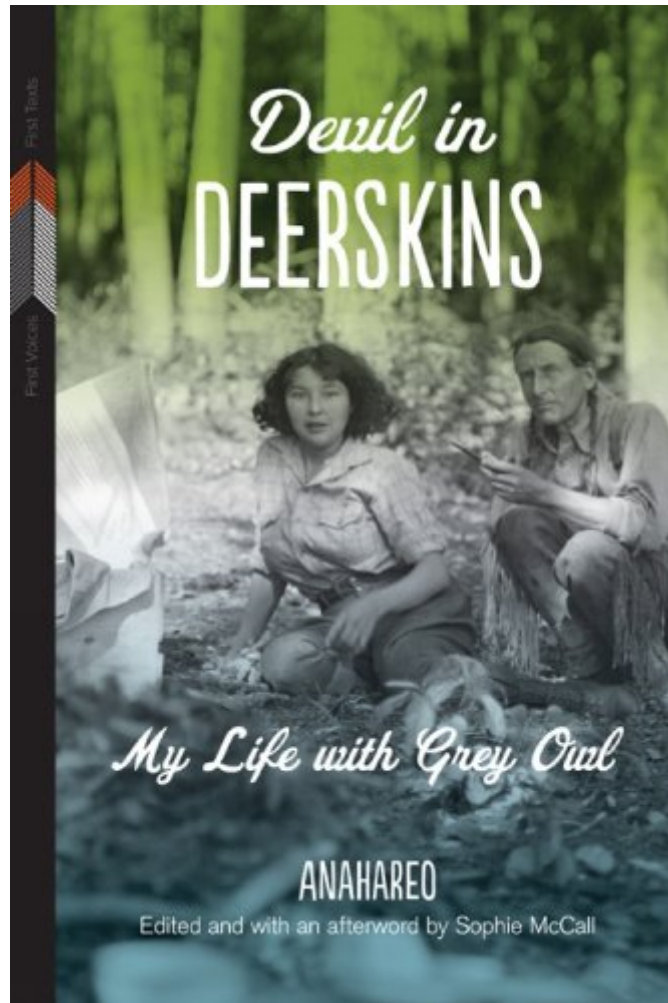


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Devil In Deerskins: My Life With Grey Owl (First Voices, First Texts)



Synopsis

Anahareo (1906-1985) was a Mohawk writer, environmentalist, and activist. She was also the wife of Grey Owl, aka Archie Belaney, the internationally celebrated writer and speaker who claimed to be of Scottish and Apache descent, but whose true ancestry as a white Englishman only became known after his death. Devil in Deerskins is Anahareo's autobiography up to and including her marriage to Grey Owl. In vivid prose she captures their extensive travels through the bush and their work towards environmental and wildlife protection. Here we see the daily life of an extraordinary Mohawk woman whose independence, intellect and moral conviction had direct influence on Grey Owl's conversion from trapper to conservationist. Though first published in 1972, Devil in Deerskins's observations on indigeneity, culture, and land speak directly to contemporary audiences. Devil in Deerskins is the first book in the First Voices, First Texts series. This new edition includes forewords by Anahareo's daughters, Katherine Swartile and Anne Gaskell, an afterword by Sophie McCall, and reintroduces readers to a very important but largely forgotten text by one of Canada's most talented Aboriginal writers.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Grey Owl was one of our earliest conservationists. He left a comfortable life in middle class existence in England to pursue a career as a trapper and outdoorsman in the great northern wilderness of Canada. Along the way he met Anahareo, a Mohawk girl of 19 with a mind of her own. Anahareo convinced Grey Owl that animals deserved the same respect as humans and to pursue a career in writing instead of trapping. Grey Owl listened and followed Anahareo's advice. As a result, he became a world-famous nature writer who advocated for the preservation and conservation of wilderness long before anyone had coined those terms. In this book, written by Anahareo's own hand, we have a first-hand account of her life with Grey Owl living in the wilderness. Along the way, Anahareo reveals herself to be a remarkable woman with a Native American's understanding and respect for the Earth and a talent for writing and telling stories. A must read for all nature lovers and outdoors people.

Very interesting and readable autobio of native american woman who was a trapper, guide and then ecological organizer forerunner from a time when Canada was still mostly wild and inaccessible other than by canoe and dogsled, which she used. Popular somewhat superficial style but very interesting material. Pet beavers, log cabin building, deerskin artisan, married to Grey Owl who, while he turned out to be an englishman and not Indian, was still an interesting and sincere figure active early in natural preservation. Also one of the very first texts written by a native american woman.

Another collectors book that I like. Probably finds a narrow audience, yet it is about a simpler time and unspoiled wilderness so I'm hooked.

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