

A GATHERING OF SPIRIT

A Collection by
North American Indian Women

Edited by Beth Brant
(*Degonwadonti*)



Firebrand
Books

Ithaca, New York

Contents

- 8 Introduction • *A Gathering of Spirit*
- 16 *The Mother of Us All* • drawing by Jaune Quick-To-See Smith
- 17 *Artifact* • poem by Edith Purevich
- 18 *Owl Woman* • poem by Amber Coverdale Sumrall
- 19 *The One Who Skins Cats* • poem by Paula Gunn Allen
- 25 *Thanksgiving Dinner During Pelting Season (1957)* • poem by Mary Moran
- 28 *New Shoes* • narrative by Linda Hogan
- 40 *Blanket Shawl* • painting by Alice Souligny
- 41 *I Am Not the Woman I Am* • poem by Diane Glancy
- 42 *Trading Post—Winslow, Arizona* • poem by Terri Meyette
- 43 *A White Man's Word* • narrative by Debra Swallow
- 46 *Letter to the Little Shell* • poem by Gretchen Cotrell
- 49 Drawing by Kawennotakie (Salli Benedict)
- 50 *What Frank, Martha and I Know About the Desert* • poem by Alice Sadongei
- 52 *To the Spirit of Monahsetah* • poem by Charlotte DeClue
- 55 *The Indian Women Are Listening: To the Nuke Devils* • poem by Wendy Rose
- 57 *Grandma's Story* • narrative by Lynn Randall
- 60 *Celebration 1982* • poem by Terri Meyette
- 62 *"They Always Come Back"* • interview with Winona LaDuke
- 68 *Dispossessed* • poem by Janice Gould
- 69 *Canyon Day Woman Blues, Woman III* • poem by Geraldine Keams
- 70 *A Family Matter* • narrative by Elizabeth Cook-Lynn
- 74 Letter from Prison by Share Quart
- 75 *Woman Warrior* • drawing by Jaune Quick-To-See Smith
- 76 *Circumstance* • poem by Alice Bowen
- 77 *Canada's Natural Resource* • essay by Midnight Sun
- 81 *I picked up your cast away hide* • poem by Mary Moran
- 82 *evelyn searching* • poem by Denise Panek
- 83 *Returning* • poem by Kate Shanley
- 85 *The Trees Along the River* • poem by Luci Tapahonso
- 87 *The Lamp in the Window* • narrative by Audrey LaForme

- 90 Photograph and statement by Rosalie Jones (Daystar)
- 91 *Cells, My Girlfriend* • 2 poems by Mary Bennett
- 93 Excerpts of letters from Rita Silk-Nauni
- 97 *Dance a Ghost* • poem by Chrystos
- 98 *Sideshow: Julia the Lion Woman/The Ugliest Woman in the World* • poem by Wendy Rose
- 100 Photograph of St John's Indian School, Cheyenne River, South Dakota
- 100 *A Long Story* • narrative by Beth Brant
- 107 *Mother with Child* • poem by Lenore Keeshig-Tobias
- 108 *For Shirley* • poem by Denise Panek
- 109 *Ina, 1979* • poem by Bea Medicine
- 112 *Urban Dwellers* • narrative by Kateri Sardella
- 118 *The Mother* • drawing by Jaune Quick-To-See Smith
- 119 *The young warrior* • poem by Gayle Two Eagles
- 121 *Navajo Sings* • poem by Nan Benally
- 123 (*a found poem*) • Lenore Keeshig-Tobias
- 125 *Amazons in Appalachia* • essay by Marilou Awiakta
- 131 *Pow Wow Pictures* • photographs by Nila NorthSun
- 135 *Pow Wow* • poem by Vickie Sears
- 138 *the 49* • poem by Nila NorthSun
- 139 *Oklahoma Rt 66, Witchcraft, Witchcraft Woman* • 3 poems by Nora Naranjo-Morse
- 141 *The Devil and Sister Lena* • narrative by Anna Lee Walters
- 153 *I'm Making You Up* • poem by Chrystos
- 154 *Spider Dream; Spider, World-Spinner* • 2 poems by Elaine Hall
- 156 Tintype from the collection of Joy Harjo
- 157 *October Morning Walk* • poem by Anita Endrezze-Danielson
- 158 *From the Salt Lake City Airport—82* • poem by Joy Harjo
- 161 *Barbara* • poem by Mary Moran
- 163 *Sex, Class and Race Intersections/Visions of Women of Color* • speech by Carol Lee Sanchez
- 168 Photograph by Diane Reyna
- 169 *His Half-Breed Wife* • poem by Doris Seale
- 170 *Real People, Green Corn Festival* • 2 poems by Merry Harris
- 171 *stories from the res.* • poem by Nila NorthSun
- 172 *Precious Bits of Family* • poem by Linda Belarde
- 173 *My Wild Birds Flying* • a sequence by Mary TallMountain

- 182 *An Oregon Story, The Caves* • 2 poems by Janice Gould
185 *Wild Turnips* • narrative by Barbara Cameron
187 *reservation girls* • poem by Nila NorthSun
189 *Sweet Grass Is Around Her* • poem by Salli Benedict
192 *Drawings & Self-Portrait* • Jaune Quick-To-See Smith
194 *White Breast Flats* • narrative by Emilie Gallant
199 *Rug of Woven Magic* • poem by Nan Benally
201 Poem & drawing by Chrystos
202 "*You Smell Like Grandma's Beads*" • poem by Elizabeth Woody
204 *A Short Autobiography* • narrative by Dorothy Hayes
207 *Woman's Head* • sculpture by Dorothy Hayes
208 *A Song for Healing* • poem by Margot LeBrasseur
209 *Canyon Day Woman Blues, Woman VII* • poem by Geraldine Keams
210 *Well you caught me unprepared* • poem by Wendy Rose
213 *Thoughts on Indian Feminism* • essay by Kate Shanley
216 *Keep a Dime* • poem by Debra Swallow
217 *A Breeze Swept Through* • poem by Luci Tapahonso
219 *this woman that i am becoming* • poem by Marcie Rendon
221 Letters between Raven and Beth
226 *Tremolo* • poem by Joan Shaddox Isom
227 *A Native Woman—1982* • poem by Karen Cooper
228 *Pencil Self-Portrait* • drawing by Rosemary Anderson
229 *I Am Listening: A Lyric of Roots* • poem by Anita Valerio
231 *Woman* • poem by Chrystos
232 Bibliography
235 Notes on Contributors