

no precedent, no props, no background  
to support the intellectual

TO BE EFFECTIVE, this story of SB must be a great tragic story, which will show SB to be contending with inexorable and inevitable forces far outside his own knowledge or control, and must show him contending with them under handicaps of personal character, physique, maladjustment to his savage environment, and ignorance due to his savage training. We must sympathise with him, while at the same time seeing the hopelessness of his struggle; the bitter defeat of a superior mind fighting against conditions too complex, too strong, and too vast to be combatted with the means at his disposal.

He tries physical force; high confidence in his mission, skilled speech, guile, bribery of women, foresight, the prestige of supernatural power, moral courage, and turns at last to his gods for help. He is crushed, defamed, buried huggingly by his slayers, after being turned into their prisoner and clown.

A man without rank, without wealth, without family prestige, without advantages of any sort, other than personal ones; a man handicapped by inferior physical strength and skill, with a contemplative mind and psychic powers, who in a time of conquest and civil war among his people, grasps and holds a commanding place among a people who- even in ordinary times- respected men of war; a man who, without rank of station other than sacred (and that no priesthood), when his people were rated- even by their enemies- as the finest fighters the sun ever shone on- made lieutenants of such military geniuses as Gall and Crazy Horse, and ~~XXXX~~ GATHERED TO HIMSELF THE largest following of Indians in the history of America.

He was not only wise enough to gather these Indians together and hold them so; not only wise enough to forecast the movements of the white commanders with accuracy; not only wise enough (tho an ignorant savage) to see through the schemes of white politicians and foil the best efforts of even the able McLaughlin, but also wise enough to understand his own limitations, and leave the actual direction of military affairs to those who understood them best. As well call Lincoln a coward because he did not lead the armies of the Republic as reproach Sitting Bull for his failure to take active part in battle at the age of 44, Lincoln was glad to find Grant; and SB was no such fool as to interfere with the ~~attacking~~ tactics of Gall and Crazy Horse.

Remember too that most of the plains fights were between small bodies of men; were in fact guerilla warfare, where large strategy is impracticable, and personal pretige in battle of the most importance. And recall also that the power of SB was a personal power, and that he never at any time held office as war chief- or even chief of civil rank.

If Crazy Horse led the warriors because he had never been wounded, because of his dash and courage and personal valor, SB ruled his people because of his

Like any statesman, he saw that warfare was only a weapon in the hand of a ruler of men, and no end in itself.

Clear up misunderstandings as to the nature of power in Indian society..not despotic; a matter for emergencies- the most useful man leads, but no great specialisation otherwise; how power built up and maintained. how easily dissipated and undermined; no one indispensable; a sort of ward politics, where almost every man is eager to be boss.

issue lust to power + prestige  
Male Society

Believing  
Savage  
unique  
intellectual

Start to  
have best of all  
the state  
affairs

Curry of French  
Saw of A. A. A. A.

very that he was  
wished to support the very system of  
culture which dominates them