The American Indian Belongs

Luther Standing Bear

The American Indian is of the soil.

He fits into the landscape,
for the hand that fashioned the continent
also fashioned the man for his surroundings.

He once grew as naturally as the wild sunflowers,
he belongs just as the buffalo belonged....

Out of the Indian approach to life
there came a great freedom,
an intense and absorbing respect for life,
enriching faith in a Supreme Power,
and principles of truth, honesty, generosity, equity,
and brotherhood as a guide to mundane relations.