Title: We’re More Than Just Beads & Feathers

About The Author:

Jason Eaglespeaker: My story begins as a young boy on the Kainai rez. My late grandfather, Glen EagleSpeaker, was a renowned Blackfoot ARTIST, STORYTELLER and CRAFTSMAN.

I traveled the world with him, while he taught me the immeasurable value of storytelling -- as a tool to EDUCATE, INSPIRE and EMPOWER others. In an era long before social media, my grandpa reached people all over the globe.

Sadly, he passed away when I was merely 10 years old. His memory fuels my work and how I live my life!

Description:

In school, We just read "We’re More Than Just Beads & Feathers". It really made me think. Please tell me more about what you meant by that phrase - Cathy P.

I grew up deeply rooted in both Blackfoot & Duwamish culture. I was basically conceived, born and raised at powwows. As a young dancer we would perform in front of thousands and thousands of people. My family even had a dance troupe that traveled the world!

After my grandpa passed away, I was back dancing in front of HUGE crowds at the Calgary Stampede grandstand. This time was different though. I looked into the audience and wondered “why do they cheer wildly for me when I am wearing my powwow outfit and entertaining them - but ridicule and even laugh at me when I am wearing street clothes?” My 10 year old self decided then and there that I wanted to show the world “we’re more than just beads and feathers”. Been doing it ever since. https://www.eaglespeaker.com/
I AM THE NEW GENERATION OF SURVIVORS

JASON IS A GREAT NAME

THE PRODUCT OF A DUWAMISH NDN

AND A BLACKFOOT LADY NAMED LINDA

RAISED BY GRANDPARENTS ...

RED OCHRE WILL PROTECT YOU ...

... AND NAPI STORIES IN THE REZ RIDE

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS SHUT DOWN, SO WE'RE MOVING BACK TO CANADA ...

AND THAT'S HOW NAPI LOST HIS EYES TO THE LITTLE CHICKADEES ...
I AM THE BOY FROM TWO RESERVES

BE CAREFUL!

YOU GOT IT

GET THAT GEODUCK

DAD, LOOK!

MMMM, SASKATOONS

... WHERE'S THE BATHROOM?

AM I EVEN DOING THIS RIGHT?

THE ONE THEY CALLED "THE 1/2 BUFFALO, 1/2 SALMON MAN"
I AM PERFORMING AT THE CALGARY STAMPEDE

...Let's hear it again for "authentic dancing by authentic Indians in authentic costumes"...

INDIANS SURE ARE ENTERTAINING

THE CROWD GOES WILD, MY FRIENDS LOVE IT ... BUT ...
SOMETHING IS DIFFERENT

I DON'T FEEL RIGHT

THEY HATE ME?

WHERE IS YOUR COSTUME?

ENTERTAIN ME NOW!

THEY LOVE ME?

OOH, FEATHERS

OOH, BEADS

WE'RE MORE THAN JUST BEADS AND FEATHERS

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