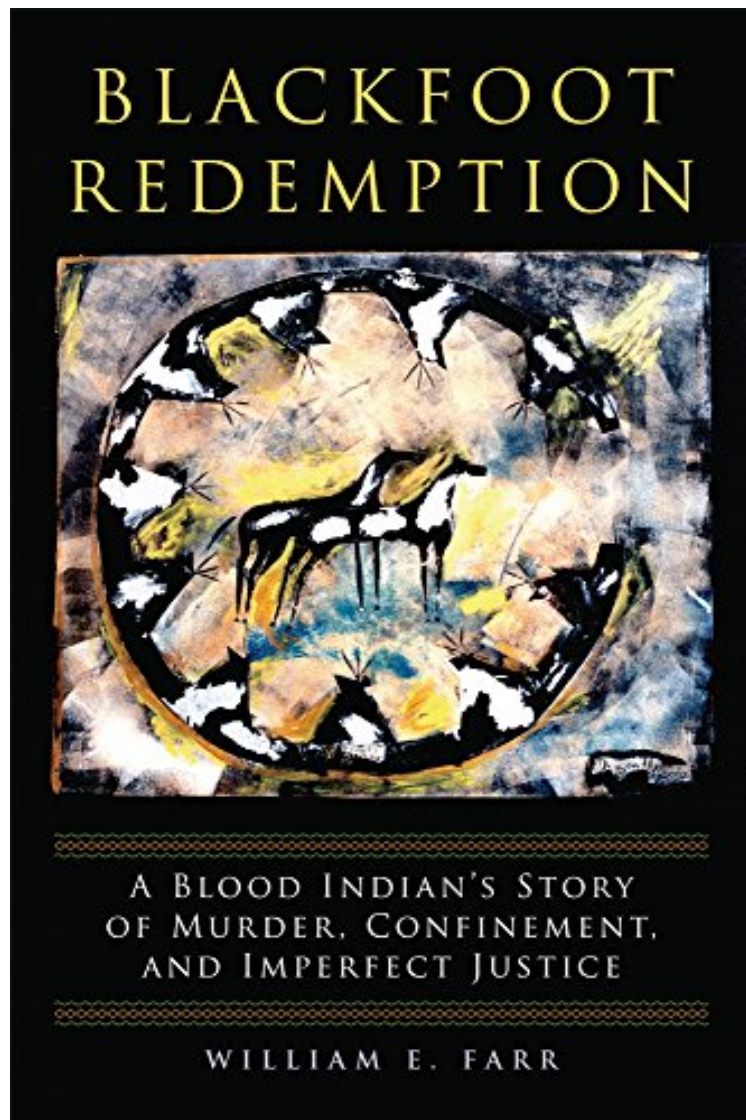


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## Blackfoot Redemption: A Blood Indians Story of Murder, Confinement, and Imperfect Justice

*William E. Farr*

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**William E. Farr : Blackfoot Redemption: A Blood Indians Story of Murder, Confinement, and Imperfect Justice** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Blackfoot Redemption: A Blood Indians Story of Murder, Confinement, and Imperfect Justice:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. So the rare volumes like this.By SoldierBlueToo little is known

about the era of mid to late 1890's..when for cultural infractions native people were sent to " mental health " hospitals...most never were released there are stories of people being locked into rooms for multiple years never once seeing the sun...an epileptic girl chained to a hot water pipe and the attendant remarked...how remarkable she didn't burn herself on the pipe...the only document to have survived was the one that shut such institutions down the Silk Report...so named because of Dr. Silk. So the rare volumes like this....which speak on these times....even within the narrow focus of a single case...is something to take note of...SBO of 0 people found the following review helpful. Solid historic overview of the Real People, the PieganBy j andersonI used William Farr's previous historic work in my classroom and found this book extremely interesting and very informative. Spopee's story is not only the story of the injustice done to one American Indian man, but to an entire race. It is a quick read and extremely well documented. I would recommend the use of this book in American Indian studies.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Interesting historyBy 1-OnionThis story documents the story of one person's jury through the justice system and at the same time describes the Blackfoot Indian history in the late 19th to early 20th century. It is an engaging and well researched read.

In 1879, a Canadian Blackfoot known as Spopee, or Turtle, shot and killed a white man. Captured as a fugitive, Spopee narrowly escaped execution, instead landing in an insane asylum in Washington, D.C., where he fell silent. Spopee thus disappeared for more than thirty years, until a delegation of American Blackfeet discovered him and, aided by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, exacted a pardon from President Woodrow Wilson. After re-emerging into society like a modern-day Rip Van Winkle, Spopee spent the final year of his life on the Blackfeet Reservation in Montana, in a world that had changed irrevocably from the one he had known before his confinement. Blackfoot Redemption is the riveting account of Spopee's unusual and haunting story. To reconstruct the events of Spopee's life at first traceable only through bits and pieces of information William E. Farr conducted exhaustive archival research, digging deeply into government documents and institutional reports to build a coherent and accurate narrative and, through this reconstruction, win back one Indian's life and identity. In revealing both certainties and ambiguities in Spopee's story, Farr relates a larger story about racial dynamics and prejudice, while poignantly evoking the turbulent final days of the buffalo-hunting Indians before their confinement, loss of freedom, and confusion that came with the wrenching transition to reservation life.

Many of our people disappeared in the days of the early reservation. They went away to boarding schools, the army, jail. Some never returned. We didn't know what happened to them. Spopee was the exception. He came back. But we still didn't know what had happened or where he had been. Like our chief White Calf and our people who were confined to the reservation in the last days of the buffalo, Spopee too had been unjustly confined. Now, thanks to William Farr, both pitiful stories are told by someone who knows our history well. Earl Old Person, Chief of the Blackfeet Nation