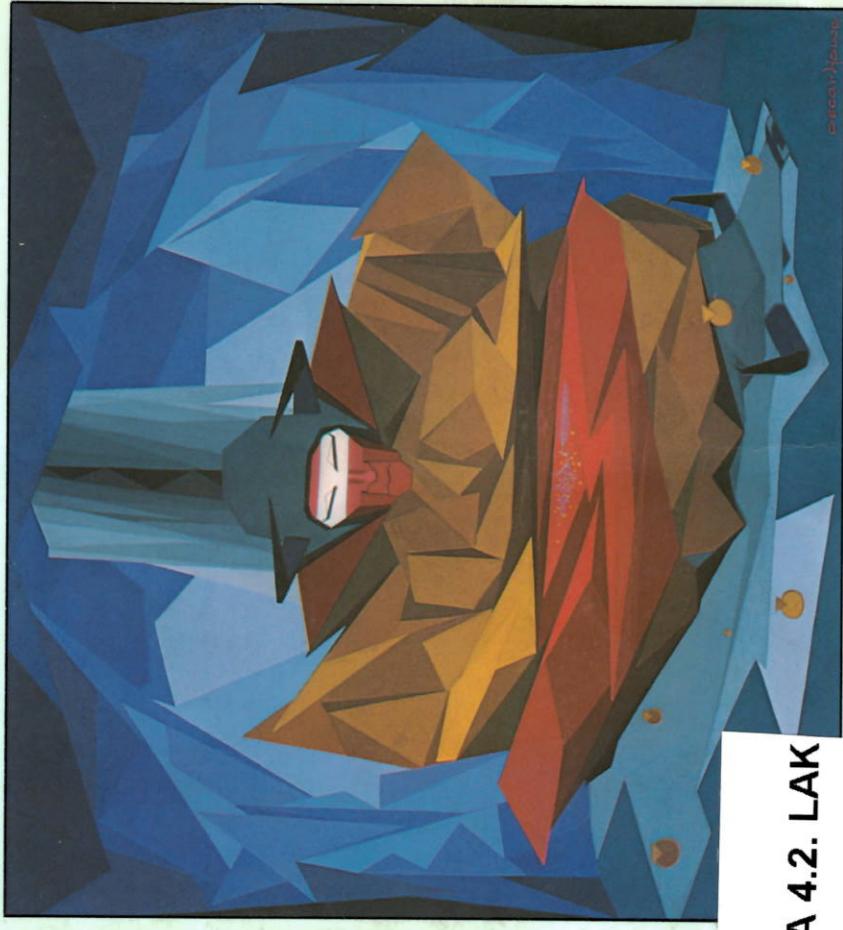


Lakota Myth

James R. Walker

Edited by

Elaine A. Jahner



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Contents

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Manufactured in the United States of America

First Bison Book printing: 1989

Most recent printing indicated by the first digit below:
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data
Walker, J. R.

Lakota myth.

"Published in cooperation with
the Colorado Historical Society."

Bibliography: p.

Includes index.

1. Oglala Indians—Religion and mythology.
2. Indians of North America—
Great Plains—Religion and mythology.

3. Oglala Indians—Legends.

4. Indians of North America—
Great Plains—Legends.

I.Jahner, Elaine, 1942—

II. Title.

E99.03W1715 1983 978'00497 83-3454
ISBN 0-8032-4726-5
ISBN 0-8032-9706-8 (pbk.)

ISBN 0-8032-4726-5
ISBN 0-8032-9706-8 (pbk.)

The paper used in this publication meets the minimum requirements of American National Standard for Information Sciences—Permanence of Paper for Printed Library Materials, ANSI Z39.48-1984.

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Preface

Lakota Myth is a collection of narratives by James R. Walker, a physician at the home of the Oglala Sioux people. Oglalas from 1896 to 1914; then he returned, where he completed his research and the myths that help explain features of publication, *The Sun Dance and Other Ceremonies of the Teton Dakota* (1917), representing ethnological fieldwork and writing. A man on rewriting the tales he had collected in consecutive cycle. Fascinated by the Lakota myth and Old World mythology, he prepared an orderly, self-explanatory presentation such as a holy man "could have given expression to his ideas in the English language." Reworked his material, he prepared it had learned while at Pine Ridge. It turned Oglala lore into literary epic. The manuscript includes all of Walker's unpublished work on legend: both the narratives based on oral traditions of actual oral literature performed and reworked material which, he felt, was not Oglala thought to non-Indians.

This volume is the third of four designed to bring together hundreds of pages of previously unprinted texts, and essays that James R. Walker wrote during his years at the Pine Ridge Reservation. *Lakota Belief and Ritual* (1980), includ-