



Universiteit
Leiden
The Netherlands

The savage as living ghost: representations of Native Americans and scholarly failures to dismantle the notion of the savage
Chen, C.

Citation

Chen, C. (2017, March 21). *The savage as living ghost: representations of Native Americans and scholarly failures to dismantle the notion of the savage*. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/47360>

Version: Not Applicable (or Unknown)

License: [Licence agreement concerning inclusion of doctoral thesis in the Institutional Repository of the University of Leiden](#)

Downloaded from: <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/47360>

Note: To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).

Cover Page



Universiteit Leiden



The handle <http://hdl.handle.net/1887/47360> holds various files of this Leiden University dissertation

Author: Chen, C.

Title: The savage as living ghost: representations of Native Americans and scholarly failures to dismantle the notion of the savage

Issue Date: 2017-03-21

Acknowledgements

Writing a PhD thesis is a process full of ups and downs. Sometimes it felt like climbing a precipitous mountain, where I could hardly see the direction, and sometimes it felt like taking a lift, where I just enjoyed the speed. In the process of writing my dissertation, circumstances rolled in and out like the ocean's tide. A successful sailing depended heavily on the constant support, encouragement and help from so many people.

Big applauds first go to my two excellent supervisors Frans-Willem Korsten and Maria Boletsi, who worked like my academic father and mother. They have, each in their own way, raised me up from a naïve student to a grown-up and more independent scholar. I particularly want to thank Frans-Willem for his guidance, suggestions and humor, as well as for his trust in me and my work and for his constant back-up and a source of inspiration and motivation. I am also very grateful for Maria, whose efficiency and critical thinking impressed me enormously. Thank you also, Maria, for your trust and willingness to give me a valuable chance to publish the article.

My colleagues in LUCAS, particularly those in the Modern and Contemporary Studies, have helped me to develop a critical vision. I would like to thank Yasco Horsman and Pepita Hesselberth for the permission to attend their wonderful classes, which had a decisive influence on my initial stage of PhD study. Thanks go to Ernst van Alphen for holding many interesting seminars in Leiden University, where I could join in the heated discussions and exchange ideas with other participants. I also owe thanks to my fellow PhD candidates, Gerlov van Engelenhoven, Tessa de Zeeuw, Sara Polak, Looi van Kessel, Inge 't Hart, Marijn van Dijk, Mark O'Donnell, Thomas Bragdon, Nike van Helden, Tine Nederveen, and Emma de Vries. Thank you for coming together in various seminars and exchanging ideas. Our acquaintance during these meetings turned into a valuable friendship. A special place in this group belongs to Thomas: thanks for translating German scripts into English.

I also owe many thanks to Blair Marie Williams and Tyler Sage, my editors, for brushing up the text and insightful comments. Thanks go to Tessa for her valuable help with the Dutch version of this dissertation's summary.

I also want to thank all the participants and organizers of the seminars and workshops I attended organized by NICA (Netherlands Institute for Cultural Analysis Seminar) and OLS (The Netherlands Research School for Literary Studies). Through engagements with these activities, I had the chance to exchange ideas with other PhD students, which helped to broad my vision and cultivate my interdisciplinary interest.

For the financial support of my project, I am grateful to The China Scholarship Council (CSC) for offering the funding for my stay in the Netherlands. Also to LUCAS and LUF, whose support made a conference trip to the States possible. I was always helped by Korrie Korevaart, Lia ten Brink and Viola Stoop, and Alyssa Westhoek from the secretary's office of LUCAS. I thank them for always being efficient, helpful and, warm-hearted. I am equally grateful for the chance provided by LUCAS, so that I could be one of the organizer of the International Graduate Conference "Breaking the Rules"

29-30 January 2015. Thanks also: Nouzha Baba, Katarzyna Durys, Wieneke Jansen and Thijs Porck. It was a great pleasure to work with your guys.

Warm thanks also go to my Chinese friends, Nannan He, Xinrong Ma, Yujing Tan, Yingguang Li, Chunli Song, Ai Zhang, Jia Liu, Mushi Zhou, Le Zhang, Xinyu Ma, Xiao Hu, Chao Du, Shimu Zhou, Jiyu Zhang, Tingting Hui, Zexu Guan, Chunyan Ming, and Yue Gao. Thank you for your generous friendship, company, and support.

My heartfelt gratitude goes to Jeannette Koekman for her constant encouragements and supports. As a mother of three sons, she also set a good example for me to be a good mother. I also owe thanks to Paul van der Stelt for all the interesting talks together and for being a devoted friend through good and bad times. I am deeply grateful to Karin Lesnik-Oberstein, a professor in Children's literature from the University of Reading, for her first introducing Leiden University to me in 2011.

Thanks go to my uncle Xiangyun Wang and aunt Fuying Shen for guiding me to the field of literature. Thanks go to my lovely grandfather, whose persistence and optimistic attitude was, is and will still be a treasure for me. My earnest gratitude to my dear parents, Yan Chen and Junling Wang, whom I cannot thank too much. Thanks for your love, patience, trust, and unconditional supports, particularly thanks for taking the long and tiring journeys from our hometown Chengwu to the Netherlands to visit us and help us take great care of Zhongping. I am proud to be your daughter. I also owe many thanks to Hui Chen, my dear twin sister for her care, supports, and love. Wherever I am, I know that you are always there for me. I am deeply thankful that my son, Zhongping Wu (niba), a little explorer, has brought so much happiness to my life. I love you forever. At last, I am grateful to my husband Changsheng Wu for his harsh but (de)constructive criticism, for pushing me forward, and most of all, for his simple, sincere and strong love, trust and supports.