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LEE HARDWARE CO.

Farmington, Michigan

THE WINCHESTER STORE

ON THE CORNER

PHONE 62

Miracles and the Christ Child

By Katherine Edelman

Indian Brave,
Guided by
Great Spirit,
Reveals Story
of Christmas

IN THE far
gung land of
the west the
early winter
had been un-
usually mild and
although it was near-
ing Christmas, now the weather was
bright and clear, almost spring-like in
its mildness.

Everywhere that the message of the
Christ Child had reached, men and
women were busy and happy pre-
paring for the great day, a new and
added joy of life surging within their
hearts. Into each home there had
come a strengthening and rebuilding
of family ties and

a new birth of
love and service
that reached out
beyond the
home.

Out on the reser-
vation, however,
the Indians went
about their tasks
as usual, for no
hint of the wonder
and the glory of
the Christmas
time had yet come
to them. And if
they felt a mys-
terious something
in the air at this
time, they under-
stood it not at all,
for the brightness

from the Star of Bethlehem had not
yet burst upon them.

Moonlight Brook was very lonely—
she had only little Silver Star, her
daughter, with her now—the big chief
had sent Strong Oak, her husband,
with other braves, on a mission to a
distant village. And Moonlight
Brook had missed him every hour, for
their love was still burning as bright
as the big camp fire that blazed near
the teepees at dusk.

Her love of the great open spaces
helped to cheer her during the long
hours of his absence. Every day with
little Silver Star she wandered afar.
In these lonely places that she went
there always came to her the sense
of some great presence—the hand
of some great power.

Early one morning Moonlight Brook
called little Silver Star to her and
told her that they would go for a
long walk, away up to Roaring Creek.
Moonlight Brook was lost in wonder at
the beauty of the scene, but a great
and sudden change had come over the
day. Now, looking at the lowering,
threatening sky, she decided that she
must make all possible haste back
to the village. For with the dark-
ness and the gloom that had come over
all there had come, too, from across
the prairie a low menacing wind
that carried with it at times small,
dry snowflakes.

With Silver Star in her arms Moon-
light Brook started in the direction of
the village, walking with the swift,
strong stride of the woman who lives
much in the open. The snow now was
coming down in large flakes and the
wind had grown blizzard-like in its
velocity. Hope was fast dying within
her, for she was trembling from ex-
haustion. Then overwrought nature
did the thing which she had tried hard
to keep from happening—the snow
upon the snow—her last thought as
she felt consciousness leaving her, to
wrap the blanket closer about little
Silver Star and to swift a prayer to
the Great Spirit to take care of Strong
Oak when she was gone.

But the prairie has many stories
to tell of strange things that have
happened there, and on this day there
was added to the list another of those
coincidences which

happen oftener in
real life than
some would have
us believe. For
Strong Oak and
his party came by
the very spot
where Moonlight
Brook and Silver
Star lay a short
time after they
had sunk exhaust-
ed. Some of the
men had tried to
take the other
trail, but some-
thing within him,
that strange, un-
known force which
comes to all at
times, made him
choose the Roaring Creek trail instead
and he found his loved one and with
the help of the guides they reached
the village in safety.

A few hours later, Moonlight Brook
and Strong Oak sat hand in hand, the
ecstatic happiness of being reunited
surging within them. Moonlight
Brook whispered over and over that
it was a miracle that the Great Spirit
had wrought that Strong Oak should
have found her. And Strong Oak told
her that while he had been gone he
had heard the story of the Christ
Child who had come upon earth on
this day, which ever since has been
called Christmas. As Moonlight
Brook listened to the beautiful story
that has been told so much, but which
keeps its thrill through the ages, she
felt that this day was indeed a day of
miracles, for, like her bronzed brave
the story brought her a wonderful
peace and stilled the restless long-
ings which had come to her so often
in the past.

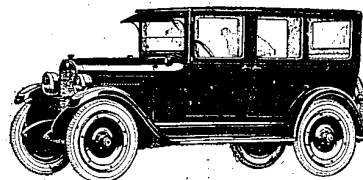
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