

Title: We're More Than Just Beads & Feathers

About The Author:



Jason Eaglespeaker: My story begins as a young boy on the Kainai rez. My late grandfather, **Glen EagleSpeaker**, was a renowned Blackfoot ARTIST, STORYTELLER and CRAFTSMAN.

I traveled the world with him, while he taught me the immeasurable value of storytelling -- as a tool to EDUCATE, INSPIRE and EMPOWER others. In an era long before social media, my grandpa reached people all over the globe.

Sadly, he passed away when I was merely 10 years old. His memory fuels my work and how I live my life!

Description:



In school, We just read *"We're More Than Just Beads & Feathers"*. It really made me think. Please tell me more about what you meant by that phrase - Cathy P.

I grew up deeply rooted in both Blackfoot & Duwamish culture. I was basically conceived, born and raised at powwows. As a young dancer we would perform in front of thousands and thousands of people. My family even had a dance troupe that traveled the world!

"We're More Than Just Beads & Feathers"

A graphic memoir of an Aboriginal boy realizing hypocrisies and wanting to live beyond the stereotypes.

Also appears in national education publisher McGraw-Hill Ryerson's "iLit Strength & Struggle. Perspectives of First Nations, Metis and Inuit Peoples of Canada" - a textbook anthology for educators and students - and the new online "iLit Digital Media Bank" (www.iLit.ca)

After my grandpa passed away, I was back dancing in front of HUGE crowds at the Calgary Stampede grandstand. This time was different though. I looked into the audience and wondered *"why do they cheer wildly for me when I am wearing my powwow outfit and entertaining them - but ridicule and even laugh at me when I am wearing street clothes?"* My 10 year old self decided then and there that I wanted to show the world *"we're more than just beads and feathers"*. Been doing it ever since. <https://www.eaglespeaker.com/>

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