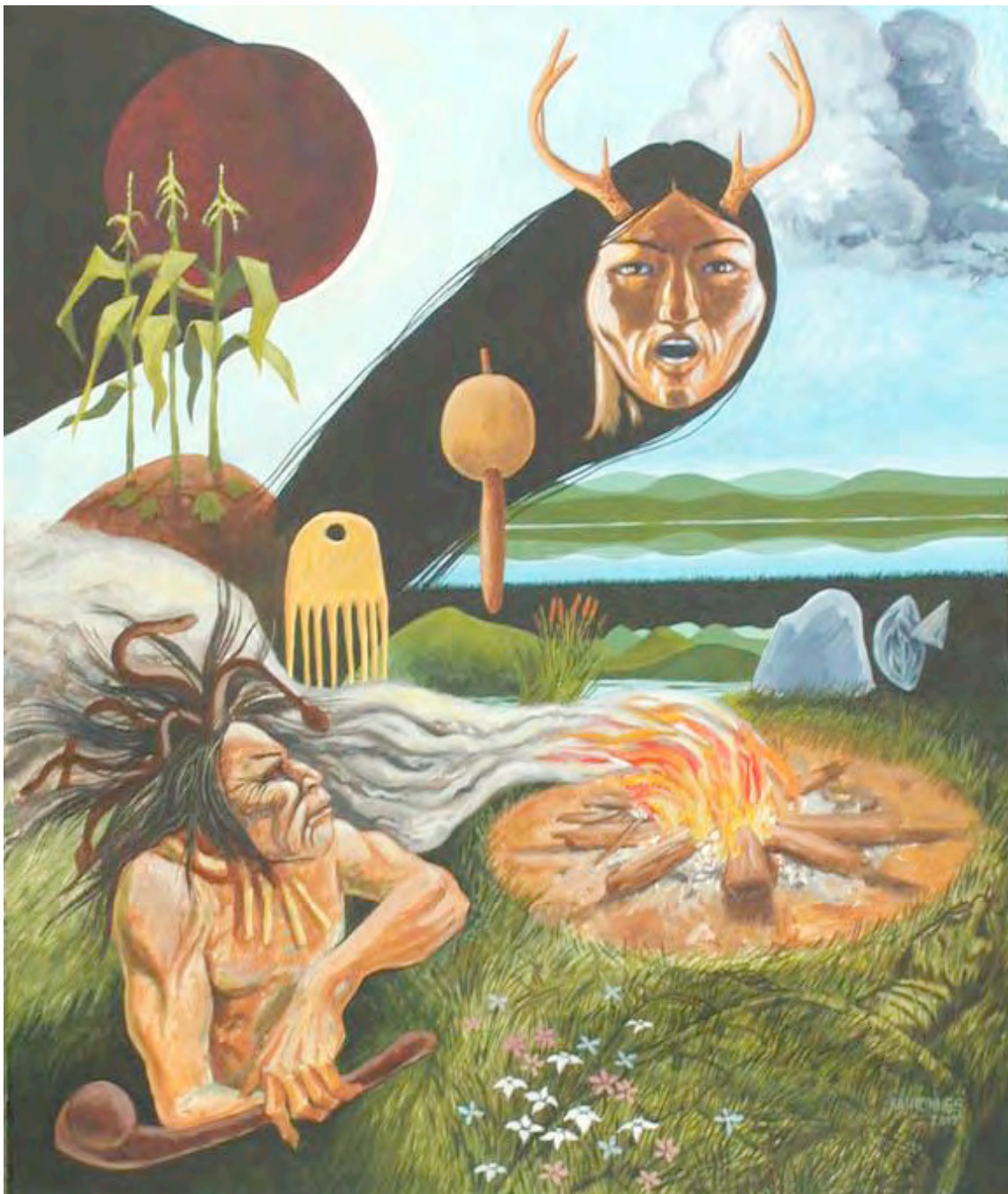




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Frontcover: SACRED EPIC OF THE PEACEMAKER Artist: John Kahionhes Fadden (Mohawk). Reprinted by permission.

ARTISTS DESCRIPTION: In the upper left-hand corner is the eclipse of the sun with developing corn. This is when the corn was knee-high in Seneca country, and there was an eclipse of the sun, and this served as a sign in the sky to a reluctant group of Senecas [when the Black Sun persuaded the westernmost Senecas to follow Deganawidah]. The man in the upper middle represents both the Peacemaker [Deganawidah] and Aiionwatha [Hiawatha] singing the Peace Song that helped turn the mind of Atadaho [the cannibal warlord, Atotarho, powerful Onondaga sorcerer with snakes in his hair]. The antlers signify leadership, and the gourd rattles accompany the Peace Song. In the background are clouds representing natural forces at work, and below the clouds is a lake and hills. This symbolizes the People of The Hills/Onondaga, and the lake is Onondaga Lake where the League was formed. In front of the lake are symbols of the original Nations [the Five Nations of the Iroquois League of Nations founded by the Prophet Deganawidah and his first convert, Hiawatha]. From right to left are: People of the Flint (Mohawk), People of the Upright Stone (Oneida), People of the Hills (Onondaga), People of the Swamp (Cayuga), and People of the Great Mountain (Seneca). Just to the left of these national symbols is a bone comb symbol of the removal of the snakes from Atadarhos head [by Hiawatha, whose name means, He Who Combs]. Below the comb is Atadarho [who became Firekeeper, Wampum Keeper and Chief of Chiefs of the League of Nations], and as the Peace Song takes effect, the war club is loosened from his hand. To his right is the symbol of the Council Fire, the gathering place of the Five Nations, of clans, and of family. Below that are further natural elements flowers that grow in the grasses, and beneath these plants can be seen the image of a turtle, representing Turtle Island North America.

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