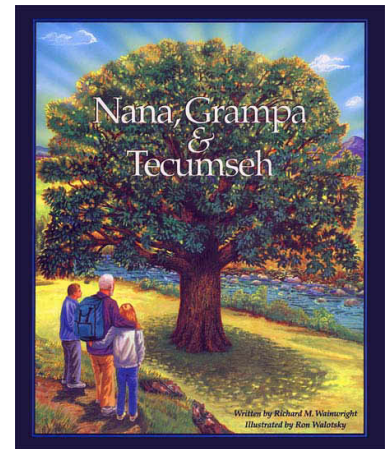


Nana, Grampa and Tecumseh

By
Richard M. Wainwright



Synopsis

Nana, Grampa and Tecumseh is a story of the celebration of family life. Amanda and Jonathan are junior-high twins who lost their father in a tragic accident. The twins often spend weekends and vacations with their grandparents. It is through this relationship with their Nana and Grampa that they slowly learn the miracle and richness of life. Grampa takes Amanda and Jonathan to visit Tecumseh, Grampa's own tree of life. He shares with the children this strong sense of ancestry, his deep love of nature, and his extensive knowledge of Indian lore. Grampa's compassion and love of family help Amanda and Jonathan accept their father's death, their mother's new husband, and the natural course of life. Grampa's last request of the twins is a one final visit to Tecumseh's glen. On this journey, the three generations strengthen their eternal bonds as they help each other in the face of danger.

Discussion Questions

1. Why does Grampa stop in a forest on a camping trip with this grandchildren and point out a pine tree and ask, "Why did lightning hit this particular pine tree?"
2. What lessons did Grampa teach Amanda and Jonathan about the eagles and nature?
3. In this story Grampa tells his grandchildren about the American Indian's way of life, its traditions and belief in being thankful for all of nature's gifts. What things in your life are you especially grateful for?
4. Grampa talks about "playing the cards life deals you the best that you can". What does he mean?
5. What did Grampa mean when he says, "open minds never stop growing"? How would you define an "open mind"?
6. What do you think about Grampa's statement, "what really counts is the quality of each day we live"?
7. Why does Nana feel that they all should make one more trip to Tecumseh's glen?
8. Grampa tells the twins not to feel sad when he dies. What does he believe happens when we die?
9. Amanda and Jonathan describe their grandfather as a bridge builder. What did they mean? Can we all build bridges for others?
10. The twins had the same dream that led them back to Tecumseh's glen. How do you think it was possible they both found an arrow point?
11. Why did Jonathan whisper, "Thank you Grampa", while looking at the American bald eagle that soared over his head?

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