

Indigenous book list

Fiction:

TITLE: The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian

AUTHOR: Sherman Alexie

ISBN13: 978-0316013697

PAGES: 288

GENRE: Fiction/Humour by Native American author

SYNOPSIS: Based on the author's own experiences, and coupled with poignant drawings by Ellen Forney that reflect the character's art, this semi-autobiography chronicles the contemporary adolescence of one Native American boy as he attempts to break away from the life he was destined to live. Heartbreaking, funny, and beautifully written.

TITLE: Song of Batoche

AUTHOR: Maia Caron

ISBN13: 978-1553804994

PAGES: 372

GENRE: Native American Fiction

SYNOPSIS: Louis Riel arrives at Batoche in 1884 to help the Métis fight for their lands and discovers that the rebellious outsider Josette Lavoie is a granddaughter of the famous chief Big Bear, whom he needs as an ally. But Josette learns of Riel's hidden agenda - to establish a separate state with his new church at its head - and refuses to help him. Only when the great Gabriel Dumont promises her that he will not let Riel fail does she agree to join the cause. In this raw wilderness on the brink of change, the lives of seven unforgettable characters converge, each one with secrets: Louis Riel and his tortured wife Marguerite; a duplicitous Catholic priest; Gabriel Dumont and his dying wife Madeleine; a Hudson's Bay Company spy; and the enigmatic Josette Lavoie. As the Dominion Army marches on Batoche, Josette and Gabriel must manage Riel's escalating religious fanaticism and a growing attraction to each other. Song of Batoche is a timeless story that traces the borderlines of faith and reason, obsession and madness, betrayal and love.

TRIGGER: Sexual Violence

TITLE: The Marrow Thieves

AUTHOR: Cherie Dimaline

ISBN13: 978-1770864863

PAGES: 180

GENRE: Native American Fiction

SYNOPSIS: Just when you think you have nothing left to lose, they come for your dreams. Humanity has nearly destroyed its world through global warming, but now an even greater evil lurks. The indigenous people of North America are being hunted and harvested for their bone marrow, which carries the key to recovering something the rest of the population has lost: the ability to dream. In this dark world, Frenchie and his companions struggle to survive as they

make their way up north to the old lands. For now, survival means staying hidden - but what they don't know is that one of them holds the secret to defeating the marrow thieves.

TITLE: Nobody Cries at Bingo

AUTHOR: Dawn Dumont

ISBN13: 978-1897235843

PAGES: 136

GENRE: Humour, by Indigenous/Canadian author

SYNOPSIS: It's all here - life on the Rez in rich technicolour - as Dawn emerges from home life, through school life, and into the promise of a great future. Very funny!

TITLE: LaRose

AUTHOR: Louise Erdrich

ISBN13: 978-0062277039

PAGES: 400

GENRE: Native American Fiction, Coming of Age Fiction

SYNOPSIS: In this literary masterwork, Louise Erdrich, the bestselling author of the National Book Award-winning *The Round House* and the *Pulitzer Prize* nominee *The Plague of Doves* wields her breathtaking narrative magic in an emotionally haunting contemporary tale of a tragic accident, a demand for justice, and a profound act of atonement with ancient roots in Native American culture.

TITLE: The Round House

AUTHOR: Louise Erdrich

ISBN13: 978-0062065254

PAGES: 368

GENRE: Native American Fiction

SYNOPSIS: *The Round House: A Novel* by Louise Erdrich, 2012 Louise Erdrich returns to the territory of her bestselling, Pulitzer Prize finalist *The Plague of Doves* with *The Round House*, transporting readers to the Ojibwe reservation in North Dakota. A page-turning masterpiece of literary fiction—at once a powerful coming-of-age story, a mystery, and a tender, moving novel of family, history, and culture. Louise Erdrich is the author of fifteen novels as well as volumes of poetry, children's books, short stories, and a memoir. She has been nominated for the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, and received the Library of Congress Prize in American Fiction, the PEN/Saul Bellow Award for Achievement in American Fiction, and the Dayton Literary Peace Prize.

TITLE: Green Grass, Running Water

AUTHOR: Thomas King

ISBN13: 978-0006485131

PAGES: 480

GENRE: Native American Fiction

SYNOPSIS: Strong, Sassy women and hard-luck hardheaded men, all searching for the middle ground between Native American tradition and the modern world, perform an elaborate dance of approach and avoidance in this magical, rollicking tale by Cherokee author Thomas King. Alberta is a university professor who would like to trade her two boyfriends for a baby but no husband; Lionel is forty and still sells televisions for a patronizing boss; Eli and his log cabin stand in the way of a profitable dam project. These three—and others—are coming to the Blackfoot reservation for the Sun Dance and there they will encounter four Indian elders and their companion, the trickster Coyote—and nothing in the small town of Blossom will be the same again...

TITLE: The Outside Circle: A Graphic Novel

AUTHOR: Patti LaBoucane-Benson

ISBN13: 978-1770899377

PAGES: 128

GENRE: Literary Graphic Novels, Native Canadian Biographies, Native Canadian Fiction

SYNOPSIS: The Outside Circle follows two Aboriginal brothers surrounded by poverty, drug abuse, and gang violence, who try to overcome centuries of historic trauma in very different ways to bring about positive change in their lives. Powerful, courageous, and deeply moving, this graphic novel is drawn from the author's twenty years of work and research on healing and reconciliation of gang-affiliated or incarcerated Aboriginal men. Winner, CODE's 2016 Burt Award for First Nation, Inuit and Métis Literature. Patti LaBoucane-Benson is a Métis woman and the Director of Research, Training, and Communication at Native Counselling Services of Alberta (NCSA). She has a Ph.D. in Human Ecology, focusing on Aboriginal Family Resilience.

TITLE: There There

AUTHOR: Tommy Orange

ISBN13: 978-0771073014

PAGES: 304

GENRE: Native American Fiction

SYNOPSIS: A relentlessly paced multigenerational story about violence and recovery, memory and identity, and the beauty and despair woven into the history of a nation and its people. It tells the story of twelve characters, each of whom have private reasons for traveling to the Big Oakland Powwow. Jacquie Red Feather is newly sober and trying to make it back to the family she left behind in shame. Dene Oxendene is pulling his life back together after his uncle's death and has come to work at the powwow to honor his uncle's memory. Opal Viola Victoria Bear Shield has come to watch her nephew Orvil, who has taught himself traditional Indian dance through YouTube videos and has come to the powwow to dance in public for the very first time. There will be glorious communion, and a spectacle of sacred tradition and pageantry. And there

will be sacrifice, and heroism, and unspeakable loss.

TRIGGERS: violence, addiction

TITLE: Moon of the Crusted Snow

AUTHOR: Waubgeshig Rice

ISBN13: 978-1770414006

PAGES: 224

GENRE: Indigenous/Post-Apocalyptic

SYNOPSIS: With winter looming, a small northern Anishinaabe community goes dark, but out of catastrophe comes resilience. To keep their group safe while fighting against sickness, despair, and hostile visitors, the community turns to the land and Anishinaabe tradition. A page-turner and will generate some great discussions.

TRIGGERS: death

NOTE: author willing to do author visits if he can fit it into his schedule (lives in Sudbury ON).

TITLE: Monkey Beach

AUTHOR: Eden Robinson

ISBN13: 978-0676973228

PAGES: 384

GENRE: Native American Fiction, Coming of Age Fiction

SYNOPSIS: Monkey Beach combines both joy and tragedy in a harrowing yet restrained story of grief and survival, and of a family on the edge of heartbreak. In the first English-language novel to be published by a Haisla writer, Eden Robinson offers a rich celebration of life in the Native settlement of Kitamaat, on the coast of British Columbia. Eden Robinson grew up with her older brother and younger sister in Haisla territory near Kitamaat Village, and has become one of Canada's first female Native writers to gain international attention.

TITLE: Motorcycles & Sweetgrass

AUTHOR: Drew Hayden Taylor

ISBN13: 978-0307398062

PAGES: 368

GENRE: Native American Fiction

SYNOPSIS: In Ojibway mythology, Nanabush is a mischievous trickster, shapeshifter, and cultural hero. Drew Hayden Taylor uses this figure and his manic spirit to bring a modern twist to ancient native folklore. Motorcycles and Sweetgrass is a charming story about the importance of balance and belief—and a little bit of magic—in everyone's life. Drew Hayden Taylor is an Ojibway from the Curve Lake First Nations. He has been an awardwinning playwright, journalist/columnist, short-story writer, novelist and scriptwriter.

TITLE: Take Us To Your Chief
AUTHOR: Drew Hayden Taylor
ISBN13: 978-1771621311
PAGES: 160

GENRE: Native Canadian Fiction, Science Fiction Anthologies

SYNOPSIS: A forgotten Haudenosaunee social song beams into the cosmos like a homing beacon for interstellar visitors. A computer learns to feel sadness and grief from the history of atrocities committed against First Nations. A young Native man discovers the secret to time travel in ancient petroglyphs. Drawing inspiration from science fiction legends like Arthur C. Clarke, Isaac Asimov and Ray Bradbury, Drew Hayden Taylor frames classic science-fiction tropes in an Aboriginal perspective.

The nine stories in this collection span all traditional topics of science fiction--from peaceful aliens to hostile invaders; from space travel to time travel; from government conspiracies to connections across generations. Yet Taylor's First Nations perspective draws fresh parallels, likening the cultural implications of alien contact to those of the arrival of Europeans in the Americas, or highlighting the impossibility of remaining a "good Native" in such an unnatural situation as a space mission.

Infused with Native stories and variously mysterious, magical and humorous, *Take Us to Your Chief* is the perfect mesh of nostalgically 1950s-esque science fiction with modern First Nations discourse.

TITLE: Three Feathers: A Graphic Novel
AUTHOR: Richard Van Camp
ISBN13: 978-1553795360
PAGES: 48

GENRE: Children's Native Canadian Storybooks, Native Canadian Fiction

SYNOPSIS: Three Feathers is a graphic novel that weaves together the stories of three young men who have committed crimes within their community. They are sent by its Elders to live nine months on the land as part of the circle sentencing process. Their time there is transformative, and they return home changed. Their experiences, and the changed relationships with the community members they have harmed, speak to the power and grace of restorative justice in First Nations communities. Richard Van Camp was born in Fort Smith, NWT, and is a member of the Dogrib (Tlicho) Dene Nation. An internationally renowned best-selling author, he was awarded Storyteller of the Year for both Canada and the US by the Wordcraft Circle of Native Writers and Storytellers.

TITLE: Medicine Walk

AUTHOR: Richard Wagamese

ISBN13: 978-0771089213

PAGES: 256

GENRE: Native Canadian Fiction, Coming of Age Fiction

SYNOPSIS: Medicine Walk is simultaneously a journey through the rugged and beautiful backcountry, and a journey into the past. It relates the journey of 16-year-old Franklin Starlight as he brings his dying, alcoholic father Eldon back to the land. A novel about love, family, courage, and the idea that the land has within it powers of healing. Richard Wagamese is Ojibway from the Wabaseemoong First Nation in Ontario. A member of the Sturgeon Clan, he is one of Canada's foremost authors and journalists.

TITLE: Ragged Company

AUTHOR: Richard Wagamese

ISBN13: 978-0385256940

PAGES: 384

GENRE: Native Canadian Fiction

SYNOPSIS: Four chronically homeless people—Amelia One Sky, Timber, Double Dick and Digger—seek refuge in a warm movie theatre when a severe Arctic Front descends on the city. During what is supposed to be a one-time event, this temporary refuge transfixes them. They fall in love with this new world, and once the weather clears, continue their trips to the cinema. On one of these outings they meet Granite, a jaded and lonely journalist who has turned his back on writing “the same story over and over again” in favour of the escapist qualities of film, and an unlikely friendship is struck.

A found cigarette package (contents: some unsmoked cigarettes, three \$20 bills, and a lottery ticket) changes the fortune of this struggling set. The ragged company discovers they have won \$13.5 million, but none of them can claim the money for lack proper identification. Enlisting the help of Granite, their lives, and fortunes, become forever changed.

Ragged Company is a journey into both the future and the past. Richard Wagamese deftly explores the nature of the comforts these friends find in their ideas of “home,” as he reconnects them to their histories.

Non-Fiction:

TITLE: A Two-Spirit Journey: The Autobiography of a Lesbian Ojibwa-Cree Elder

AUTHOR: Ma-Nee Chacaby and Mary Louisa Plummer

ISBN13: 978-0887558122

PAGES: 256

GENRE: Lesbian Studies, Ontario, Prairie Provinces

SYNOPSIS: A compelling, harrowing, but ultimately uplifting story of resilience and self-discovery. "A Two-Spirit Journey" is Ma-Nee Chacaby's extraordinary account of her life as an Ojibwa-Cree lesbian. From her early, often harrowing memories of life and abuse in a remote Ojibwa community riven by poverty and alcoholism, Chacaby's story is one of enduring and ultimately overcoming the social, economic, and health legacies of colonialism.

As a child, Chacaby learned spiritual and cultural traditions from her Cree grandmother and trapping, hunting, and bush survival skills from her Ojibwa stepfather. She also suffered physical and sexual abuse by different adults, and in her teen years became alcoholic herself. At twenty, Chacaby moved to Thunder Bay with her children to escape an abusive marriage. Abuse, compounded by racism, continued, but Chacaby found supports to help herself and others. Over the following decades, she achieved sobriety; trained and worked as an alcoholism counsellor; raised her children and fostered many others; learned to live with visual impairment; and came out as a lesbian. In 2013, Chacaby led the first gay pride parade in Thunder Bay.

Ma-Nee Chacaby has emerged from hardship grounded in faith, compassion, humour, and resilience. Her memoir provides unprecedented insights into the challenges still faced by many Indigenous people.

TITLE: Peace Pipe Dreams: The Truth about Lies about Indians

AUTHOR: Darrell Dennis

ISBN13: 978-0887547720

PAGES: 134

GENRE: Canadian Dramas & Plays, Native American Studies, Theatre

SYNOPSIS: Employing pop culture examples, personal anecdote and a cutting wit, Peace Pipe Dreams deftly weaves history with current events to entertain, inform and provide a convincing, readable overview of First Nations issues and why they matter today. Darrell Dennis is an author, playwright, broadcaster, actor, and comedian. He is also known for his roles in two CBC TV series; Frank Fencepost on The Rez, and Brian Potter on Northwood. Dennis considers himself a stereotype-busting, politically incorrect Native American/Aboriginal/Shuswap.

TITLE: Life Among the Qallunaat

AUTHOR: Mini Aodla Freeman

ISBN13: 978-0887557750

PAGES: 304

GENRE: Native American Biographies, Ontario, Polar Regions History

SYNOPSIS: Life Among the Qallunaat is the story of Mini Aodla Freeman's experiences growing up in the Inuit communities of James Bay and her journey in the 1950s from her home to the strange land and stranger customs of the Qallunaat, those living south of the Arctic. Her extraordinary story, sometimes humorous and sometimes heartbreaking, illustrates an Inuit woman's movement between worlds and ways of understanding. It also provides a clear-eyed record of the changes that swept through Inuit communities in the 1940s and 1950s.

Mini Aodla Freeman was born in 1936 on Cape Hope Island in James Bay. At the age of sixteen, she began nurse's training at Ste. Therese School in Fort George, Quebec, and in 1957 she moved to Ottawa to work as a translator for the then Department of Northern Affairs and Natural Resources. Her memoir, Life Among the Qallunaat, was published in 1978 and has been translated into French, German, and Greenlandic.

TITLE: The Ballad of Danny Wolfe: Life and Death in the Indian Posse

AUTHOR: Joe Friesen

ISBN13: 978-0771030246

PAGES: 368

GENRE: Native Canadian Biographies

SYNOPSIS: A gripping, fast-paced account of the life of the indigenous man who founded and led the Indian Posse, one of the most dangerous gangs in North America, into violence, power, and infamy.

In 2008, Daniel Richard Wolfe was awaiting trial on two counts of first-degree murder at the Regina Correctional Centre. This wasn't his first time in jail; from his teenage years his life had been marked by stints in and out of prison – with Danny sometimes finding his own way out. This time around, he was orchestrating his boldest move yet: a carefully plotted escape that would send the RCMP on a nationwide manhunt, launching Danny Wolfe to headline-topping notoriety. *The Ballad of Danny Wolfe* cinematically traces the storied years of Danny Wolfe's life, from his birth in Regina to his relationship with his mother, Susan Creeley, a First Nations woman who was forever marked by her experience in the residential school system; to his first brush with the law at the age of four and then his subsequent arrests; to the creation of the Indian Posse, the street gang he founded with a handful of equally disenfranchised indigenous friends; to the dissonance Danny felt between the traditional world he was born into and the criminal one that became his life; to the dramatic tensions over power and loyalty unfolding in the gang world and within the Posse itself. Drawing on unprecedented access to the Wolfe

family and first-hand accounts from the people closest to the gang leader, Joe Friesen's portrait of Danny Wolfe is at once riveting and timely, nuanced and provocative.

TITLE: *We Are Born with the Songs Inside Us: Lives and Stories of First Nations People in British Columbia*

AUTHOR: Katherine Palmer Gordon

ISBN13: 978-1550176186

PAGES: 248

GENRE: Native Canadian Biographies

SYNOPSIS: *We Are Born with the Songs Inside Us* collects sixteen candid stories of people who share an unshakeable belief in the importance of their cultural heritage to their well-being, to their success at what they do, and to their everyday lives. Shattering stereotypes, *We Are Born with the Songs Inside Us* celebrates today's young native people who represent a bright future for Canada. Katherine Palmer Gordon is the award-winning author of several non-fiction books. With more than fifteen years' experience as a contracts lawyer and First Peoples' land claims negotiator and facilitator, she turns a spotlight on the complex and human side of Indigenous matters and related cultural issues.

TITLE: *Why Indigenous Literature Matters*

AUTHOR: Daniel Heath Justice

ISBN13: 978-1771121767

PAGES: 306

GENRE: First Nations Biographies

SYNOPSIS: Part survey of the field of Indigenous literary studies, part cultural history, and part literary polemic, *Why Indigenous Literatures Matter* asserts the vital significance of literary expression to the political, creative, and intellectual efforts of Indigenous peoples today. In considering the connections between literature and lived experience, this book contemplates four key questions at the heart of Indigenous kinship traditions: How do we learn to be human? How do we become good relatives? How do we become good ancestors? How do we learn to live together? Blending personal narrative and broader historical and cultural analysis with close readings of key creative and critical texts, Justice argues that Indigenous writers engage with these questions in part to challenge settler-colonial policies and practices that have targeted Indigenous connections to land, history, family, and self. More importantly, Indigenous writers imaginatively engage the many ways that communities and individuals have sought to nurture these relationships and project them into the future.

This provocative volume challenges readers to critically consider and rethink their assumptions about Indigenous literature, history, and politics while never forgetting the emotional connections of our shared humanity and the power of story to effect personal and social change. Written with a generalist reader firmly in mind, but addressing issues of interest to

specialists in the field, this book welcomes new audiences to Indigenous literary studies while offering more seasoned readers a renewed appreciation for these transformative literary traditions.

TITLE: *The Reason You Walk*

AUTHOR: Wab Kinew

ISBN13: 978-0143193555

PAGES: 288

GENRE: Native Canadian Biographies

SYNOPSIS: When his father was given a diagnosis of terminal cancer, Winnipeg broadcaster and musician Wab Kinew decided to spend a year reconnecting with the accomplished but distant aboriginal man who'd raised him. *The Reason You Walk* spans the year 2012, chronicling painful moments in the past and celebrating renewed hopes and dreams for the future. As Kinew revisits his own childhood in Winnipeg and on a reserve in Northern Ontario, he learns more about his father's traumatic childhood at residential school. An intriguing doubleness marks *The Reason You Walk*, a reference to an Anishinaabe ceremonial song. Born to an Anishinaabe father and a non-native mother, he has a foot in both cultures. He is a Sundancer, an academic, a former rapper, a hereditary chief, and an urban activist. His father, Tobasonakwut, was both a beloved traditional chief and a respected elected leader who engaged directly with Ottawa. Internally divided, his father embraced both traditional native religion and Catholicism, the religion that was inculcated into him at the residential school where he was physically and sexually abused. In a grand gesture of reconciliation, Kinew's father invited the Roman Catholic bishop of Winnipeg to a Sundance ceremony in which he adopted him as his brother. Kinew writes affectingly of his own struggles in his twenties to find the right path, eventually giving up a self-destructive lifestyle to passionately pursue music and martial arts. From his unique vantage point, he offers an inside view of what it means to be an educated aboriginal living in a country that is just beginning to wake up to its aboriginal history and living presence.

Invoking hope, healing and forgiveness, *The Reason You Walk* is a poignant story of a towering but damaged father and his son as they embark on a journey to repair their family bond. By turns lighthearted and solemn, Kinew gives us an inspiring vision for family and cross-cultural reconciliation, and a wider conversation about the future of aboriginal peoples.

TITLE: *The Inconvenient Indian: A Curious Account of Native People in North America*

AUTHOR: Thomas King

ISBN13: 978-0385664226

PAGES: 366

GENRE: First Nations, Native American History

SYNOPSIS: *The Inconvenient Indian* is at once a "history" and the complete subversion of a history—in short, a critical and personal meditation that the remarkable Thomas King has conducted over the past 50 years about what it means to be "Indian" in North America. A

sometimes inconvenient, but nonetheless indispensable account for all of us, Indian and non-Indian alike, seeking to understand how we might tell a new story for the future. Thomas King is an award-winning novelist, short story writer, scriptwriter, and photographer. He is the recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Western American Literary Association (2004) and an Aboriginal Achievement Award (2003), and was made a member of the Order of Canada in 2004.

TITLE: *My Conversations With Canadians*

AUTHOR: Lee Maracle

ISBN13: 978-1771663588

PAGES: 260

GENRE: Canadian Literary History and Criticism, Women Writers

SYNOPSIS: On her first book tour at the age of 26, Lee Maracle was asked a question from the audience, one she couldn't possibly answer at that moment. But she has been thinking about it ever since. As time has passed, she has been asked countless similar questions, all of them too big to answer, but not too large to contemplate. These questions, which touch upon subjects such as citizenship, segregation, labour, law, prejudice and reconciliation (to name a few), are the heart of *My Conversations with Canadians*.

In prose essays that are both conversational and direct, Maracle seeks not to provide any answers to these questions she has lived with for so long. Rather, she thinks through each one using a multitude of experiences she's had as a First Nations leader, a woman, a mother, and grandmother over the course of her life. Lee Maracle's *My Conversations with Canadians* presents a tour de force exploration into the writer's own history and a re-imagining of the future of our nation.

TITLE: *Seven Fallen Feathers: Racism, Death, and Hard Truths in a Northern City*

AUTHOR: Tanya Talaga

ISBN13: 978-1487002268

PAGES: 376

GENRE: Native Canadian Biographies, First Nations

SYNOPSIS: In 1966, twelve-year-old Chanie Wenjack froze to death on the railway tracks after running away from residential school. An inquest was called and four recommendations were made to prevent another tragedy. None of those recommendations were applied. More than a quarter of a century later, from 2000 to 2011, seven Indigenous high school students died in Thunder Bay, Ontario. The seven were hundreds of miles away from their families, forced to leave home and live in a foreign and unwelcoming city. Five were found dead in the rivers surrounding Lake Superior, below a sacred Indigenous site. Jordan Wabasse, a gentle boy and star hockey player, disappeared into the minus twenty degrees Celsius night. The body of celebrated artist Norval Morrisseau's grandson, Kyle, was pulled from a river, as was Curran Strang's. Robyn Harper died in her boarding-house hallway and Paul Panacheese inexplicably

collapsed on his kitchen floor. Reggie Bushie's death finally prompted an inquest, seven years after the discovery of Jethro Anderson, the first boy whose body was found in the water. Using a sweeping narrative focusing on the lives of the students, award-winning investigative journalist Tanya Talaga delves into the history of this small northern city that has come to manifest Canada's long struggle with human rights violations against Indigenous communities. A portion of each sale of *Seven Fallen Feathers* will go to the Dennis Franklin Cromarty Memorial Fund, set up in 1994 to financially assist Nishnawbe Aski Nation students' studies in Thunder Bay and at post-secondary institutions.

TITLE: Indigenous Writes: A Guide to First Nations, Métis, and Inuit issues in Canada AUTHOR: Chelsea Vowel

ISBN13: 978-1553796800

PAGES: 291

GENRE: Law, Education, Native Canadian History

SYNOPSIS: Indigenous Writes explores the relationship between Indigenous peoples and Canada. An advocate for Indigenous worldviews, the author discusses the fundamental issues and the terminology of relationships; culture and identity; myth-busting; state violence; and land, learning, law, and treaties along with wider social beliefs about these issues. She answers the questions that many people have on these topics to spark further conversations at home, in the classroom, and in the larger community. Chelsea Vowel is Métis from manitow-sâkahikan (Lac Ste. Anne) Alberta. She is a public intellectual, writer, and educator whose work intersects language, gender, Métis self-determination, and resurgence.

TITLE: The Right To Be Cold: One Woman's Story of Protecting Her Culture, the Arctic and the Whole Planet

AUTHOR: Sheila Watt-Cloutier

ISBN13: 978-0143187646

PAGES: 368

GENRE: Native American Biographies, Political Biographies, Women's Biographies

SYNOPSIS: The Right to Be Cold is a human story of resilience, commitment, and survival. It explores the parallels between safeguarding the Arctic and the survival of Inuit culture in the face of past, present, and future environmental degradation. Long-listed for 2017 CBC Canada Reads. Sheila Watt-Cloutier is one of the world's most recognized environmental and human rights activists. She treats the issues of our day—the environment, the economy, foreign policy, global health, and sustainability—not as separate concerns, but as a deeply interconnected whole. In 2007, Watt-Cloutier was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for her advocacy work in showing the impact global climate change has on human rights, especially in the Arctic.

Poetry

Burning in This Midnight Dream by Louise Bernice-Halfe, 2016

Burning in This Midnight Dream is a collection of fearlessly wrought verse—the poet's response to the grim tide of emotions, memories, dreams and nightmares that arose in her as the Truth and Reconciliation process unfolded. Halfe describes how the experience of the residential schools continues to haunt those who survive, and how the effects pass like a virus from one generation to the next. She asks us to consider the damage done to children taken from their families, to families mourning their children; damage done to entire communities and to ancient cultures. Louise Bernice-Halfe is an award-winning poet who was born in Two Hills, Alberta, and was raised on the Saddle Lake Reserve. Her Cree name is Sky Dancer. She currently works with Elders in an organization called Opikinawasowin ("raising our children").

Calling Down the Sky by Rosanna Deerchild, 2015

Calling Down the Sky is a poetry collection that describes deep personal experiences and post generational effects of the Canadian Aboriginal Residential School confinements in the 1950s when thousands of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit children were placed in these schools against their parents' wishes. Rosanna Deerchild is the host of "Unreserved" on CBC Radio One. She is an award-winning Cree author and has worked for a variety of Indigenous newspapers and for major networks for almost 15 years, including APTN, CBC Radio, and Global. She lives in South Indian Lake, Manitoba.

The Pemmican Eaters by Marilyn Dumont, 2015

The Pemmican Eaters combines free verse and metered poems to recreate a palpable sense of the Riel Resistance period and evoke the geographical, linguistic/cultural, and political situation of Batoche during this time through the eyes of those who experienced the battles, as well as through the eyes of Gabriel and Madeleine Dumont and Louis Riel. Winner of the 2016 Stephan G. Stephansson Award for Poetry. Marilyn Dumont has won provincial and national awards for her work. She has been the writer-in-residence at five Canadian universities and the Edmonton Public Library as well as an advisor in the Aboriginal Emerging Writers Program at the Banff Centre.

Witness, I am by Gregory Scofield, 2016

Witness, I am is divided into three sections: "Dangerous Sound" contains contemporary themed poems about identity and belonging; "Muskrat Woman" is a breathtaking epic poem that considers the issue of missing and murdered indigenous women through the reimagining of a sacred Cree creation story; "Ghost Dance" is an autobiographical tapestry. Winner of Latner

Writers' Trust Poetry Prize, awarded to a mid-career poet in recognition of a remarkable body of work. Gregory Scofield is Red River Metis of Cree, Scottish, and European descent whose ancestry can be traced to the fur trade and the Metis community of Kinesota, Manitoba. He won the Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize in 1994 for his debut collection, *The Gathering: Stones for the Medicine Wheel*, and has since published six volumes of poetry as well as a memoir, *Thunder Through My Veins*.