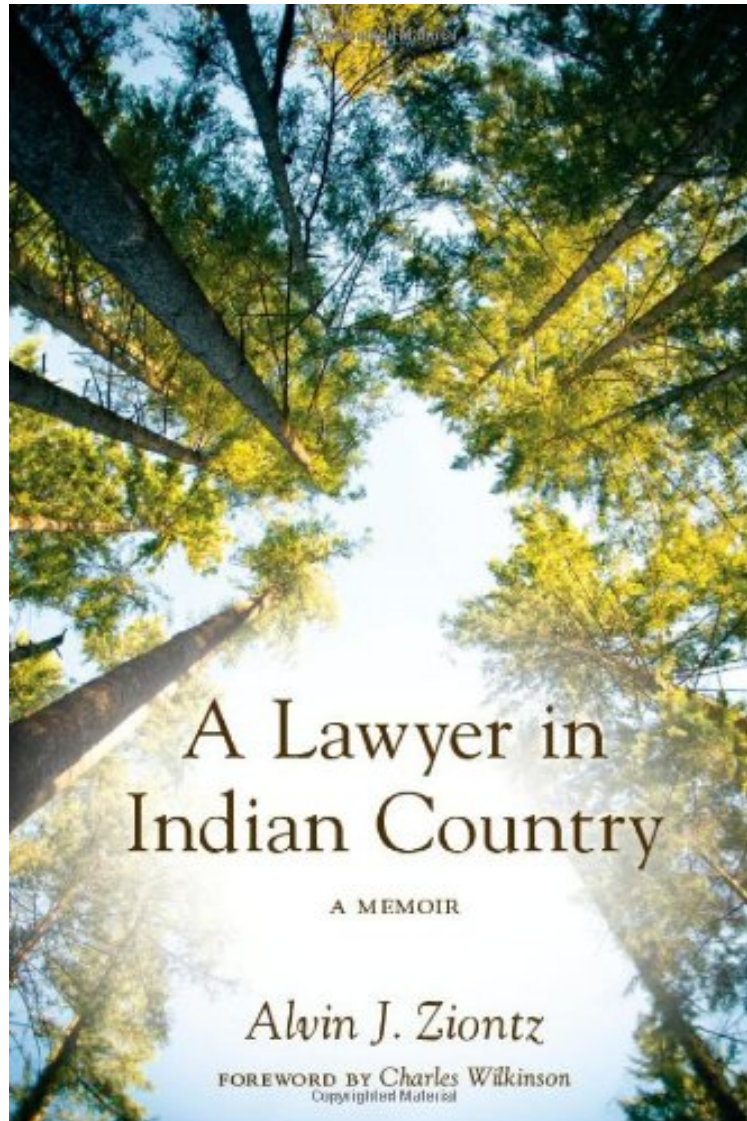



(Mobile ebook) A Lawyer in Indian Country


A Lawyer in Indian Country

Alvin J. Ziontz, Charles Wilkinson

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Alvin J. Ziontz, Charles Wilkinson : A Lawyer in Indian Country before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Lawyer in Indian Country:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great Book!By Gabrielle ParrisThis book is amazing! I am starting law school this fall and this book gave me so much inspiration. Definitely a must read!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Autumn BrownPerfect5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. This book is revelatory!By DiamondQueenA Lawyer in Indian Country - A Memoir, by Alvin J Ziontz, is much more than a memoir. This book is revelatory. The author, as a young attorney entering the life of a lawyer in Seattle in the mid

'50's, found himself drawn into a David and Goliath battle that ultimately changed the status of Native Americans in the United States, and made critical law in the United States Supreme Court. While a similar battle was being waged at the same time on behalf of African Americans in the South, this fight for Native American rights had little notice, little to no funding, and involved in opposition the almost insurmountable efforts and resources of the Attorney General of the State of Washington who had demonstrated, to quote Justice Stevens, " the most concerted official and private efforts to frustrate a decree of a federal court witnessed in the century." In a most engaging fashion, Ziontz describes his decision to move to the Pacific Northwest to establish a law practice, his early years of apprenticeship, how he found law partners, and his unusual meeting with the Makah tribe - out on the furthest tip of Continental America. Part of the fascination of this story is how a person would possibly find himself in such a situation, why he would remain, and what he would have to do, step by step to wage this lonely and Herculean battle with so little. Beyond the heroic legal battles, however, this is a story full of human interest, conflict, and humor. His Russian-Jewish background, early years in Chicago, romance with his future wife and his time as a family man, his Army stint, and attendance at the University of Chicago Law School are recounted with humor and charm. The momentous matters he encounters later are so compellingly explained that even a layperson can understand their significance. This book provides insight into the legal relationship between the United States government and the tribes of Native Americans and why we should even care in the first place. It is full of local color and amusing detail. It is, in every sense, a Story. By the book's conclusion, I felt breathless. What a close call for the United States - for who we believe we are and what we represent! What a victory for the individual spirit! This is a story of one man, without money and only his wits, determination, and sense of fairness to fall back on. His fortune was his unfailingly supportive wife, the brilliant partners whom he had found to join him, and his own willingness to learn and work tirelessly for small reward. His immigrant background must have sealed Ziontz's commitment to this battle for the soul of this country. *A Lawyer in Indian Country* is the most significant and timely book I have read in a long time. It is skillfully crafted and a pleasure to read. This is an important book. This is a story you will not forget.

In his memoir, Alvin Ziontz reflects on his more than thirty years representing Indian tribes, from a time when Indian law was little known through landmark battles that upheld tribal sovereignty. He discusses the growth and maturation of tribal government and the underlying tensions between Indian society and the non-Indian world. *A Lawyer in Indian Country* presents vignettes of reservation life and recounts some of the memorable legal cases that illustrate the challenges faced by individual Indians and tribes. As the senior attorney arguing *U.S. v. Washington*, Ziontz was a party to the historic 1974 Boldt decision that affirmed the Pacific Northwest tribes' treaty fishing rights, with ramifications for tribal rights nationwide. His work took him to reservations in Montana, Wyoming, and Minnesota, as well as Washington and Alaska, and he describes not only the work of a tribal attorney but also his personal entry into the life of Indian country. Ziontz continued to fight for tribal rights into the late 1990s, as the Makah tribe of Washington sought to resume its traditional whale hunts. Throughout his book, Ziontz traces his own path through this public history - one man's pursuit of a life built around the principles of integrity and justice. "An important and compelling story of one man's remarkable career representing Indian tribes during the golden age of the modern Indian rights movement." - Robert T. Anderson, University of Washington School of Law "Ziontz's memoir draws us into the inner world of tribal and legal strategy that shaped one of the most important social movements of the twentieth century - the struggle of Native Americans to reclaim their resources and sovereignty. Lawyers, scholars, and activists can all learn from his revealing account of partnership between a developing Indian lawyer and his tribal clients." - Carole Goldberg, Distinguished Professor of Law, UCLA "As one who was born to and lived where Al Ziontz went - Indian Country - I am deeply grateful for this memoir. *A Lawyer in Indian Country* is the story of a gifted attorney on the frontlines of Native legal reform who also brought great conscience to his work. As a Southern Cheyenne, I value both immensely, but in the end it is his defining and transcendent empathy and humanity regarding Native America that matter to me most." - W. Richard West, Jr., Founding Director and Director Emeritus, National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian Institution

Ziontz infuses wit and humor into his narrative, yet the heartbreak and frustration surrounding Indian rights is palpable.... *A Lawyer in Indian Country* is a must read for anyone interested in Native-white relations, Native rights, of Pacific Northwest history. Simply put, Ziontz provides a riveting account of struggle and success and goes beyond court documents and affidavits to reveal the people behind the cases, and the man behind the people. (*Pacific Northwest Quarterly*) *A Lawyer in Indian Country* is a compelling legal and personal story Readers will find this richly textured memoir an inspiring story, with the author deserving high praise for advancing the constitutional rights of American Indians. (*The Oregon Quarterly*) An important and compelling story of one man's remarkable career representing Indian tribes during the golden age of the modern Indian rights movement. (Robert T. Anderson, University of Washington School of Law) Ziontz's memoir draws us into the inner world of tribal and legal strategy that shaped one of the most important social movements of the twentieth century the struggle of Native Americans to reclaim their resources and sovereignty. Lawyers, scholars, and activists can all learn from his revealing account of

partnership between a developing Indian lawyer and his tribal clients. (Carole Goldberg, Distinguished Professor of Law, UCLA)As one who was born to and lived where Al Ziontz wentIndian CountryI am deeply grateful for this memoir. A Lawyer in Indian Country is the story of a gifted attorney on the frontlines of Native legal reform who also brought great conscience to his work. As a Southern Cheyenne, I value both immensely, but in the end it is his defining and transcendent empathy and humanity regarding Native America that matter to me most. (W. Richard West, Jr., Founding Director and Director Emeritus, National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian Institution)About the AuthorAs the senior attorney arguing U.S. v. Washington, Ziontz was a party to the historic 1974 Boldt decision that affirmed the Pacific Northwest tribes' treaty fishing rights, with ramifications for tribal rights nationwide. His work took him to reservations in Montana, Wyoming, and Minnesota, as well as Washington and Alaska, and he describes not only the work of a tribal attorney but also his personal entry into the life of Indian country. Ziontz continued to fight for tribal rights into the late 1990s, as the Makah tribe of Washington sought to resume its traditional whale hunts. Throughout his book, Ziontz traces his own path through this public history - one man's pursuit of a life built around the principles of integrity and justice. DESCRIPTION: In his memoir, Alvin Ziontz reflects on his more than thirty years representing Indian tribes, from a time when Indian law was little known through landmark battles that upheld tribal sovereignty. He discusses the growth and maturation of tribal government and the underlying tensions between Indian society and the non-Indian world. A Lawyer in Indian Country presents vignettes of reservation life and recounts some of the memorable legal cases that illustrate the challenges faced by individual Indians and tribes.