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Francis La Flesche

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THE OSAGE AND THE INVISIBLE WORLD FROM THE WORKS OF FRANCIS LA FLESCHÉ



INTRODUCED AND EDITED BY GARRICK A. BAILEY

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Francis La Flesche : The Osage and the Invisible World: From the Works of Francis La Flesche (Civilization of the American Indian (Paperback)) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Osage and the Invisible World: From the Works of Francis La Flesche (Civilization of the

American Indian (Paperback)):

Francis La Flesche (1857-1932), Omaha Indian and anthropologist with the Bureau of American Ethnology, published an enormous body of work on the religion of the Osage Indians, all gathered from the most knowledgeable Osage religious leaders of their day. Yet his writings have been largely overlooked because they were published piecemeal over the course of twenty-five years and never adequately collected or analyzed. In this book, Garrick A. Bailey brings together in a clear, understandable way La Flesches data for two important Osage religious ceremonies--the "Songs of Wa-xo-be," an initiation into a clan priesthood, and the Rite of the Chiefs, an initiation into a tribal priesthood. To put La Flesches work into perspective, Bailey offers a short biography of this prolific Native American scholar and an overview of traditional Osage religious beliefs and practices.