

The Legend of the Bluebonnet - a Comanche tale explaining the existence of the bluebonnet in Texas

Beginning:
Characters - She-Who-Is-Alone, the People, the shaman
Setting - Texas "a long time ago"

Middle:
Problem - The Great Spirits have asked for a sacrifice from the People.

End:
Solution - The Great Spirits give them a sign that their sacrifice was accepted.

A long time ago, after a hard winter, there was a great drought upon the land. The land was dying, and so were the People.

She-Who-Is-Alone is a young girl who lost her family because of the famine. All she has left to remember them by is her doll

Doll: Made of buckskin, face made with juice from berries, blue feathers from the bird who cries, "Jay, jay, jay!"

The People ask the Great Spirits to tell them what they must do to bring back life to the Earth.

A warrior doesn't think his new bow could be the sacrifice. A woman doesn't think her new blanket could be the sacrifice.

She-Who-Is-Alone looks down at her doll and knows what she must do.

She takes the last burning stick and goes to the hill where the shaman spoke to the Great Spirits.

She remembers how her mother made the doll and her father gave the blue feathers. She "thrusts the doll into the fire before she can change her mind.

She-Who-Is-Alone scatters the ashes to the "Home of the winds." She falls asleep on the hill.

She-Who-Is-Alone wakes to find beautiful flowers everywhere she had scattered the ashes.

The People wake, find the flowers as a sign of forgiveness

They dance and give thanks to the Great Spirits

A warm shower begins to fall over the land.

She-Who-Is-Alone is given a new name: One-Who-Dearly-Loves-Her-People

Conclusion:
"Every spring, the Great Spirits remember the sacrifice of a young girl and fill the land, the land we now call Texas, with beautiful blue flowers. Even to this very day."