



“[The voice of] Lottie Lindley, full of both personal character and the reserved and patient wisdom of the elder, comes through the transcriptions clearly, movingly, and with cumulative power.”—Ursula K. LeGuin, winner of the National Book Foundation Medal for Distinguished Contribution to American Letters

OKANAGAN GROUSE WOMAN

Upper Nicola Narratives

LOTTIE LINDLEY

EDITED AND WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY JOHN LYON

FOREWORD BY ALLAN LINDLEY

UPPER NICOLA NARRATIVES

LOTTIE LINDLEY | Edited and with an introduction by John Lyon
Foreword by Allan Lindley

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In this book of Native American language research and oral traditions, linguist John Lyon collects Salish stories as told by culture-bearer Lottie Lindley, one of the last Okanagan elders whose formative years of language learning were unbroken by the colonizing influence of English. Speaking in the Upper Nicola dialect of Okanagan, a Southern Interior Salish language, Lindley tells the stories that recount and reflect Salish culture, history, and historical consciousness (including names of locales won in battle with other interior peoples), coming-of-age rituals and marriage rites, and tales that attest the self-understanding of the Salish people within their own history.

For each Okanagan Salish story, Lindley and Lyon offer an uninterrupted transcription followed by a collaborative English translation of the story and an interlinear rendition with morphological analysis. The presentation allows students of the dialect, linguists, and those interested in Pacific Northwest and Interior Plateau indigenous oral traditions unencumbered access to the culture, history, and language of the Salish peoples.

With few native speakers left in the community, *Okanagan Grouse Woman* contributes to the preservation, presentation, and—with hope—maintenance and cultivation of a vital indigenous language and the cultural traditions of the interior Salish peoples.

LOTTIE LINDLEY (Nicola Okanagan Salish) is a culture-bearer and one of the last fluent speakers of Nicola Okanagan. JOHN LYON is a postdoctoral researcher in linguistics at Simon Fraser University.



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