



The Test-Theme in North American Mythology

By Robert Harry Lowie

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Excerpt: .are not to be considered in interpreting the character of the preceding narrative. For the Pueblo myth, however, this line of argument is not conclusive. A definite refutation of the naturalistic theory depends on the available material. It is demonstrable that all the trial-incidents found in the Pueblo versions are also found in other combinations. It has also been shown that none of the adventures related in the second part can be used to enforce the naturalistic argument based on the initial portion. Nevertheless, we are still confronted by the combination of the testtheme with the visit to the sky, descent from the sun, and magical birth. In Pueblo mythology there are not, as on the North Pacific coast, human heroes undergoing precisely the same adventures as the Sun s children; nor can it be directly proved, as in the case of the Star-Boy...



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