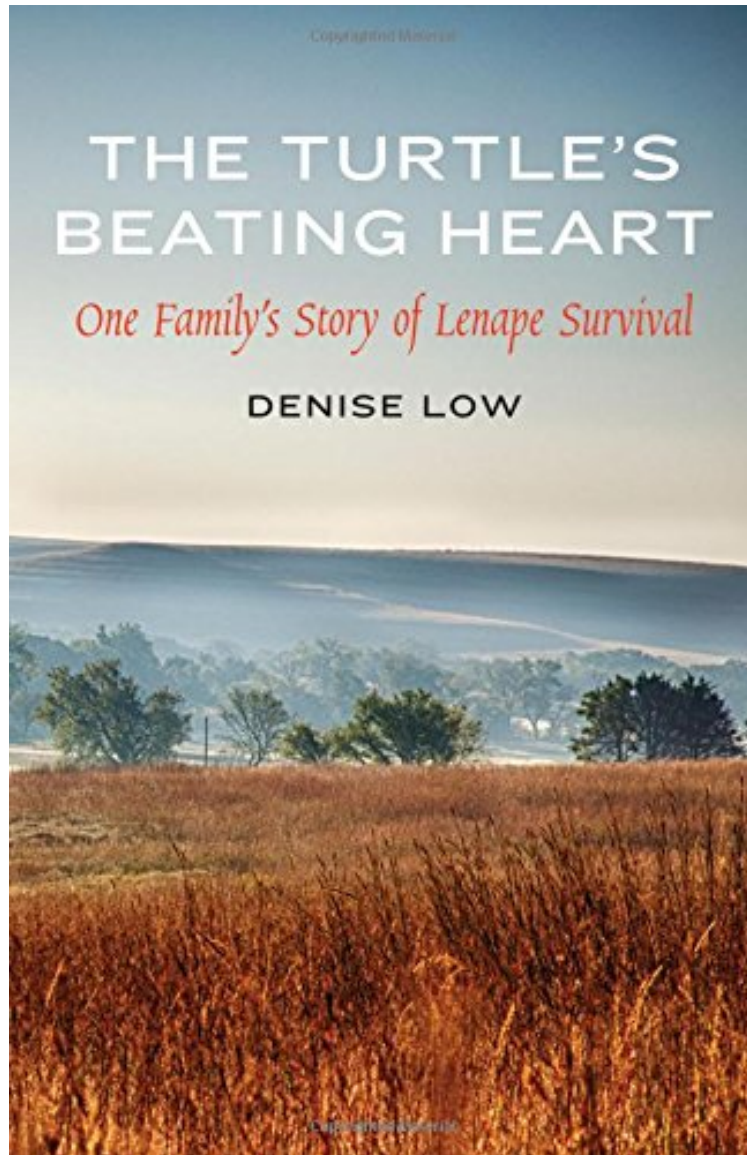


[Download] The Turtle's Beating Heart: One Family's Story of Lenape Survival (American Indian Lives)

## The Turtle's Beating Heart: One Family's Story of Lenape Survival (American Indian Lives)

Denise Low

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#138464 in Books Denise Low 2017-01-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.90 x .86 x 5.54l, .0 #File Name: 080329493X200 pages The Turtle s Beating Heart One Family s Story of Lenape Survival American Indian Lives | File size: 33.Mb

**Denise Low : The Turtle's Beating Heart: One Family's Story of Lenape Survival (American Indian Lives)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Turtle's Beating Heart: One Family's Story of Lenape Survival (American Indian Lives):

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. What a Moving and Beautiful Journey!By Kevin RobinsonMemoirs are dicey. For dogged history buffs, or family members wanting to learn more about their past, the bars not real high when it comes to holding their attention. Most readers--myself included--arent that easy. But *The Turtles Beating Heart* is a powerful book for everyone. Denise Low writes to the higher standards that a novelist must aspire to: hooking everyday readers with all the tools of the trade. Along with gritty and very real American history, familiar family dynamics, and Midwestern small town drama and politics, this wonderful book felt like a saga to me. It is a journey of the heart, both into the past and into the future. There's a Frank Bruner in most families, so as Denise Low introduced me to her Native heritage, and especially to her Grandfather Bruner, I couldn't help seeing the historical bridges she creates so beautifully--and wondering more about my own. Throughout its pages, this book teems with life lessons that are at times whimsical, disturbing, and profound. You will likely find yourself reaching for a highlighter pen often! But the one theme that resonated most with me was the idea that my lessons, and how I deal with them, will reverberate on after my passing (like a turtles heart after being removed), and will pass on to my children and to theirs. I was deeply moved. You will be as well.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. From Silence to Stories in Poetic ProseBy James Potter*The Turtles Beating Heart* masterfully explores the history of Denise Low's Delaware (Lenape) people by first discovering her family secrets, especially the suppression of their American Indian heritage. In her understanding words: Erasure of identity has costs, but survival trumps everything else. It was a pleasure to read Low's crafted words. She described her house like a poet laureate: The painted lumber is birch bark white and still smells of sunshine. She recalled the tension in her parents abode: Silence can be as hostile as thrown knives. Also, Houses are our turtle shells, and within them we are alive in a suspended, sheltered time. Long ago Denise Low found her voice. A prolific writer, *The Turtles Beating Heart* is a memoir for everyone, but especially for people who have had their identity erased. Low writes for her family, especially her grandchildren. This is why: Grandchildren meet their grandparents at the end, as fallen heroes facing mortality. We remember their decline and deaths. Happily, Low's writing is peaking as proven by her poetic prose.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This is a truly multiple dimension book -- I grew to view the narrative as a "meet and greet" of the many fine people she discusBy Kindle CustomerThis is truly an inspirational book as Ms. Low takes a journey in history with her Native American ties. I started it with the thought it would be a history book, but soon turned into meeting and knowing the people in her family. This is a truly multiple dimension book -- I grew to view the narrative as a "meet and greet" of the many fine people she discusses. The numerous photos of the people allowed me to connect names and faces and soon I found myself looking for each name and their history through time. I could not put this book down, and would highly recommend it to anyone. It reads fast, speaks to the heart, and heals the wounds of not knowing obscure family heritages. A beautiful book worthy of a bright and talented author.

Grandchildren meet their grandparents at the end, Denise Low says, as tragic figures. We remember their decline and deaths. . . . The story we see as grandchildren is like a garden covered by snow, just outlines visible. Low brings to light deeply held secrets of Native ancestry as she recovers the life story of her Kansas grandfather, Frank Bruner (1889-1963). She remembers her childhood in Kansas, where her grandparents remained at a distance, personally and physically, from their grandchildren, despite living only a few miles away. As an adult, she comes to understand her grandfathers Delaware (Lenape) legacy of persecution and heroic survival in the southern plains of the early 1900s, where the Ku Klux Klan attacked Native people along with other ethnic minorities. As a result of such experiences, the Bruner family fled to Kansas City and suppressed their non-European ancestry as completely as possible. As Low unravels this hidden family history of the Lenape diaspora, she discovers the lasting impact of trauma and substance abuse, the deep sense of loss and shame related to suppressed family emotions, and the power of collective memory. Low traveled extensively around Kansas, tracking family history until she understood her grandfathers political activism and his healing heritage of connections to the land. In this moving exploration of her grandfather's life, the former poet laureate of Kansas evokes the beauty of the Flint Hills grasslands, the hardships her grandfather endured, and the continued discovery of his teachings.

"An engagingly written mix of research, reportage, and memoir, infused with the passion of discovery."Kirkus