

# The Boy Who Made Dragonfly: A Zuni Myth

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As readers of Tony Hillerman's detective novels know, he is a skilled interpreter of southwestern Indian cultures. In this book, first published in 1972, he recounts a Zuni myth first recorded a century ago by the anthropologist Frank Hamilton Cushing. Hillerman's version of the story, written to be read by children ten years old and up, will have equal appeal for adults with an interest in Native American culture.

"In our society," Hillerman explains, "this would be called a 'Bible story.' Like stories based on the Old Testament, this narrative is intended to teach both the history and morality of a people." It tells the consequences of a drought in which Zuni crops were ruined and the tribe was forced to accept charity from neighboring Hopis.

A Zuni myth first recorded a century ago.

## Tony Hillerman

(1925-2008) was an award-winning author and newspaperman, best known for his mystery novels set in Navajoland. He was also the author of *The Great Taos Bank Robbery and Other True Stories* (UNM Press).

### Other Books

Contemporary Popular Writers, "Included are authors, both living and dead, who were active in the early 1960s or later and remain popular in the mid-1990s ... representing several fiction and nonfiction categories, including poets, short-story writers, biographers, and other niche authors."--Page xi.

?. ?. ?. ?. ?. Oates also penned a Gothic trilogy that is "parodic" of 19th-century techniques ... PUBLICATIONS Novels ( series : Aubrey - Maturin ) Three Bear Witness . ... Translator . A Very Easy Death , by Simone de Beauvoir . Putnam , 1966 ."