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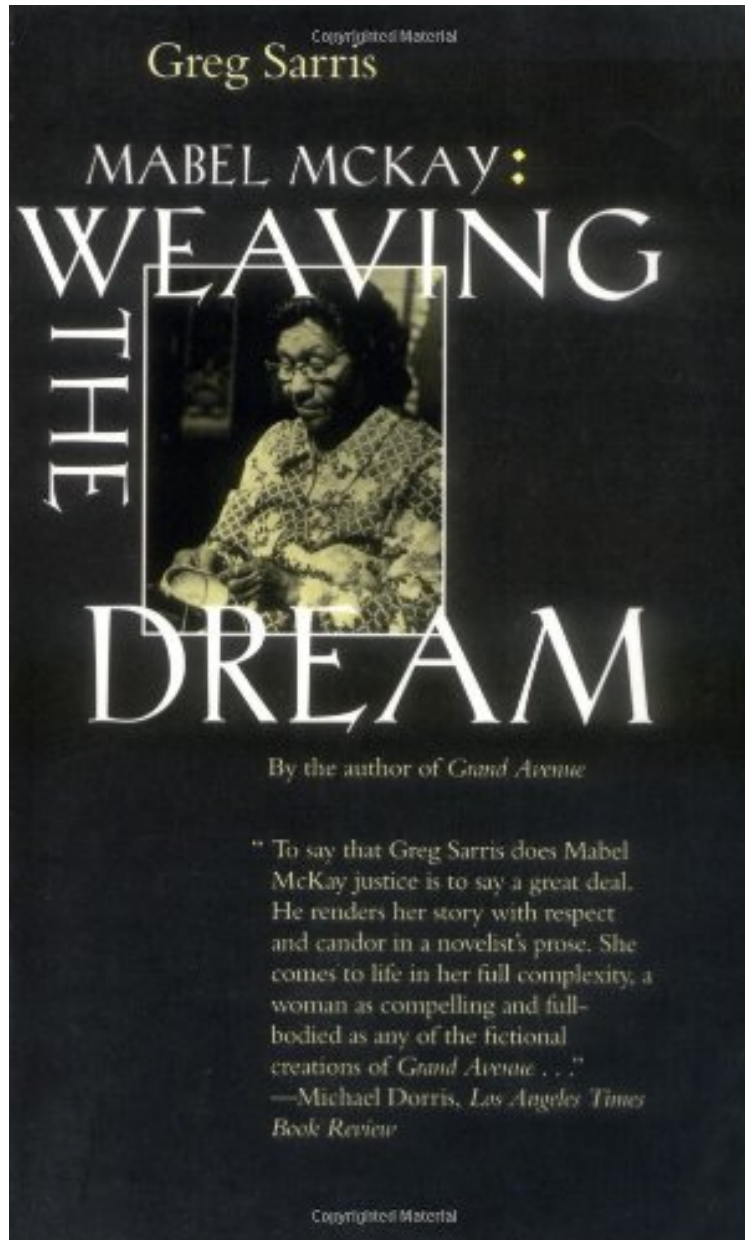
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(Read free) Mabel McKay: Weaving the Dream (Portraits of American Genius)

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

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):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Window Into A Native American Spiritual WorldBy Ruth

Handy This was an excellent book and easy to read. I saw a display of her 'living' baskets at the Gene Autry Museum in LA and appreciated learning more about her. Also interesting was the weaving in of the story of how the author was helped by Mabel McKay. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Couldn't put it down! By Nancy A. This book was one of the most profound books I have ever read. This woman was a true visionary healer and weaver. Greg Sarris carries you along to discover the depth and breadth of this woman's story. Her day to day life was that I'd a humble domestic worker or a cannery worker, but she was quietly so very much more. Her baskets were prayers, and her healing was carried out through her powerful connection with her spiritual world. Greg Sarris does a beautiful job of telling a difficult story in a way that we, the public, could understand - a linear story of a woman who was not linear. I loved this story. I did not want it to end. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A great read By Molly M.D. I had to get this book for a class I was taking. Honestly, it's one of the best mandatory reads I've read. Sarris does a nice job of telling McKay's story, including his incorporation of her own stories. All in all, a great read.

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 straight 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.

From Library Journal In his endeavor to write about McKay, the celebrated Pomo basket weaver and medicine woman, Sarris (English, UCLA) has been able to find his own identity. Part American Indian, Filipino, and Jewish, he was adopted at birth and is now chief of the Coast Miwok tribe. His bonding with this extraordinary individual and his growth during their relationship is described throughout the book. Sarris's catharsis is reflected on the last page: "I squatted in front of her and repeated my questions. 'Why did you do it for me?' She looked me in the eye and said, plain as day, 'Because you kept coming back.'" McKay's life, simple yet spiritual, is as quintessential as the baskets she wove. Her stories are poignantly collected and captured in this biography. Recommended for public libraries. Vicki L. Toy Smith, Univ. of Nevada, Reno Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. 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." 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." Kenneth Lincoln, author of *The Good Red Road*