

# Spirits of the Sea

Looking closely at this image offers a visual connection between the earth and the sea. Along the shore, spirits of native people in communion with another native spirit of the sea come together.

Dolphin spirits could be felt all through the waters. A feeling of them diving can be seen in the wave. Yet, the entire half is as a whale tale. Their spirits can be seen in the clouds.

There was a time I was a member of an organization referred to as the Native American Traders Guild. We traveled all around the western United States doing shows. One day I went to one of these shows in the desert and a native friend of mine saw my painting. He said this painting reminded him of part of his tribal ancient stories. I asked what it was because I didn't know his people were connected to dolphins. He explained that his people inhabited islands off the coast.

He said there was a time when the islands had become too crowded, and so the elders went to speak to the Earthmother regarding the problem. In their plea, they explained the problem and asked if the Earthmother could help. The Earthmother explained that she would help them. She said that in four days time she would build a great rainbow bridge that the people could cross. But in order to cross it, the people would have to trust the path they walk.

Excited, the elders returned to the people and told them what the Earthmother had said. Four days passed and the rainbow bridge started forming. The people began to cross over it. Higher and higher they went until they almost lost sight of the ground. Fearful, they began to lose their trust and the rainbow bridge started crumbling beneath their feet. They started falling and tumbling into the ocean far below them. But it was said the Earthmother cared too much, so she turned them all into dolphins.

Now when the people look at the ocean and see a dolphin, they see ancient relative that has come to visit them. Greetings relative we are related.