

My Cousins:

One night as I lay in the darkness in this whiteman's territory the spirit of my ancestors spoke to me of the far away days when this land was ours and we lived in accord and understanding with nature. For we are a people who have come from a perfect union of spirit and earth, our spirits have shown us the way to live in harmony with and profitably utilize the resources of Nature. Although we have been called savages, it is true that up to the coming of the whiteman, our way of life was always one of simplicity with the emphasis on spiritual values and the arts. The whiteman performed a dubious service in giving us his intoxicating liquors, his disease, his great desire to rush through time and space, his inability to keep peace with other races and peoples. If the whiteman had seen to it that we had as fine a chance for education as whitechildren have the opportunity to obtain, if he had seen to it that we had interested, sympathetic and intelligent reservational guidance, those items on the debit side might have been somewhat offset. However, as this is not the case and will never be, it is up to us to take stock of ourselves, to look to the wisdom of our ancestors that lies in our hearts and reason, to remember the accomplishments of those who have gone before us, their courage and ingenuity, and by using this as a basis, to forge ahead in a manner unique to the world, to go ahead in a way that only we can go, as our background is unlike that of any other

minority in the American population. We must look to no one but ourselves. By unity and by using our own intelligence we can find a way of life for ourselves that will be as satisfactory and satisfying to us today as was the way of life of our ancestors satisfactory to them.

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