Native historical narratives from the sixteenth through the eighteenth century Wood explores how evolving sentiments in indigenous communities about increasing competition for resources ultimately resulted in an anti Spanish discourse a trend largely overlooked by scholars

until now Transcending Conquest takes us beyond the romantic focus on the deeds of the Spanish conqueror to show how the so called conquest was limited by the ways that Native peoples and their descendants reshaped the historical narrative to better suit their memories identities and visions of the future      *Shades of Empire in Colonial and Post-Colonial Literatures* ,2021-11-01 The scope of the articles in *Shades of Empire in Colonial and Post Colonial Literatures* which are arranged in a broad sweep from East to West with four short papers nestled in the middle on the theme of colonialism and motherhood is extensive and varied But in one way or another they all reflect the growing importance of literatures and cultures that might once have been regarded as marginal During the colonial period the literature of the centre took possession of the margin as well as of the imagination of the margin But only recently has the question been raised as to why traditional English literary history has paid so little attention to colonial literature Now post colonial literatures are writing themselves back into the centre and what used to be the margins of the English language world have now set themselves up as rival centres An interesting question to arise from this is whether in the process the former colonial or colonizing literature has now itself turned into a post colonial literature What this book affirms is the importance and interest of a wide variety of literatures sharing a language but reflecting a rich and provocative diversity of histories experiences and attitudes to the shared world which still also divides us      **Collecting and Interpreting Qualitative Materials** Norman K. Denzin,2008 *Collecting and Interpreting Qualitative Materials* Third Edition is the third volume of the paperback versions of *The SAGE Handbook of Qualitative Research* Third Edition This portion of the handbook considers the tasks of collecting analyzing and interpreting empirical materials and comprises the Handbook's Parts IV Methods of Collecting and Analyzing Empirical Materials and V The Art and Practices of Interpretation Evaluation and Presentation *Collecting and Interpreting Qualitative Materials* Third Edition introduces the researcher to basic methods of gathering analyzing and interpreting qualitative empirical materials Part I moves from interviewing to observing to the use of artifacts documents and records from the past to visual and autoethnographic methods It then takes up analysis methods including computer assisted methodologies as well as strategies for analyzing talk and text Key Feature of the Third Edition Contains a new Reader's Guide prepared by the editors that helps students and researchers navigate through the chapters locating the different methodologies methods techniques issues and theories relevant to their work Presents an abbreviated Glossary of terms that offer students and researchers a ready resource to help decode the language of qualitative research Offers recommended Readings that provide readers with additional sources on specific topic areas linked to their research Intended Audience This text is designed for graduate students taking classes in social research methods and qualitative methods as well as researchers throughout the social sciences and in some fields within the humanities      *Eastern Cherokee Stories* Sandra Muse Isaacs,2019-07-03 Throughout our Cherokee history writes Joyce Dugan former principal chief of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians our ancient stories have been the essence of who we are These traditional stories embody the Cherokee concepts of Gadugi working together for

the good of all and Duyvhta walking the right path and teach listeners how to understand and live in the world with reverence for all living things In *Eastern Cherokee Stories* Sandra Muse Isaacs uses the concepts of Gadugi and Duyvhta to explore the Eastern Cherokee oral tradition and to explain how storytelling in this tradition as both an ancient and a contemporary literary form is instrumental in the perpetuation of Cherokee identity and culture Muse Isaacs worked among the Eastern Cherokees of North Carolina recording stories and documenting storytelling practices and examining the Eastern Cherokee oral tradition as both an ancient and contemporary literary form For the descendants of those Cherokees who evaded forced removal by the U S government in the 1830s storytelling has been a vital tool of survival and resistance and as Muse Isaacs shows us this remains true today as storytelling plays a powerful role in motivating and educating tribal members and others about contemporary issues such as land reclamation cultural regeneration and language revitalization The stories collected and analyzed in this volume range from tales of creation and origins that tell about the natural world around the homeland to post Removal stories that often employ Native humor to present the Cherokee side of history to Cherokee and non Cherokee alike The persistence of this living oral tradition as a means to promote nationhood and tribal sovereignty to revitalize culture and language and to present the Indigenous view of history and the land bears testimony to the tenacity and resilience of the Cherokee people the Ani Giduwah

*Being Cowlitz* Christine Dupres, 2014-10-01 Without a recognized reservation or homeland what keeps an Indian tribe together How can members of the tribe understand their heritage and pass it on to younger generations For Christine Dupres a member of the Cowlitz tribe of southwestern Washington State these questions were personal as well as academic In *Being Cowlitz How One Tribe Renewed and Sustained Its Identity* what began as the author's search for her own history opened a window into the practices and narratives that sustained her tribe's identity even as its people were scattered over several states Dupres argues that the best way to understand a tribe is through its stories From myths and spiritual traditions defining the people's relationship to the land to the more recent history of cultural survival and engagement with the U S government Dupres shows how stories are central to the ongoing process of forming a Cowlitz identity Through interviews and profiles of political leaders Dupres reveals the narrative and rhetorical strategies that protect and preserve the memory and culture of the tribe In the process she creates a blueprint for cultural preservation that current and future Cowlitz tribal leaders as well as other indigenous activists can use to keep tribal memories alive

**Lushootseed Texts** Crisca Bierwert, 1996-01-01 This volume introduces the oral literature of Native American peoples in Puget Salish speaking areas of western Washington Seven stories told by Lushootseed elders are transcribed and translated into English accompanied by information on narrative design and cultural background Upper Skagit elder and cotranslator Vi Hilbert a 1994 recipient of the NEH National Heritage Fellowship in Folk Arts includes a cultural welcome and offers childhood reminiscences of the storytellers Cotranslator Thomas M Hess associate professor of linguistics at the University of Victoria parses the beginning lines of a text to show the grammatical

structures he also includes his recollections of working with the storytellers in the 1960s as a graduate student Editor and cotranslator Crisca Bierwert assistant professor of anthropology at the University of Michigan provides information on the processes of language translation and of rendering oral traditions into written form Annotator T C S Langen who holds a Ph D in English literature and is a curriculum developer for the Tulalip tribe provides analyses of Lushootseed poetics The book includes information about purchasing audiotapes of the stories

**Colonialism on the Prairies** Blanca Tovias, 2012-07-23 This book spans a century in the history of the Blackfoot First Nations of present day Montana and Alberta It maps out specific ways in which Blackfoot culture persisted amid the drastic transformations of colonisation with its concomitant forced assimilation in both Canada and the United States It portrays the strategies and tactics adopted by the Blackfoot in order to navigate political cultural and social change during the hard transition from traditional life ways to life on reserves and reservations Cultural continuity is the thread that binds the four case studies presented encompassing Blackfoot sacred beliefs and ritual dress practices the transmission of knowledge and the relationship between oral stories and contemporary fiction Blackfoot voices emerge forcefully from the extensive array of primary and secondary sources consulted resulting in an inclusive history wherein Blackfoot and non Blackfoot scholarship enter into dialogue Blanca Tovias combines historical research with literary criticism a strategy that is justified by the interrelationship between Blackfoot history and the stories from their oral tradition Chapters devoted to examining cultural continuity discuss the ways in which oral stories continue to inspire contemporary Native American fiction This interdisciplinary study is a celebration of Blackfoot culture and knowledge that seeks to revalorise the past by documenting Blackfoot resistance and persistence across a wide spectrum of cultural practice The volume is essential reading for all scholars working in the fields of Native American studies colonial and postcolonial history ethnology and literature

*The Cambridge History of American Literature: Volume 2, Prose Writing 1820-1865* Sacvan Bercovitch, Cyrus R. K. Patell, 1994 This is the fullest and richest account of the American Renaissance available in any literary history The narratives in this volume made for a four fold perspective on literature social cultural intellectual and aesthetic Michael D Bell describes the social conditions of the literary vocation that shaped the growth of a professional literature in the United States Eric Sundquist draws upon broad cultural patterns his account of the writings of exploration slavery and the frontier is an interweaving of disparate voices outlooks and traditions Barbara L Packer s sources come largely from intellectual history the theological and philosophical controversies that prepared the way for transcendentalism Jonathan Arac s categories are formalist he sees the development of antebellum fiction as a dialectic of prose genres the emergence of a literary mode out of the clash of national local and personal forms Together these four narratives constitute a basic reassessment of American prose writing between 1820 and 1865 It is an achievement that will remain authoritative for our time and that will set new directions for coming decades in American literary scholarship

*Decolonizing the Lens of Power* Kerstin Knopf, 2008 This is the first book that comprehensively examines Indigenous



filmmaking in North America as it analyzes in detail a variety of representative films by Canadian and US American Indigenous filmmakers two films that contextualize the oral tradition three short films and four dramatic films The book explores how members of colonized groups use the medium of film as a means for cultural and political expression and thus enter the dominant colonial film discourse and create an answering discourse The theoretical framework is developed as an interdisciplinary approach combining postcolonialism Indigenous studies and film studies As Indigenous people are gradually taking control over the imagemaking process in the area of film and video they cease being studied and described objects and become subjects who create self controlled images of Indigenous cultures The book explores the translatability of Indigenous oral tradition into film touching upon the changes the cultural knowledge is subject to in this process including statements of Indigenous filmmakers on this issue It also asks whether or not there is a definite Indigenous film practice and whether filmmakers tend to dissociate their work from dominant classical filmmaking adapt to it or create new film forms and styles through converging classical film conventions and their conscious violation This approach presupposes that Indigenous filmmakers are constantly in some state of reaction to Western ethnographic filmmaking and to classical narrative filmmaking and its epitome the Hollywood narrative cinema The films analyzed are The Road Allowance People by Maria Campbell Itam Hakim Hopiit by Victor Masayesva Talker by Lloyd Martell Tenacity and Smoke Signals by Chris Eyre Overweight With Crooked Teeth and Honey Moccasin by Shelley Niro Big Bear by Gil Cardinal and Atanarjuat The Fast Runner by Zacharias Kunuk

**Israel Yearbook on Human Rights** Yoram Dinstein, Mala Tabory, 1994-09-01 The Israel Yearbook on Human Rights an annual published under the auspices of the Faculty of Law of Tel Aviv University since 1971 is devoted to publishing studies by distinguished scholars in Israel and other countries on human rights in peace and war with particular emphasis on problems relevant to the State of Israel and the Jewish people The Yearbook also incorporates documentary materials relating to Israel and the Administered Areas which are not otherwise available in English including summaries of judicial decisions compilations of legislative enactments and military proclamations

**Israel Yearbook on Human Rights, Volume 23 (1993)** Yoram Dinstein, Mala Tabory, 2020-10-26 The Israel Yearbook on Human Rights an annual published under the auspices of the Faculty of Law of Tel Aviv University since 1971 is devoted to publishing studies by distinguished scholars in Israel and other countries on human rights in peace and war with particular emphasis on problems relevant to the State of Israel and the Jewish people The Yearbook also incorporates documentary materials relating to Israel and the Administered Areas which are not otherwise available in English including summaries of judicial decisions compilations of legislative enactments and military proclamations

**Talking on the Page** Laura J. Murray, Keren Rice, 1999-01-01 Essays examine the problems inherent in attempting to record oral cultures for a visual society What happens when the oral stories beliefs or histories of North American Native peoples are transferred to paper or other media

## Whispering the Strategies of Language: An Mental Journey through **Smoothing The Ground Essays On Native Am**

In a digitally-driven world wherever screens reign supreme and instant communication drowns out the subtleties of language, the profound techniques and psychological nuances concealed within words often get unheard. Yet, located within the pages of **Smoothing The Ground Essays On Native Am** a captivating literary value pulsing with natural feelings, lies a fantastic quest waiting to be undertaken. Written by an experienced wordsmith, this charming opus encourages visitors on an introspective trip, delicately unraveling the veiled truths and profound affect resonating within ab muscles fabric of every word. Within the mental depths of the poignant review, we can embark upon a sincere exploration of the book is core themes, dissect its interesting publishing style, and succumb to the effective resonance it evokes deep within the recesses of readers hearts.

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