

DAKOTA IMAGES

Ella Cara Deloria

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Lakota Translation by Alex FireThunder

Ella C. Deloria, a well-known linguistic anthropologist, dedicated her life to portraying a realistic picture of American Indians. A Yankton Sioux, she was born in Wakpala, South Dakota, on the Standing Rock Reservation on 30 January 1888. She received her early education at All Saints School in Sioux Falls, going from there to Oberlin College in Ohio, and then to Columbia University where she received her B.S. degree. After teaching for several years, she served as the national health education secretary for Indian schools and reservations for the YWCA.

In 1929 she was appointed research specialist in Indian ethnology and linguistics with the Department of Anthropology at Columbia University. With the famous anthropologist Franz Boas, she coauthored two works on the Dakota language prepared for the technical use of scholars. She also contributed many articles to *Folklore Journal* and other periodicals on Sioux Indian legends, customs, music, and beliefs.

In addition, Deloria served on survey committees of Indian communities and lectured on the social, economic, educational, and religious aspects of Indian life from first-hand knowledge. She was the only woman member and the only Indian on the Navajo Enquiry party of four experts, sponsored by the Phelps-Stokes Fund of New York in 1944. For her work with Indians she received the annual award given by the Indian Council Fire of Chicago to the American Indian whose achievements are worthy of national recognition. She was a recipient of a Fellowship from the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research, and until her death on 12 February 1971, she was doing research for the University of South Dakota (USD) under a National Science Foundation grant.

Wíŋyaŋ waŋ Aŋpétu Wašté Wíŋ ečíyapi k'uw hé iyápi-wapásika
na wičhóuw-wapásika héčha yuŋkháŋ, thóni kiŋ ópta Ikčé-
Wičháša-Wičhóuw kiŋ wičákheya oyákiŋ na owá égnake s'a. Hé

Ihánġkthunwan-Dakḥóta héčha éyaš 1888 k'unj héhanj, Wióthehika-Wí anpétu ičiwikčemna-yámni hánġl, Ínyan Woslál Hánj Oyánġke ektá Wakpála, South Dakota, ektá thúnpi škhé. Ínyan Okábleča Othúnwahe ektá Owáyawa wanj, "All Saints," eyápi čha, él wayáwa na hetánhanj makḥópašpe wanj Ohio eyápi kinj ektá Oberlin Wanġátuya Owáyawa el wayáwa na hehánġl Columbia Wanġátuya Owáyawa él wayáwa na hétu čha, wówapisutá wanj kamná. Waníyetu tóna waúnspewičakhiye kinj ohákab, YWCA ektá wówaši ečhúnj na Ikčé-Wičháša-owáyawa kinj únj thánťanhanj wawókiye.

1929 k'unj héhanj, Columbia Wanġátuya ektá Ikčé-Wičháša-Wičhóunj kinj ogná wapásika-wóphike héčha. Wičháša očhášťhanj wanj Franz Boas ečiyapi kinj, kičhí Lakḥól'iyapi-wówapi núġm káġe. Hó nahánj Lakḥóta-wičhóoyake na wičhóh'anj na olówanj na wówičala khó, hená iwóglakinj na owá égnake s'a.

Nahánj nakúnj tóna-okḥólakičhiye él ópĥa na wičhóh'anj na wičhóunj na mázaska na wóunspe na wóčhekiye iwóglake. Hená yuhá únj čha itéšniyanj ištá únj wanjýánġkinj na núġġe únj naḥ'únj na átaya oslólýe. 1944 hánġl, okḥólakičhiye wanj, "Navajo Enquiry party of four experts," eyápi kinj ogná išnála wínjyanj héčha na nakúnj išnála ikčé-wičháša héčha. Ikčé-Wičháša ób wówaši ečhúnj čha hé únj wóyuonihanj wanj, "Indian Council Fire of Chicago Annual Award," eyápi čha, k'úpi ičhínj táku tókḥunj kinj hé makḥásitomniyanj oslólýapi. 1971 k'unj héhanj, Čhanġnápĥopa-Wí anpétu ičiakenuġpa hánġl, wičhóni ékignake éyaš, hehánġhunjiyanj South Dakota Wanġátuya Owáyawa (USD) ektá wapási na wówaši ečhúnj.

