



SEEN BY THE NATION was Sitting Bull's wife. She grew up in the Old Ways, following the buffalo on the Great Plains. When she was a young girl, Seen By The Nation was eager to learn skills from the older women of the tribe, knowing the day would come when she, too, would perform these tasks as a Lakota mother and wife.

Women were essential to the survival of any Lakota community. Although men hunted—providing buffalo for food, shelter and tools—women were responsible for most aspects of daily life. In a Lakota village, women raised the children who were well loved and cared for, not only by their own mothers but also by all women in the tribe. Even if a child's parents died, another family would step forward to rear the orphan within their lodge.

Lakota women also made all clothing and shelter for the tribe, tanning buffalo hides for use as blankets and teepee covers. The great herd was always on the move, and so were the Lakota. Each time, Four Robes and the other women packed the teepees and gathered their children for the voyage ahead.

In June 1876, the 7th Cavalry attacked their Lakota camp at Little Big Horn. Seen By The Nation ran for safety with the other women and children. But Sitting Bull had foreseen a great victory over the Wasichu, and Seen by the Nation trusted his vision.



In 1881, after five more cruel and difficult winters, Seen by the Nation, with Sitting Bull and her children, finally "came in" to the Lakota Reservation, surrendering the Old Ways at last.



FOUR ROBES was Sitting Bull's wife. She grew up in the Old Ways, following the buffalo on the Great Plains. When she was a young girl, Four Robes was eager to learn skills from the older women of the tribe, knowing the day would come when she, too, would perform these tasks as a Lakota mother and wife.

Women were essential to the survival of any Lakota community. Although men hunted—providing buffalo for food, shelter and tools—women were responsible for most aspects of daily life.

In a Lakota village, women raised the children who were well loved and cared for, not only by their own mothers but also by all women in the tribe. Even if a child's parents died, another family would step forward to raise the orphan within their lodge.

Lakota women also made all clothing and shelter for the tribe, tanning buffalo hides for use as blankets and teepee covers. The great herd was always on the move, and so were the Lakota. Each time, Four Robes and the other women packed the teepees and gathered their children for the voyage ahead.

In June of 1876, Four Robes gave birth to twin boys. Two weeks later, Colonel Custer and the U.S. 7th Cavalry attacked her camp. As Four Robes fled for safety, she realized in a wave of panic she'd forgotten one of her babies! Hurrying back through the raging battle, she found the child...still alive and well.



Five years later, after nearly starving in Canada, Four Robes "came in" to the reservation with her husband, Sitting Bull. Although they lived in a warm house now and usually had enough to eat, Four Robes missed the freedom of life with the buffalo on the Great Plains.

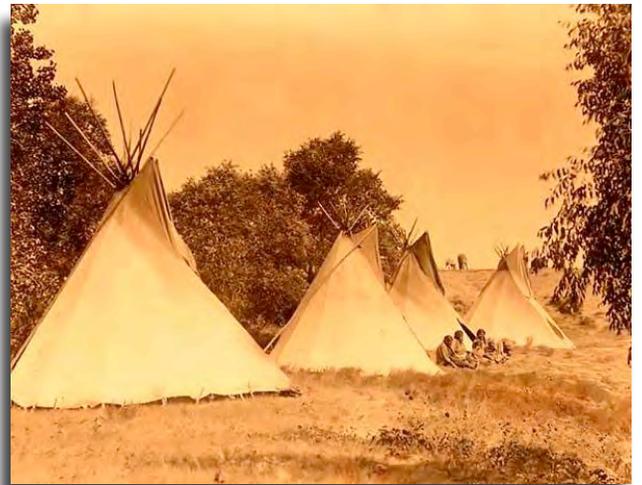


SNOW ON HER was one of Sitting Bull's five wives. For the Plains Indians, having more than one wife was quite normal. Because so many of the men were killed in battle and the women needed help to complete all their daily work in the lodge, it made sense for them to share household duties... and husbands.

Snow On Her and all the Lakota women had many tasks in the village. These included: raising the children; teaching the girls; gathering berries and other edible plants; preparing the food; butchering animals; preparing skins (cleaning, curing, tanning);

making clothes and other articles; and taking care of the tipi (raising it, taking it down, as well as packing it when the tribe prepared to move). During the Battle of Little Big Horn, Snow on Her joined the other women in hiding the tribe's horses and protecting the children.

Snow On Her was Sitting Bull's second wife. His first died in childbirth. Shortly after marrying Snow On Her, Sitting Bull married Scarlet Woman. But Snow On Her was jealous. Unlike most of the women, she did not want to share her husband or her home and quarreled often with Scarlet Woman. After enduring this disturbance for some time, Sitting Bull lost his patience and divorced Snow On Her. Unfortunately, his union with Scarlet Woman ended quickly, as she died soon thereafter. Later, the Chief married two sisters, Four Robes and Seen By the Nation, living happily with them until his death.





CROW FOOT was born in 1876, just before the Battle of Little Bighorn. He was Sitting Bull's favorite son, bringing the chief great hope and happiness during his final years. Though the boy would have no memory of the battle, he was a part of it nonetheless. The women and older children in his lodge, knowing the strong connection between Sitting Bull and his newborn son, took special care of Crow Foot to ensure he remained safe.

After Little Big Horn, life became very difficult for Crow Foot and the Lakota people. Though the U.S. Army could not defeat his father on the battlefield, they did destroy the Lakota food supply: the buffalo. By 1881, the great herd, once over 50 miles wide, was almost gone. With nothing left to eat, Sitting Bull was forced to bring Crow Foot and the rest of his family "in" to the Reservation. Life was even worse there. Wasichu food tasted so strange, and the Ways of the ancestors seemed distant. At the Reservation's Wasichu school, teachers tried to "help" Crow Foot by forcing him to give up his heritage.

One day in 1890, Lakota policemen came to arrest Sitting Bull at his lodge on the Grand River. In the scuffle that followed, Sitting Bull and many others were killed. Crow Foot, now 13 years old, heard the fighting and knew to hide behind a wall inside. But he did not hide well enough. When he was discovered, Crow Foot pleaded: "My Uncles, do not kill me! I do not wish to die!" The Lakota policemen wanted revenge for their fallen brothers and showed Crow Foot no mercy, shooting him on the spot.





HAS MANY HORSES was Sitting Bull's daughter. She lived during a time of great change. The Lakota had always been free, but after the great Battle they knew the Wasichu would do all in their power to force the tribes onto Reservations. When Has Many Horses was a girl, the elders in her village would speak of the "Old Ways" that they hoped to protect at all cost.

Only a few short years before Has Many Horses was born, there were still 60 million buffalo on the Great Plains—an ocean of horns and fur, moving across the land. Even as a girl, Has Many Horses lived with her people alongside the buffalo, following the herd. To her, buffalo were the very source of life.

In June of 1876, when Has Many Horses was still a child, soldiers rode into her village and began shooting guns. The battle raged outside, but she remained within the lodge helping her mother prepare food for the warriors. As her father had foretold, Lakota warriors defeated the Wasichu at the Battle of the Greasy Grass—known evermore as The Battle of Little Big Horn.

After this, life became difficult for Has Many Horses and the Lakota people. Though the Army could not defeat her father in battle, they did destroy the Lakota food supply: buffalo. By 1881, the great herd was almost gone. With nothing left to eat, Sitting Bull was forced to bring Has Many Horses and the rest of his family "in" to the Reservation. Life was much worse there. Wasichu food tasted strange, and the Ways of the ancestors seemed distant. At the Reservation's Wasichu school, teachers tried to force Has Many Horses to forget her Lakota heritage. She lived in a house now—heartbroken—and missed the freedom of the Plains.





WALKS ALONG was Sitting Bull's daughter. She lived during a time of great change. The Lakota had always been free, but after the great Battle they knew the Wasichu would do all in their power to force the tribes onto Reservations. When Walks Along was a girl, the elders in her village would speak of the "Old Ways" that they hoped to protect at all costs.

Only a few short years before Walks Along was born, there were still 60 million buffalo on the Great Plains—an ocean of horns and fur moving across the land. Even as a girl, Walks Along lived with her people alongside the buffalo, following the herd. To her, the buffalo were the very source of life.

In 1876, when Walks Along was still a child, Wasichu soldiers rode into her village and began shooting guns. The battle raged outside, but she remained within the lodge helping her mother prepare food for the warriors. As her father had foretold, Lakota warriors defeated the Wasichu in the Valley of the Greasy Grass—known evermore as The Battle of Little Big Horn.

After this, life became difficult for Walks Along and the Lakota people. Though the Army could not defeat her father in battle, they did destroy the Lakota food supply: buffalo. By 1881, the great herd was almost gone. With nothing left to eat, Sitting Bull was forced to bring Walks Along and the rest of his family "in" to the Reservation. Life was much worse there. Wasichu food tasted strange, and the Ways of the ancestors seemed distant. At the Reservation's Wasichu school, teachers tried to force Walks Along to forget her Lakota heritage. She lived in a house now—heartbroken—and missed the freedom of the Plains. Walks Along died of illness three years later, in 1884.





GOOD FEATHER was Sitting Bull's sister. She grew up in the Old Ways, following the buffalo on the Great Plains. When she was a girl, Good Feather was eager to learn how to become a proper Lakota woman from Her Holy Door, the mother she shared with Sitting Bull.

Women were essential to the survival of any Lakota community. Although men hunted—providing buffalo for food, shelter and tools—women were responsible for most aspects of daily life. In a Lakota village, women raised the children who were well loved and cared for, not only by their own mothers but also by all women in the tribe. Even if a child's parents died, another family would step forward to rear the orphan within their lodge.

Lakota women also made all clothing and shelter for the tribe, tanning buffalo hides for use as blankets and teepee covers. The great herd was always on the move, and so were the Lakota. Each time, Four Robes and the other women packed the teepees and gathered their children for the voyage ahead.

Good Feather was kind to her brother. When Sitting Bull's first wife—Light Hair—died during childbirth, Sitting Bull was alone now and deeply affected. Feeling her brother's pain, Good Feather suggested he adopt one of her two sons, One Bull, who he raised as his own.

As the 7th Cavalry attacked the Lakota camp, Good Feather was living with 10 others in her brother Sitting Bull's lodge. The battle raged outside, but inside the lodge she ensured that all remained calm. Sitting Bull had foreseen a great victory over the Wasichu, and his people, beyond all else, trusted the vision of their great chief.

