



On the Trail of the Ancestors: A Black Cowboy's Ride Across America

Lisa K. Winkler

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

On the Trail of the Ancestors: A Black Cowboy's Ride Across America

Lisa K. Winkler

On the Trail of the Ancestors: A Black Cowboy's Ride Across America Lisa K. Winkler

Miles J. Dean, a Newark, NJ schoolteacher, rode his horse from New York to California to celebrate the contributions African Americans made in the settling of the United States. During his six-month, 5,000-mile journey, Dean, a 57-year-old African American, addressed people along the way at schools and colleges, community organizations, and penal institutions. He met hundreds of Americans through informal encounters at campgrounds, Wal-Mart parking lots, restaurants, and country stores. With each, he shared his reasons for the journey and inspired others to fulfil their dreams. Growing up in Brooklyn, New York, Dean first learned about cowboys from watching television. Like any boy at that time, he wanted to be like those heroes and pretended to be a cowboy. He galloped through the streets on his bicycle, ambushing outlaws on street corners. Although Hollywood helped keep his dream alive, the cowboys on TV didn't look like Dean. At age 23, he saw Sidney Poitier play a cowboy in the 1972 film, *Buck and the Preacher*, and realized he too could be a cowboy. He deferred his teenage dream another 10 years before he could afford riding lessons and eventually bought his first horse. But the film inspired him to explore the African American history he never learned in school, specifically the contributions made during the 1500-1800s when horses were the primary means of transportation. He knew he wanted to make a cross-country journey and retrace the steps of these early pioneers; it was just a question of when. On September 22, 2007, Dean brought his horse, Sankofa, a 12-year-old Arabian stallion into New York City and rode to the African Burial Grounds, in lower Manhattan to begin his journey. Granted an unpaid leave of absence from his 5th grade social studies position, he embarked on this odyssey he had dreamed about for nearly 35 years. Six months later, Dean completed the trip with a celebration at the California African American Museum in Los Angeles. In between he visited several historical monuments, paying homage to history's forgotten heroes, including the black jockeys at Kentucky's Churchill Downs and soldiers at Tennessee's African American Civil War Cemetery. His travels through Memphis and Little Rock evoked his own memories of growing up during the Civil Rights Movement. His ride through the harsh deserts of the Southwest and across California's formidable Chocolate Mountains allowed him to re-enact the conditions and perils faced by early cowboys and marshals. *On the Trail of the Ancestors: A Black Cowboy's Ride Across America* recounts how one man followed his childhood dream. Dean's commitment to his journey helped him battle a brain tumor; his gratitude to his ancestors fortified his resilience; and his integrity to honoring heroes in history via his horse kept him on road. This book chronicles Dean's cross-country journey and introduces readers to people from all cultural and social backgrounds. Dean's many encounters with strangers who assisted him, his meetings with students, his participation in local community parades and other events as he travelled bring to life the complex tapestry of the country. As Dean travels from state to state, the reader learns about African Americans who contributed to US history. Dean's relationship with his horse Sankofa provides insights about what it is like to ride a horse for six months. Whether navigating dangerous terrain and city traffic, riding long distances, handling medical problems for him and the horse, or facing the challenges of acquiring the four relief horses, his anecdotes regale readers with the visceral pleasures and difficulties of such a journey. Dean's story demonstrates that an ordinary person can accomplish the extraordinary.

 [Download On the Trail of the Ancestors: A Black Cowboy's Ri ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online On the Trail of the Ancestors: A Black Cowboy's ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online On the Trail of the Ancestors: A Black Cowboy's Ride Across America Lisa K. Winkler

From reader reviews:

Jennifer Burritt:

Why don't make it to become your habit? Right now, try to prepare your time to do the important work, like looking for your favorite publication and reading a guide. Beside you can solve your long lasting problem; you can add your knowledge by the reserve entitled On the Trail of the Ancestors: A Black Cowboy's Ride Across America. Try to the actual book On the Trail of the Ancestors: A Black Cowboy's Ride Across America as your close friend. It means that it can being your friend when you experience alone and beside those of course make you smarter than previously. Yeah, it is very fortunated to suit your needs. The book makes you a lot more confidence because you can know every little thing by the book. So , we need to make new experience in addition to knowledge with this book.

Raul Warren:

Playing with family in a park, coming to see the water world or hanging out with buddies is thing that usually you might have done when you have spare time, then why you don't try matter that really opposite from that. Just one activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition associated with. Even you love On the Trail of the Ancestors: A Black Cowboy's Ride Across America, you are able to enjoy both. It is fine combination right, you still wish to miss it? What kind of hangout type is it? Oh can occur its mind hangout men. What? Still don't have it, oh come on its called reading friends.

Yolanda Nitta:

It is possible to spend your free time to read this book this book. This On the Trail of the Ancestors: A Black Cowboy's Ride Across America is simple to develop you can read it in the recreation area, in the beach, train and soon. If you did not include much space to bring the printed book, you can buy typically the e-book. It is make you much easier to read it. You can save often the book in your smart phone. So there are a lot of benefits that you will get when you buy this book.

Brandon Seymour:

Don't be worry if you are afraid that this book may filled the space in your house, you can have it in e-book method, more simple and reachable. This On the Trail of the Ancestors: A Black Cowboy's Ride Across America can give you a lot of good friends because by you checking out this one book you have factor that they don't and make a person more like an interesting person. This specific book can be one of one step for you to get success. This publication offer you information that might be your friend doesn't realize, by knowing more than some other make you to be great persons. So , why hesitate? We should have On the Trail of the Ancestors: A Black Cowboy's Ride Across America.

**Download and Read Online On the Trail of the Ancestors: A Black
Cowboy's Ride Across America Lisa K. Winkler #GPZCUI82609**

Read On the Trail of the Ancestors: A Black Cowboy's Ride Across America by Lisa K. Winkler for online ebook

On the Trail of the Ancestors: A Black Cowboy's Ride Across America by Lisa K. Winkler Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read On the Trail of the Ancestors: A Black Cowboy's Ride Across America by Lisa K. Winkler books to read online.

Online On the Trail of the Ancestors: A Black Cowboy's Ride Across America by Lisa K. Winkler ebook PDF download

On the Trail of the Ancestors: A Black Cowboy's Ride Across America by Lisa K. Winkler Doc

On the Trail of the Ancestors: A Black Cowboy's Ride Across America by Lisa K. Winkler Mobipocket

On the Trail of the Ancestors: A Black Cowboy's Ride Across America by Lisa K. Winkler EPub