

Foreword Review THRILLER

Billy Buckhorn and the Rise of the Night Seers: Book Two of the Thunder Child Prophecy Series

Gary Robinson

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In Gary Robinson's series-continuing novel *Billy Buckhorn and the Rise of the Night Seers*, a Cherokee teenager's life takes a surprising turn thanks to a newcomer who brings news of an ancient tribal prophecy.

Gifted with unique talents and a strong connection to the spirit world, Billy seems destined to become the long-awaited Chosen One. He'll be charged with confronting the Night Seers of the Owl Clan across Turtle Island; the Night Seers are determined to regain control over the Middleworld. There are glimpses of Billy's past adventures present to clarify this path, showing how complex circumstances led him to this moment of becoming. Indigenous legends, terminology, and culture also wend into his exciting tale.

Indeed, in his quest to battle the Night Seers, Billy leans on his ancestral roots often, staying close to his heritage. And as he embarks on his initiation ceremony to become the Chosen One, he unveils new forces unseen by anyone in his circle. His work, he realizes, will require immense courage and resilience on his part—and it's necessary to ensure the safety of the two worlds that he inhabits. When an Osage teenager, Lisa Lookout, arrives with her family (and word of a prophecy), she complicates his path forward. Her relationship with Billy, with its hints of romance, remains significant throughout the book—if, at times, it obscures Billy's emergence as the Chosen One.

A teenager is reminded of the importance of understanding his cultural roots in *Billy Buckhorn and the Rise of the Night Seers*, a fresh novel that's enlivened by Native American history and mythology.

DANICA MORRIS (January / February 2024)

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