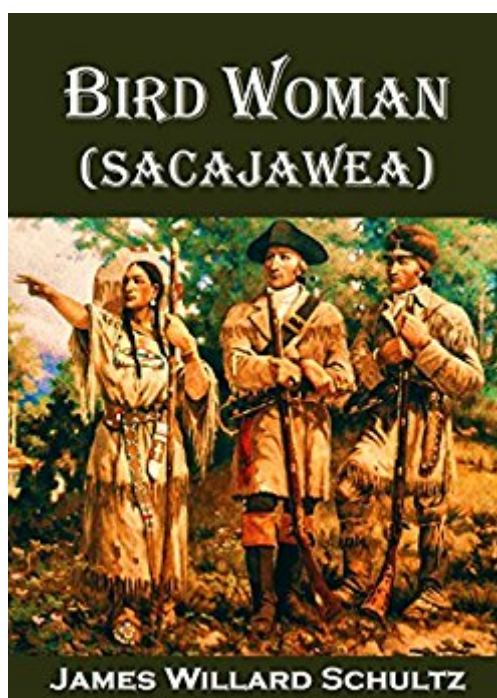


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Bird Woman (Sacajawea) The Guide Of Lewis And Clark: Her Own Story Now First Given To The World (1918)



Synopsis

An Indian girl, Sacagawea, the Bird Woman of the Shoshones, led the Lewis and Clark Expedition across the desert and over the difficult mountain passes to the Pacific Coast during the seasons of 1804-06. Sacagawea was the wife of an interpreter, Toussaint Charboneau. She had been taken in war by the Minnetarees in her childhood and sold as a slave to Charboneau who brought her up and afterwards married her. The story of her life has been told under the title of "The Bird Woman," by James Willard Schultz, as he heard it from an old trapper and an Indian woman both of whom had it from Sacagawea's own lips. She played a most important part in the most fascinating expedition of American history, and the Lewis and Clark journals record of her; she was very observant. She had a good memory, remembering locations not seen since her childhood. She rode with the men, guiding us unerringly through mountain passes and lonely places. Intelligent, cheerful, resourceful, tireless, faithful, she inspired us on." She died April 9th, 1884, aged 100 years, and was buried on the Shoshone Agency Burial Ground. The author of this work, James Willard Schultz, (1859 to 1947) was a noted author, explorer, Glacier National Park guide, fur trader and historian of the Blackfoot Indians. While operating a fur trading post at Carroll, Montana and living amongst the Pikuni tribe during the period 1880-82, he was given the name "Apikuni" by the Pikuni chief, Running Crane. Schultz is most noted for his prolific stories about Blackfoot life and his contributions to the naming of prominent features in Glacier National Park. Mr. Schultz is one of the last of the old-time frontiersmen, who was with a tribe of Blackfeet for years; and his books, into which he puts his rich store of memories of bygone days, have been called "the best of their kind ever written."

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Customer Reviews

Difficult to follow because of the varying orators presented & the combination of old english with native tongues & sign language presented. Historically it appears to be as correct as the author's presentation could be written. Sacajawea was obviously an indomitable spirit with wonderful fortitude and accomplishing several goals in her pursuits. It gives insights into her will and strength.

Though all of the narrative presented in this book were third person accounts, I could 'see' Sacajawea in her quiet determination to return to her people. This book presents large and small aspects of Sacajawea's life and outlook that probably very few people ever knew about, but instead of a dry account, provides a great picture of her as a remarkable but truly real person instead of a remote legend. I had no idea what a harrowing life she had coming from a Shoshone tribe that struggled at times just to obtain enough food to survive, and then being captured when a young girl and growing up a prisoner of the marauding tribe, and then forced to serve as a wife of a white trapper who won her gambling with her captor. Throughout her life she faced her flights with resolve and dignity are evident as she faces her plights, and obviously were to Lewis and Clark

Just curious, of all the books I've read on Sacajawea this is the closest first hand account almost to the degree while I was reading I thought it was her "autobiography." Of course it is not that but it has great detail into what she told to the people who retold her story here, they being Hugh Monroe and James Willard Schultz. I HIGHLY recommend all Schultz books as they are incredibly authentic and the best accounts of how life was for the traders and indians who lived back then. So the question I have is why there are 43 Wikipedia entries for sources you can investigate on Sacajawea's life but not one mentions this book which has more information than the other 43 sources combined? Have none of the scholars ever read James Willard Schultz books???

While on college, I had the opportunity to read the 1st book of the Lewis and Clark Journals. It included prints of hand drawn maps and plants. Since I have always been interested in the culture of the American Indians was drawn to all mention is Sacajawea and her role in opening this area of WA, OR, ID, MT WY which I love I have traveled alongside their route many times I highly recommend this book to all western history buffs.

I have never read about Bird Woman or anything by the author before. The author met Bird Woman which aided in the telling of her story. Other people gave additional facts to the author. Her story is tragic and how she become property (Married) to the French trader is a reflection of the time and the feelings toward women. I will read other books by the author (who lived with and knew most of the people in the book).

I learned a lot from this book. Years ago I read a different version of sacajawea. More of a love story between Clark and sacajawea. It was still a great read. But this one was more interesting because of the truths I read about the trailblazers -so to speak. Would have loved meeting her if it were possible.

I struggled through the first chapter and then in chapter two it started making sense to me. The rest of the book kept me very interested. What an amazing young woman! I believe her husband was a disappointment to her, yet she still showed respect, It was interesting to read the impression from each author who obviously admired Sacajawea. I'm glad the book includes the last section detailing what can be found of her later years.

I like this author because he tells the story with enough detail to keep you interested, I would recommend this book to anyone interested in the history of our nation and a true version of Indian life.

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