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Mabel McKay: Weaving the Dream (Portraits of American Genius)

Greg Sarris

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Greg Sarris : Mabel McKay: Weaving the Dream (Portraits of American Genius) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mabel McKay: Weaving the Dream (Portraits of American Genius):

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gift of the story of lives interwoven with spirit. Native American historical biography of a young man learning about
his family.

A world-renowned Pomo basket weaver and medicine woman, Mabel McKay expressed her genius through her celebrated baskets, her Dreams, her cures, and the stories with which she kept her culture alive. She spent her life teaching others how the spirit speaks through the Dream, how the spirit heals, and how the spirit demands to be heard. Greg Sarris weaves together stories from Mabel McKay's life with an account of how he tried, and she resisted, telling her story straightmdash;the white people's way. Sarris, an Indian of mixed-blood heritage, finds his own story in his search for Mabel McKay's. Beautifully narrated, *Weaving the Dream* initiates the reader into Pomo culture and demonstrates how a woman who worked most of her life in a cannery could become a great healer and an artist whose baskets were collected by the Smithsonian. Hearing Mabel McKay's life story, we see that distinctions between material and spiritual and between mundane and magical disappear. What remains is a timeless way of healing, of making art, and of being in the world. Sarris's new preface, written expressly for this edition, meditates on Mabel McKay's enduring legacy and the continued importance of her teachings.

From the Inside Flap"Wonderful, and urgently needed in these days of confusion over Native American identity and spirituality. . . . Vibrant testimony to the survival of American Indians and the power of the old spirits."mdash;Leslie Marmon Silko"All the lean wit of a Castaneda tale, the lyric spark of the Black Elk translations, *Weaving the Dream* is a modern-day Indian classic."mdash;Kenneth Lincoln, author of *The Good Red Road*