

The Story of
Dancing Boy
appears beneath the Calendar
Pad as a permanent reference.



DANCING BOY - BLACKFEET INDIAN - GLACIER NATIONAL PARK, MONTANA



ROUTE OF THE *Streamlined* **EMPIRE BUILDER**

BETWEEN CHICAGO AND THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST VIA GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

DECEMBER 1946

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY EXTENDS CORDIAL
BEST WISHES FOR THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

NOVEMBER 1946

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30

JANUARY 1947

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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The New Empire Builder



DANCING BOY

Blackfeet Indian

Winold Reiss, the distinguished artist whose Blackfeet Indian portraits have been presented on Great Northern Railway calendars for several years, went to Montana in 1943 for a series of new pictures.

Mr. Reiss decided to include portraits of young Blackfeet in his new collection, and made the necessary arrangements for models with his friends among the elders of the tribe. The chiefs pow-wow'd, then announced that Dancing Boy would be first to sit for his picture.

The artist had established his studio in a small room behind a barber shop. There was an extra barber chair stored there, so Mr. Reiss utilized it for a model stand. It was an ideal arrangement, for the chair could be easily turned.

Early on a Saturday morning Chief Last Star, an old-time friend of the artist, appeared at the studio. With him was an 11-year-old boy, dressed in beautiful, beaded buckskin and a fancy headdress.

"This is my son, Dancing Boy," said beaming Chief Last Star. "He is our best young dancer. He is ready for his picture."

Mr. Reiss nodded instant approval. The lad was a superb Blackfeet type. The artist wiped colored chalk from his hands, then extended the right one toward the boy, speaking a greeting in Blackfeet. Dancing Boy hesitantly shook hands and smiled. The ice had been broken—or so Mr. Reiss thought.

"All right, Dancing Boy," the artist said, "we'll begin painting your picture right now. Just climb up in the chair."

Dancing Boy looked at the chair, then at his father, and a junior-sized war whoop rolled out of his throat. In early American language the model-to-be announced that he was not getting into that chair.

Last Star was amazed; but the artist, who knows the Blackfeet, was amused. He resumed work on an unfinished portrait, knowing that a corner conference between big and little Indians would develop the reason for the rebellion—and, the reason soon popped out.

"He is afraid you will cut off his braids," said the father. "He is proud of his long hair."

"Young man," said Mr. Reiss gravely (but with a twinkle in his mind's eye) "I would not want to paint you if your hair was not long, for I wouldn't be painting a chief. Come, let's get started on your picture."

So, munching black cough drops (the lad's favorite confection) Dancing Boy sat in the barber chair for the portrait which appears on Great Northern Railway's 1947 Indian calendar.

Dancing Boy, whose family name is Calvin Last Star, now is a long-legged lad of 14 in the final phase of his high school work in Browning, Mont., headquarters of the Blackfeet Indian reservation, which adjoins Glacier National Park.

He lives with his parents on a small cattle ranch near Browning. Dancing Boy has a ranch of his own too. He is an active member of the 4-H club and is developing an interest in Blackfeet tribal affairs.

Because Dancing Boy is a full-blooded Blackfeet he is expected to become a member of several tribal societies.

He already has been initiated into the Bear, Brave Heart, Tepee, Medicine Pipe and Medicine Smoke societies. He will become a member of other traditional Blackfeet groups as he becomes older.

The most accomplished young dancer among the Blackfeet, Dancing Boy is remembered by thousands of visitors to Glacier National Park. He was an infant when his parents, Theodore and Emma Last Star, were chosen, with several other tribal members, to represent the Blackfeet each summer in the park.

Dressed in magnificent deerskin-and-bead costumes the Blackfeet provide a memorable greeting to vacationers who come to Glacier Park between June 15 and September 15 on the Great Northern's new streamlined Empire Builder. Passengers on this superbly modern train become acquainted with the Blackfeet before arriving in the park, for tribal legends, artcraft designs and Artist Reiss' portraits of its outstanding chieftains form the decorative scheme of the train's observation-lounge car.

Glacier Park's rustic, restful hotels and chalets were reopened to the vacation-hungry in 1946 after having been closed during the war years.

If you were unable to include this glorious mountain wonderland on your last summer's vacation itinerary, plan to see it this year. Take the streamlined Empire Builder to the park's rail entrances for the most memorable vacation of your life.

Inquiries about vacation travel in Glacier National Park in Montana and the Pacific Northwest should be addressed to the Passenger Traffic Manager, Great Northern Railway, St. Paul 1, Minn.