


The top half of the cover features a dark, atmospheric painting. At the very top, there is a scalloped, wavy border in shades of yellow and orange, resembling a sunset or a decorative element. Below this, the main scene is a dimly lit interior, possibly a traditional Siberian dwelling. Several large, dark, cylindrical objects, likely made of stacked wood or furs, are arranged in a row. The background is a mix of dark greens and browns, with some lighter, warm tones suggesting light coming from a window or opening. The overall mood is somber and historical.

THE WAY OF KINSHIP

**An Anthology of
Native Siberian Literature**

TRANSLATED AND EDITED BY
ALEXANDER VASCHENKO & CLAUDE CLAYTON SMITH

FOREWORD BY N. SCOTT MOMADAY

The bottom of the cover features several dark, pointed shapes that look like the tips of traditional hats or perhaps the ends of sled runners, set against a lighter, textured background that matches the middle section of the cover.

“Around the globe traditional cultures are being destroyed by greedy commercial interests and insensitive government policies. In *The Way of Kinship* a variety of ethnic Siberian writers reveal the consequences of such policies on their way of life. This book is a call to action! We cannot allow the final destruction of the Siberian cultures, or of any of the world’s remaining traditional cultures. I am extremely grateful these writers have told their stories, and I am thankful the editors have presented this most important anthology.”

—RUDOLFO ANAYA

“That these treasures are available to us as writing is a miracle. . . . These stories, poems, songs give us a way, a sacred way, into a world that we ought to know for its own sake. It is our own world, after all.”

—N. SCOTT MOMADAY, from the Foreword

The first anthology of Native Siberian literature in English, *The Way of Kinship* represents writers from regions extending from the Ob River in the west to the Chukotka Peninsula, the easternmost point of the Siberian Russian Arctic. Drawn from seven distinct ethnic groups, this diverse body of work—prose fiction, poetry, drama, and creative nonfiction—chronicles ancient Siberian cultures and traditions threatened with extinction in the contemporary world. Translated and edited by Alexander Vaschenko and Claude Clayton Smith, leading scholars in Native Siberian literature, *The Way of Kinship* is an essential collection that introduces readers to new writers and worlds.

The Russian authority on Native American literature, **Alexander Vaschenko** is chair of comparative studies in literature and culture at Moscow State University.

Claude Clayton Smith is professor emeritus of English at Ohio Northern University.

N. Scott Momaday is a Native American (Kiowa) writer. His novel *House Made of Dawn* was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 1969.

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