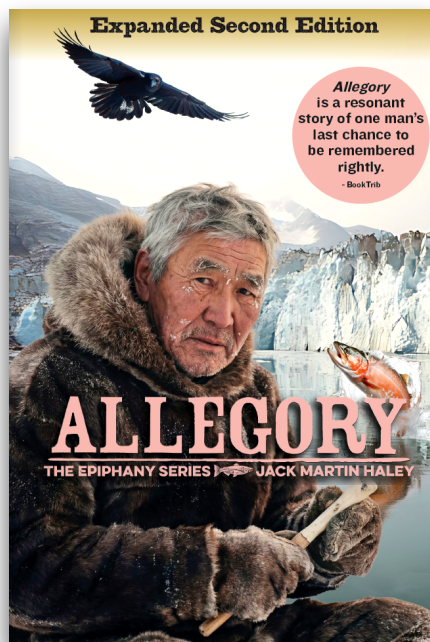




Jack Martin Haley

Author | Anthropologist | Storyteller

Raised in Alaska's interior | Devoted to Gwich'in culture & the Yukon River Flats

Allegory is a beautifully woven tapestry rich in storytelling, cultural lore, legend, and humanity, drawing readers into a world shaped by community and heritage. Its characters are deeply compelling and delightfully quirky. Honoring the wisdom and spirit of the people, the tale celebrates the enduring power of story to connect past and present.

– T. Winikoff

Illustrations

The illustrations of *Allegory* are a labor of love by Jack Martin Haley's youngest granddaughter, Melissa Erin Haley. Her heritage is Apache (Jicarella) and Ute (Ute Mountain). She is entirely self-taught! Her graphite artistry brings the soul of Gwich'in culture in Alaska to life, chapter by chapter!



Author Media Kit — Available Now to share the profound resilience of the human spirit, and the haunting tale of legacy, sacrifice, perseverance, and rebirth.

The Epiphany Series

Jack Martin Haley's *The Epiphany Series* of books launches with *Allegory* – the first chapter in a sweeping journey of myth, faith, purpose, and transformation. *The Shaman*, *Redemption*, and *Dream Talker* to follow.

ABOUT Jack Martin Haley

Jack Martin Haley grew up in Alaska's interior and studied anthropology at the University of Alaska, where he focused on the Gwich'in culture and dialects of the Yukon River flats.

The tales featured in this work were woven from his own vivid memories of stories that the author heard and witnessed when living within this indigenous community.

These rich and vibrant memories lingered in the author's memories for over 50 years. Now in his 84th year, Mr. Haley has brought these experiences back to life through his own interpretation of the characters and experiences that he had while in Alaska.

Allegory, the first of the Epiphany Series, is a sacred return to elder voices and warm memories of being embraced by a cloistered community that made him who he is today.



It has been a lifelong journey and calling - from notes scribbled in a field book in Fort Yukon all the way to Allegory, the book you will hold in your hand.

– Jack Martin Haley

ABOUT Allegory — The Epiphany Series

Amid the icy waters of the Yukon Delta and the vast landscapes of Alaska, *Allegory* unfolds as a haunting tale of legacy, survival, and transformation through the eyes of a proud elder, a struggling family, and a young dreamer. Jack Martin Haley weaves an allegorical masterpiece that reflects on the resilience of the human spirit.

At the heart of their stories is the epic metaphor of the salmon's migration– and enduring symbol of sacrifice, perseverance, and rebirth.

As Fred grapples with his past and the relentless pull of his ancestry as “Christian Grandson,” *Allegory* explores themes of tradition, faith and the delicate balance between embracing change and preserving one's roots.



Scan to enjoy this BookTrib conversation:
From Oral Tradition to Novel: Jack Martin Haley Reflects on the Making of Allegory

Haley's vivid prose and deeply human characters invite readers into a world where every choice, every struggle, is imbued with profound meaning.

At 84, Jack Martin Haley has written a book that is both an act of remembrance and an act of faith that stories held long enough will eventually find their moment. Allegory richly rewards the wait.

– BookTrib

Suggested Discussion Topics

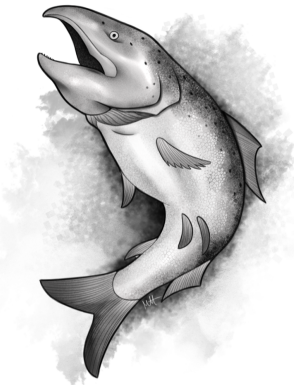
- ◆ You first recorded these stories in 1958 and began writing in 1974 — yet the Epiphany series wasn't born until you were 83. What finally brought it to life after all these years?
- ◆ Fred, the elder facing mortality, and Jere, the young man searching for direction — how much of yourself do you see in each of those characters?
- ◆ You spent significant time among the Gwich'in people of the Yukon River Flats. What responsibility did you feel as an outsider telling stories rooted in their culture and traditions?
- ◆ Your book is built around life's transformative moments. Can you share a personal epiphany — one that genuinely changed the direction of your own life?
- ◆ One of the book's central tensions is tradition versus change. Do you feel the Gwich'in stories and culture you encountered in 1958 are at risk of being lost?
- ◆ Why is Allegory first in the series? Which is next and why?
- ◆ Why is it important for you to highlight Gwich'in culture? What do you want readers to learn from these stories?
- ◆ As a vaanooodlit (white man), you have reflected on the negative impact of the white man on the People. What do you think readers need to understand about cultural preservation?
- ◆ Most authors hope to make their mark early in their careers. What does it mean to you to be releasing what may be your most important work at 83?
- ◆ If a reader finishes Allegory and has just one takeaway — one quiet realization they carry with them — what would you hope that is?
- ◆ Do you have any last thoughts that you'd like to share with our audience today?
- ◆ How can people purchase your book?



A Conversation with Jack Martin Haley

Tell me why you are drawn to the shorter, message-heavy allegorical style novel.

The Gwich'in style of storytelling derives from an oral tradition that occurs around cook fires and gatherings of any sort. These stories rely on the memories of the storytellers, whose style is as different as day and night. The oral tradition is universal. The Bible evolved from storytellers.



The stories in Allegory were gathered from at least three Athabascan storytellers, Mr. Johnny Ross from Arctic Village whose Seth Thomas alarm clock becomes a focal point; Mr. Pete Simple of Fort Yukon whom I assisted with publishing some of his stories in The Alaskan Sportsman, and Mrs. Sophie Paul, wife of Fred Paul. As one storyteller said, "You talk too long, the peoples go to sleep."

Jack Martin Haley's *Allegory* transports you to the rugged terrain of Alaska as he explores the themes of memory, legacy, and the inevitability of growing old...

This book is from your Epiphany Series. What are the series of Epiphanies that led to the advent of *Allegory* and the titles to come?

An epiphany is best described by C.S. Lewis' "Surprised by Joy" as a series of happenings or events leading to a life-changing event. The word "Epiphany" comes from the Biblical tale of the Magi, discovering the Star which changed lives. My book, Allegory, is a parable, in which people, things and events have symbolic meaning. There are a number of epiphanies in this series. For each character it is often a time of learning. The migration of the salmon which plays a big part in Allegory is a symbol of life, birth, growth, struggle, peril, climax and fulfilment.



Stay in touch.

Discover a story of epiphanies great and small, of humanity in its most vulnerable and triumphant moments.



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