

Native American Literature
Discussion Questions

Night Flying Woman: An Ojibway Narrative
by Ignatia Broker

Created by Dorothea M. Susag for OPI library project

1. What does the “Foreword” explain about impacts of the Dawes Act and the Clapp Act on the White Earth Ojibway people and their land in Minnesota?
2. Why is Ignatia Broker qualified to tell *Night Flying Woman*’s story?
3. *Night Flying Woman* is a biography told through memory and oral tradition over three generations, and the story begins with Oona’s birth. What do we learn about the Ojibway traditions that the people practiced when a child was born?
4. Explain how and why this band of Ojibways moved from place to place according to the seasons?
5. How do Oona’s dreams guide her and her people throughout her life?
6. What did Oona’s father do to help his family survive, before and after the pale strangers came and told them they had to move?
7. How did Oona’s mother adapt to the changes that came with the pale strangers?
8. What were some of the severe hardships the Ojibway people experienced with the influx Agents and soldiers and their broken promises and rules?
9. What are some specific ways Oona lives with the old and new at the same time?
10. What does Oona notice about the grandchildren? How have they changed from the children of Oona’s childhood? Where is there hope?