

First Mother First Father

After creator brought forth the children of the earth, it was realized that these children needed guidance. The medicine people were powerful but they could only do so much. These children needed to know a mother's sweet, tender love and they needed to know a father's strength and honour.

It was decided by forces too great for you and I to comprehend that a First Mother and a First Father would be created. From the morning dew that collects on the sacred plants of this earth, First Mother was created. From sea foam of the powerful ocean, First Father was created. Together they set out to nurture and protect their children.

For many years the children lived in their sacred lands, hunting, fishing, learning and surviving. What a beautiful world they lived in but, just as fast as good things come to you, they will also leave. Over some period of time a draught started in the land, but progressed only to the point of desperation. First Mother saw that many of her children were dying, too weak from not having any food to eat. From the power and knowledge of her Motherhood, she knew what she had to do.

First Father was called home by his wife. Already he knew something was going to happen, something that would take all his strength. He found his beautiful wife alone, sitting in the dim light of small fire. In a calmly powerful voice, First Mother began to speak.

Husband, she said, listen to me, as I am Mother of all People and can't bear watching my children perish. You, along with a small group of men, will take my life, then take my body to an open field. There you will drag my body around the field until all my flesh is worn off and I am nothing but bones. Next you will have to bury my bones in the centre of the field for 7 days and 7 nights.

Shocked and saddened, First Father cried in protest. I know in my heart what you say must be done, but it is also my heart that tells me I cannot.

It was with a sadness we can only imagine that he obeyed her words, and with a small group of men, First Father ended the life of First Mother, carrying out her wishes exactly, with secret prayers and ancient songs.

After the longest 7 days First Father could ever remember.....where First Mother's flesh laid warm on the earth corn, squash, beans and potatoes grew, carrying seeds for ever more. Where her bones were placed in the womb of Mother Earth, the sacred tobacco plant grew. With this plant the her children could send their prayers on clouds of smoke to Creator.

Only through the death of First Mother did the children survive. And so this day, we must treat our mother with love, loyalty and most importantly, respect.

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