

The Original Legend

Years ago, in the dim ages,
In the valley of the Delaware,
Lived a peaceful tribe of Indians-
Lenni Lenape their name was.

Deer and bear, wildcat and panther
Through the forest oft they hunted.
On the bosom of the river
Peacefully they fished and paddled.
Round their busy village wigwams
Still the chase they nimbly followed.
In this state of bliss so happy
Many moons they lived contented,
Springtime blossomed into summer,
Summer into autumn ripened,
Autumn died on winter's bosom;
Thus the seasons in succession
Never ending seemed to pass on.

But, behold, a cloud arising
Changed how soon this peaceful aspect.
Neighboring tribes, and distant enemies,
Suddenly disturbed their hunting.

Then Chingachgook, aged chieftain
Of the tribe, made quick inquiry:

"Who will go and carry warning
Of this dire and dreadful danger

To all Delawares, our brothers?"

But none wished to make the journey.

The Legend of the First Elangomat

Years ago, in bygone ages
in the Boy Scouts of America
lived a brotherhood of cheerful service.
Order of the Arrow its name was.

Cheer and spirit, service and friendship
through the forests Scouts were given.

In this state of bliss so happy,
many moons they lived contented

But behold a dream arising
blossomed forth a renaissance.
Like a pebble thrown in water
Who Looks Beyond called for helping
every candidate to succeed.

A Listener hearing of this
dreamed of members as examples!

"Who will take their Ordeal again
doing all the tests beside them?
Who will go and fill this dream
by their actions, for our brothers?"

**For said he, "Who serves his fellows
is of all his fellows, greatest!"**

The ask was hard. It was unknown
to undertake the Ordeal again.
So none wished to make the journey.

Then spoke up the noble Uncas,
Worthy son of the old chieftain,
"Oh my father, I am ready;
Send me on this gracious errand.
If we would remain a nation.
We must stand by one another.

Let us both urge on our kindred
Firm devotion to our brethren
And our cause. Ourselves forgetting,
Let us catch the higher vision.
Let us find the greater beauty
In the life of cheerful service."

Off upon the trail they started,
Old Chingachgook and young Uncas;
And in every tribal village
Some were found who were quite willing
To spend themselves in others' service.
When at last the fierce marauders
Were forced back to their own country
And peace was declared between them,
They who first themselves had offered
For the service of their Brethren,
To the places most respected
By the chieftain were promoted:
**For, said he, who serves his fellows
Is, of all his fellows, greatest!**
As a seed dropped by the sower
On good soil bears quick fulfillment:
So this saying of their chieftain
In their hearts found glad acceptance
And they asked that in some manner
He should make its memory lasting.
So together fast and firmly
Chief Chingachgook bound these warriors
In a great and honored Order,
Into which can be admitted
Only those who their own interests
Can forget in serving others.
And so firm must be their purpose
So to live, that their companions,
Taking note of their devotion,
Shall propose them to the Order,
We, therefore, to them succeeding
To the present day perpetuate
The names and token of this
Brotherhood of Cheerful Service
Called by the Delawares:
Wimachtendienk, Wingolauchsik,
Witahemui!

Then spoke up the First Exemplar,
worthy seeker of the Arrow.
"Oh my mentor, I am ready.
Send me on this gracious errand.
If they are to see the Arrow
we must stand by one another
and our candidates will follow.
Let us both urge by example
members to do the ordeal again.

Let us catch the higher vision
let us find the greater beauty
in the life of cheerful service."

His night alone was filled with thoughts
of the new trail he was blazing.
In his silence, fasted and worked.
The First Elangomat was an
example for his candidates
and for all Elangomats after.

The challenges of the Ordeal
strangely gave him no misery,
Instead, he was filled with silent cheer!
He was first to learn of this great
joyous path to self-fulfillment!

Members who saw were shocked in wonder.
"He keeps the night alone and silence?
Fasts while working hard" they wondered?
Is he doing the ordeal again?
Is he confused? What's the meaning?"
Filled with spirit, caught the vision.
Next Ordeal all of the members
Chose to take the tests like First!

Elangomats followed simple
actions of first Elangomat.
Our aged founder Urner Goodman
Rejoiced in our new dawn of spirit!

Vision traveled from Looks Beyond
to your own Elangomats
like rings around that tiny pebble.
Will you aim for this great target?
Will you choose again the Tests and
giving of your heart and spirit,
build a world of love for others?

Guild of Induction Experience Designers
elangomat.org GIED@fifteenblazes.org v07