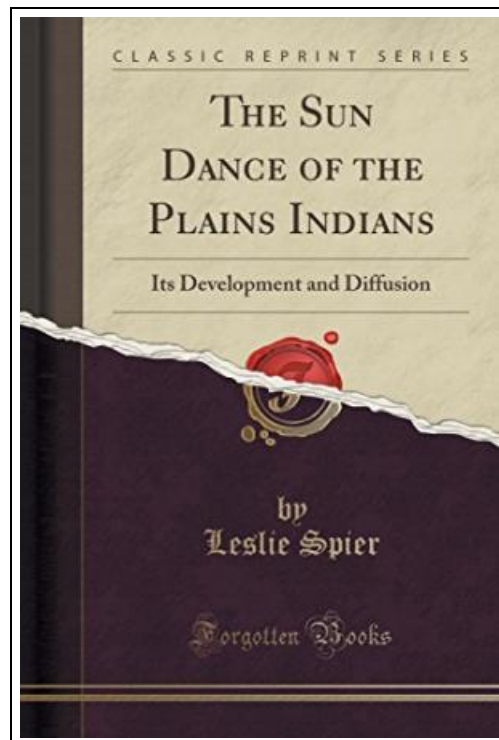


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Forgotten Books, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Excerpt from The Sun Dance of the Plains Indians: Its Development and Diffusion Most Plains tribes had the sun dance: in fact, it was performed by all the typical tribes except the Comanche. Since the dance has not been held for years by some tribes, viz., Dakota, Gros Ventre, Sutaio, Arikara, Hidatsa, Crow, and Kiowa, the data available for a comparative study vary widely in value. The chief sources of information outside of this volume are the accounts by G. A. Dorsey for the Arapaho, Cheyenne, and Ponca; Kroeber for the Arapaho and Gros Ventre; Curtis for the Arikara; and Lowie and Curtis for the Assiniboin. There is no published information for the Fort Hall Shoshoni, Bannock, Kutenai, or Sutaio. So far as I am aware there has been no general discussion of the sun dance. Hutton Webster in his *Secret Societies* considers it, without giving proof, an initiation ceremony. It is the aim of the present study to reconstruct the history of the sun dance and to investigate the character of the factors that determined its development. By a discussion of the distribution of traits - regalia, behavior, ideas of organization, and explanatory myths - it will be shown that the ceremony among all the tribes has grown chiefly by intertribal borrowing. It will be demonstrated further that the center of development has been in the central Plains among the Arapaho, Cheyenne, and Oglala, and that the original nucleus of sun dance rites probably received its first specific character at the hands of the Arapaho and Cheyenne, or of this couple and the Village tribes. The character of transmission has been such as to produce a greater uniformity throughout...



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