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Toshio Sei

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Toshio Sei : Knifewing Rainbow Man in Zuni Jewelry before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Knifewing Rainbow Man in Zuni Jewelry:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great idea; poor executionBy Connecticut consumerThe main value of this book is in the photos, though the captions aren't as plentiful or informative as one would like. The dollar values given for each piece are already obsolete and should not have been included. Sei's text is largely derivative; more can be learned by reading the classic source materials the author cites. English is apparently not the author's first language, yet no one at the publishing company bothered to edit the misspellings and stilted language, or correct the words that are almost the right one, but not quite. All of this is annoying, but the most irksome feature of this book is that it is really a vehicle for the author to show off his own collection of Rainbow Man and Knifewing jewelry. A more objective approach would have been seemlier and perhaps more comprehensive. To sum up: this book is only moderately informative. It could have been much more useful if it had been developed and redacted by a knowledgeable co-author or editor.2 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Great resource for Zuni JewelryBy Chris HemannAs a long time Zuni fetish collector, I enjoyed this book because of the wonderful pictures and information about the artists. I am not one who enjoys reading, so this is a great way to get me to learn, lots of photos and useful info. I also like the way the series covers the different topics by category, ,as I enjoy looking at the similar, yet distinctive styles displayed together.I recommend this to collectors and those who want to learn more about a very talented community of Artists from Zuni Pueblo. I would offer one word of caution, Be careful, collecting this wonderful art can be addictive but also great fun!4 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Great reference guide for a collector, by a collector expertBy Concord HillI'm a novice in collecting Zuni artworks, in the area of their jewelry, Toshio has been a true guide, through the Facebook group through his books. Because of his guidance the discussions of other collectors, I was steered away from a fake told why it was a fake, then found a jewel at Goodwill, of all places. I chose the piece, a Rainbow Man, because of the excellent workmanship a different style which included some silver pieces dividing the stones. I posted a picture of the piece was directed by other collectors to look at an identical piece attributed to a Zuni artist featured in this 1st book. Toshio came in on the conversation admitted that he had learned new facts about the piece the artist would be discussed fully in the 2nd book. He didn't hold back though,

like to make us wait to buy the book...he told us all about the artist he had previously not heard of. I don't understand the complaints by one reviewer that Toshio is trying to profit from his collection because he buys them cheap then values them high. (All collectors want to buy cheap!) One reviewer, or commenter, made the valid point the evaluations can range from what you'd expect to pay in a high price gallery vs what you may pay in a small town antique store, or a Goodwill for that matter. As for the piece I found, Toshio thinks he may have undervalued it in his books. Forget all that irrelevant stuff buy his books if you want to know more about Zuni artists jewelry.

This original book delves into the origins and contemporary interpretations of the Knifewing god in Zuni mythology and the sacred being Rainbow Man from ancient Zuni traditions, neither of which is an all-powerful and important Kachina. This thorough study of the subject was undertaken to establish the identities of twenty-eight, mid-20th century and current jewelers who made silver and mosaic inlay pins, bracelets, bolo ties and other ornaments. 168 color photos display subtle variations that indicate a particular master's work and distinctive style. Detailed analysis explains the changes and connections among early and recent makers and their individual styles, materials, and designs.

About the Author Toshio Sei is an avid collector and investigator of Zuni jewelry who set out to identify the makers of each distinct style in Knifewing and Rainbow Man pieces. He lives and works in Yamaguchi, Japan.