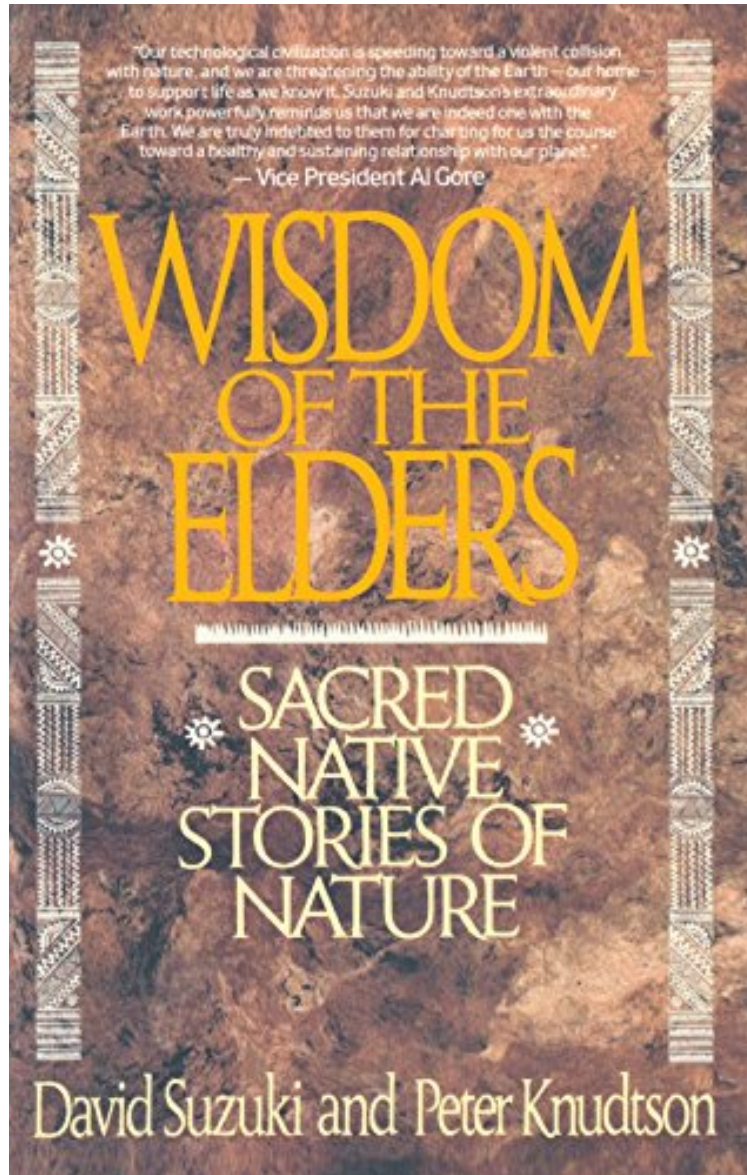


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Wisdom of the Elders: Sacred Native Stories of Nature

David Suzuki, Peter Knudtson

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David Suzuki, Peter Knudtson : Wisdom of the Elders: Sacred Native Stories of Nature before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Wisdom of the Elders: Sacred Native Stories of Nature:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Wisdom of the EldersBy quilterIf you need a quick study of what unites all living creatures on our beautiful Planet, then this book is for you.World-wide in scope, universal in Wisdom, the old ones speak to us through their stories and insights...open this book anywhere and 'there You are'.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Nice compilationBy JohnDavid Suzuki is a good lecturer. I had no idea he had put out stories, as well. This is a very useful book, a nice compilation. I like it.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Ernest K. Robesongreat book by great author

An in-depth, meticulously documented exploration of the ecological wisdom of Native Peoples from around the worldArranged thematically, Wisdom of the Elders contains sacred stories and traditions on the interrelationships between humans and the environment as well as perspectives from modern science, which more often than not validate the sacred, ancient Wisdom of the Elders. Native peoples and environments discussed range from the Inuit Arctic and the Native Americans of the Northwest coast, the Sioux of the Plains, and the Pueblo, Hopi, and Navajo of the Southwest to the Australian Outback, to the rich, fecund tropics of Africa, Malaysia, and the Amazon.Our technological civilization is speeding toward a violent collision with nature, and we are threatening the ability of the Earthour hometo support life as we know it. Suzuki and Knudtsons extraordinary work powerfully reminds us that we are indeed one with the Earth. We are truly indebted to them for charting for us the course toward a healthy and sustaining relationship with our planet.Vice President Al Gore

From Publishers WeeklyIn this low-key, capacious study, Suzuki, a professor of genetics at the University of British Columbia, and science writer Knudtson (coauthors of Genetics) compare primitive, aboriginal modes of perceiving the natural world with "Western culture's ecologically destructive worldview." Chapters focused on humans' relationships with, for instance, animals, vegetation and the universe begin with brief summaries of scientific explanation and continue with relevant myths and accounts of daily rituals of such societies as the Chewong in Malaysia, Alaska's Inuit and the Kayapo of the . Overpopulation, deforestation, solar energy and cyclic and linear approaches to time are considered; of particular interest are essays on the !OK Kung Bushmen's understanding of mammals' physiologies and the Australian aborigines' mythical prehistory, "Dreamtime." Although students of indigenous cultures may find this text basic, it presents an eloquent plea for modern society to more considerately interact with nature. Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc.From Library JournalThis book provides an interesting examination of some of the ecological themes that are of concern both to scientists and indigenous people in various parts of the world. The authors (Genethics , Harvard Univ. Pr., 1989) contend that these two groups pursue their knowledge of the natural world in different but complementary ways and often come to similar conclusions. Throughout, the scientific viewpoint is compared to the native perspective. Each chapter focuses on a particular ecological or biological topic, and several pertinent examples from a variety of traditional world cultures are described. Relevant quotations from well-known scientists and ecologists are interspersed within the text, providing further thoughtful commentary. Overall, this is a well-organized, sensitive, and thought-provoking work that will be useful in popular science and ecology collections.- Elizabeth Salt, Otterbein Coll. Lib., Westerville, OhioCopyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc.About the AuthorDavid Suzukiis an internationally renowned geneticist and environmentalist and a cofounder of the David Suzuki Foundation.He is the author of more than fifty books and is a recipient of the Right Livelihood Award, UNESCOs Kalinga Prize for the Popularization of Science, and in 2007 was named one ofTime Magazine's Heroes of the Environment. He lives in Vancouver.Peter Knudtson is a nature writer and former wildlife biologist. He received his master's degree from California State University and his bachelor's degree in premedical zoology from the University of California. Additionally, he studied at the University of North Carolina and the UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism. He worked as a wildlife biologist in Alaska before coauthoring Genethics and Wisdom of the Elders: Sacred Native Stories of Nature with renowned environmental activist and academic David Suzuki.