Clown for Change - Cartoonist Marty Two Bulls as a Modern Heyoka

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Abstract

Most Native American societies have trickster stories and roles which are used as an instrument for negotiating moral behavior. In Lakota country, the heyoka fulfills the clownish role to address taboos and sensitive issues. The late Severt Young Bear Sr., noted that the heyoka no longer exists. Against this position, this article argues that the role and function of the traditional heyoka have lived on in different art forms through highlighting the work of the renowned Oglala Lakota cartoonist Marty Two Bulls. By addressing sensitive issues like alcohol consumption in a humorous way, Two Bulls offers a space for new interpretations and renegotiation. In the past, due to the close link between representation and identity, Native cultural self-understanding has been adversely affected by stereotypes, most prominently the stereotype of the drunk Native. As a matter of cultural revitalization, Two Bulls uses this same interconnection as an opportunity for initiating change and encouraging Lakota to reclaim control over their lives. Through the lens of Native humor as a methodological tool to analyze cartoons, this article presents an example of how cultural productions can serve as an interpretive instrument and as a tool for tribal self-presentation.

Keywords

Native Humor; Lakota; Indigeneity; heyoka; Marty Two Bulls; Whiteclay

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References


The heyoka (heyóká, also spelled “haokah,” “heyoka”) is a kind of sacred clown in the culture of the Lakota people of the Great Plains of North America. The heyoka is a counterian, jester, and satirist, who speaks, moves and reacts in an opposite fashion to the people around them. Only those having visions of the thunder beings of the west, the Wakinyan, and who are recognized as such by the community, can take on the ceremonial role of the heyoka. Sacred Clown Heyoka - Bing Images. Found on Bing from faculty.humanities.uci.edu. Real Unicorn Purple Unicorn Art Magical Unicorn Rainbow Unicorn Costume, Post Apocalyptic Costume, Post Apocalyptic Clothing, Diesel Punk, Steampunk, Cyberpunk. How to Change Your Life. Heyoka is the Lakota equivalent of a sacred clown. They were thunder shamans... Burning Man 2015 Edward Curtis Native American Pictures Creepy Clown Wonderful Picture Animal Pictures Monochrome Native Americans Black And White. Presently, within two hours or less, it would top the whole sky. They were waiting, the people from the valley. There must have been three hundred or more, waiting there in groups beside the huts. “Anna will always be the most beautiful woman you or I have ever known.” He did not answer. And as I waited there, beside him, I heard the sudden blowing of a horn, echoed by a second and a third. I heard the restless movement of the men outside in the village, as they shouldered their weapons, kicked out the fires and gathered together for the climb. I heard the dogs barking and the men laughing, ready now, excited.
When they had gone I went and stood alone in the deserted village, and I watched the full moon rising from the dark valley. Heyoka. Quite the same Wikipedia. Just better. Heyoka Empath The Sacred Clown. This Is The Most Powerful Type Of Empath! Are You A Heyoka? Transcription. Contents. In art, he is depicted as having two horns, which marks him as a hunting spirit. References in popular culture. In the 2011 reboot of the video game Mortal Kombat, Nightwolf refers to the thunder god Raiden as Heyoka in Chapter 15 of story mode.