

OKC DISTANT THUNDER – GRANDMA JINGLE DRESS SIDE

GRANDMA JINGLE DRESS

(confidentially)

This is my powwow dress. But now I wear it every single day. Why? Because the jingles keep evil spirits away. You think I'm crazy, don't you? Well watch--(She jumps up and down, listens.) See? No evil spirits!

When the children hear me coming they say, "Tell us another story, Grandma Jingle Dress!" Oh, so many stories. I sewed every single bell on this dress myself and that's how many stories I've told! Some were passed down from my elders and some I saw with my own eyes.

Like what happened at the Blackfeet powwow of 1996.
(The story comes to life as she tells it.)

That's little Darrell Waters in the ring. He can do the Fancy Dance better than anyone. That's why they call him Dancing Waters. The people cheer!

Then, on the sidelines, a Native man and a White lady begin to have a terrible fight. That's his mother and father. (drum hit) His father walks away. Little Darrell runs after him, but his mother drags him off.

The powwow swirls away. In its place a man of today appears. His suit and tie are fancy and he is holding the case of an important business man and talking on his phone. Listen carefully! He is about to utter four words that men from the dawn of time have used to defend their honor.

DARRELL

I am not lost!

GRANDMA JINGLE DRESS

Oh, he's lost alright!