

Carl Nordgren. *Anung's Journey: An Ancient Ojibway Legend as Told by Steve Fobister*. Durham: Light Messages, 2014. 114 pp. \$16.95. ISBN 978-1-61153-117-6.

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In this ancient legend, Anung is an orphaned Ojibway or Anishinaabe Indian boy who is adopted by the elders of his local village. One day, Anung has a vision in which he must travel to locate the greatest chief of all the nations in order to advertise the skills he has learned from his adopted family. After the vision, Anung seeks further guidance from the tribal chief, and is told that he will be protected on his journey by Gitche Manitou or the "Great Creator." At the outset, Anung is accompanied by Turtle, the interpreter of all other Native American languages, and is also aided in his quest by a squirrel, and a female bear. Whenever Anung senses danger along the route, he beats a drum that is provided by his tribe to fend off bad spirits like Windigo (or the "cannibal spirit") that seek to harm the boy. Anung reaches his final destination and relates his accumulated knowledge to the "greatest chief of all" who turns out to be a baby boy.

Anung's Journey includes certain themes, including the importance of family and friends, traditions, and the blessings of daily life. Essentially, this book was written to relate an ancient Ojibway legend for future generations to enjoy, and is divided into twelve chapters. Each section contains a small number of photographs that help introduce readers to the Ojibway legend. There is both an epilogue and author's note included at the end of the work. Since the book is primarily intended for a juvenile audience, there are no bibliographical references or notes included.

Carl Nordgren, a native of Greenville, Mississippi, is a faculty member in the Sociology Department at Duke University where he teaches classes in creative entrepreneurship. Besides *Anung's Journey*, he has also written other books, including *The 53rd Parallel: A River of Lakes Novel* (Light Messages, 2014). Prior to becoming a teacher, Carl was first employed as a fishing guide in Ontario, a bartender, and an entrepreneur.

Ultimately, *Anung's Journey* provides valuable insights into Ojibway Indian legends and culture. After reading the book, readers can begin to understand the value of legends as integral components of Native American tribal culture and tradition. Additionally, the author incorporates elements of Ojibway Indian culture into the narrative such as the use of birch bark canoes, reliance on wild rice for food, and copper arrowheads. Because of its simple scope and subject matter, this work is primarily suitable for a juvenile audience. It can be included in any public or academic library collection with a prominent juvenile book section or focus on Native American history.

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