

Finally, the nature of his sacred vision indicates clearly his strong, aggressive character.

Every Sioux warrior aspired to have divine assistance in his undertakings and divine protection, usually gained in a vision by those who were lucky enough to have one. The powers which appeared in these visions and promised aid might be anything from a small object or creature to great dieties like the Sun or the Thunder. Naturally the dream was in consonance with the mind of the dreamer.

The Sioux recognized this fact: they did not expect a small boy to dream of great Gods. But White Bull's strong, masculine character and virile intelligence are indicated by the fact that his vision came at the age of nine and he dreamed of the Thunder. In his vision he was promised the power to look in four directions, and kill a man in each, while riding black, white, sorrel or roan horses. This was a promise that he would be victorious wherever he went. Because of this promise, White Bull always rode to war and never once went on the warpath afoot.