

**AMERICAN INDIAN FAIRY
TALES: SNOW BIRD, THE
WATER TIGER, ETC.**

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American Indian fairy tales: Snow Bird, the Water Tiger, etc. by Margaret Compton

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MARGARET COMPTON

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WATER TIGER, ETC.**

AMERICAN
INDIAN FAIRY
TALES

SNOW BIRD,
THE WATER TIGER, etc.

BY

MARGARET COMPTON

With numerous illustrations

NEW YORK
DODD, MEAD & COMPANY
1907

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TO
MY SISTER,
WHO STILL "LOVES FAIRY TALES,"
THIS VOLUME IS
AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED.

AUTHOR'S NOTE

THROUGH the courtesy of the librarian of the Smithsonian Institute, the author has had access to government reports of Indian life. Upon these and the folk-lore contained in the standard works of Schoolcraft, Copway, and Catlin these stories are founded.

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THE STORY-TELLER HIMSELF



AGOO, the story-teller of the Indians, is a little, old man with a face as black as the shell of the butternut and a body like a twisted stick. His eyes are twice as large as other men's, so that when a bird flies past him he sees twice as many feathers on it, and all the little colors underneath are bright to him. His ears are twice as large as other men's, so that what seems to them but a tiny sound is to him like the roll of thunder. His legs are supple and his arms are strong, so that he can run faster and further, and can lift and carry twice as much as others.

No one believes him, yet every one is eager to listen to him. He tells of things of which no one else ever saw the like; but the stories are pleasant to hear, and Iagoo says they are true. When the rivers and lakes are frozen so that the Indian cannot fish, and the snow has drifted many feet in thickness so that he cannot hunt, then he goes into his wigwam, cowers under his heaviest bear-skin wrapper or