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Foreword

Indian Spirit preserves the wisdom of our Elders for today's generation, and future generations. The words and images collected in this book will connect readers to the history of our native peoples and to the sacred ways given to us by the Creator.

Many tribes are represented here, from the Plains, Mountains, Coastal, Southwest, and other parts of North America. History divides the tribes of these vast geographic and cultural regions into friends, enemies, and strangers to each other. The life-ways of each people varied, but what *Indian Spirit* shows is that each of these ways is *good* because each was given to the people by the same Creator.

It is this connection to the Creator that gave Indian people their sacred center. Society today, Indian and non-Indian, has lost its sacred center. But our connection to the Creator can never be broken. As long as we wish to follow His ways, He will have pity on us, and bless us with the guidance we need to live a truly happy and spiritual life.

Indian Spirit offers a glimpse into the world of our ancestors. It shares with us their philosophies and deeply religious lives rooted in the teachings of the Creator. This sacred knowledge was revealed to our ancestors after much fasting and prayer. I pray that this book will be an inspiration to our youth and lead them back to the Red Road, which in turn will lead to the Creator. I also pray that this book will touch your heart.

James Trosper
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Trustee of the University of Wyoming

Foreword to Indian Spirit: Revised and Enlarged by James Trosper
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