

# POPULAR INDIGENOUS AUTHORS

- **Sherman Alexie:** a novelist, poet, songwriter, composer, film director, and stand-up comic, he sometimes uses an element of fantasy in his fiction to express the Native American experience. His rich language, engaging style, and well-rounded characters make him popular with a wide multicultural audience, including teens.
- **Cherie Dimaline:** an award-winning Metis author and editor based in Canada. She writes fiction for both teens and adults in various genres, often with a speculative bent.
- **Louise Erdrich:** uses complex plots and an array of characters to draw the reader into an exploration of life in rural North Dakota. Her stories examine friendship, love, and family interactions, and both the happiness and the pain these relationships bring.
- **Joy Harjo:** an award-winning Native American author and 23rd United States Poet Laureate. Harjo writes fiction and nonfiction, short stories, and poetry for adults, teens, and younger kids, often exploring social justice and personal identity.
- **Stephen Graham Jones:** While his genre of choice may vary, Jones' books tend to be a little bit unconventional, experimental, and creepy/borderline disturbing. Usually set in the American Southwest, and frequently starring Native American characters, he takes inspiration from all the great horror tropes but always add his own unique spin.
- **Leslie Marmon Silko:** is one of the most prominent figures in contemporary Native American literature. Her work draws heavily on both her personal experiences living and coming of age in a multicultural setting balanced between the Native American world of the reservation and mainstream American society.
- **David Treuer:** an Ojibwe from northern Minnesota, he is known and acclaimed for his essays and scholarship as well as his books. His novels, often focusing on the contrasts between Native and Anglo cultures, are lyrical and stylistically complex, moving, and intricately plotted.

Where to find these books:

Books are located in their respective sections under the author's last name.

**Bio** = Biography Section  
**Fic** = Fiction Section  
**Mystery** = Mystery Section  
**Reserve Today** = the library does not own a copy of this title, but it is available at another library in our system.

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Descriptions provided by **Novelist Plus**, a free book recommendation database accessible through [LINCC.org](http://LINCC.org).

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## CONTACT



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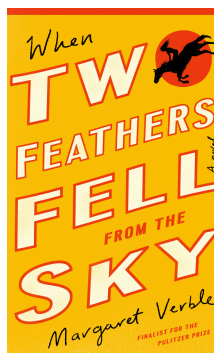
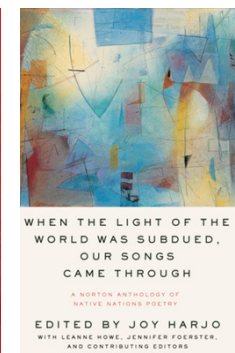
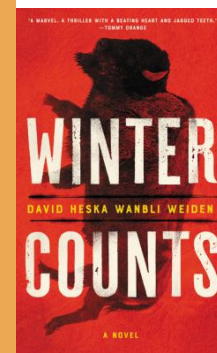
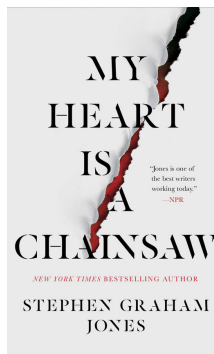
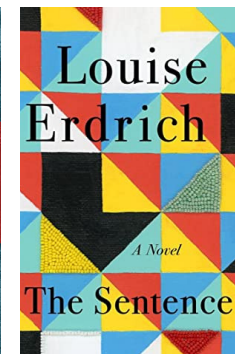
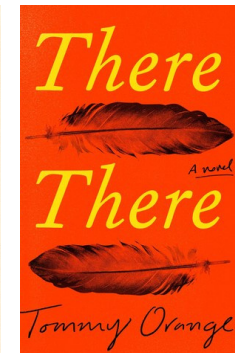
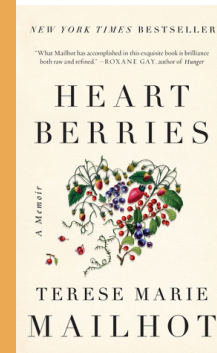


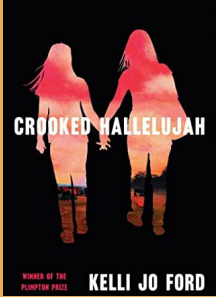
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ADULTS

# RECENT BOOKS BY INDIGENOUS AUTHORS





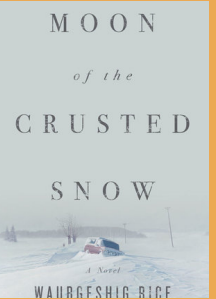
**Crooked Hallelujah (2020)**  
by Kelli Jo Ford (fic)  
A first collection by an award-winning Cherokee writer traces four generations of Native American women as they navigate cultural dynamics, religious beliefs, the 1980s oil bust, devastating storms and unreliable men to connect with their ideas about home.



**Empire of Wild (2019)**  
by Cherie Dimaline (fic)  
Inspired by the Canadian Métis legend of the Rogarou, a U.S. debut finds a woman reconnecting with her heritage when her missing husband reappears in the form of a charismatic preacher who does not recognize her.

**Five Little Indians (2020)**  
by Michelle Good (Reserve Today)  
Taken from their families when they are very small and sent to a remote, church-run residential school, Kenny, Lucy, Clara, Howie and Maisie are finally released after years of detention. Alone and without any skills, support or families, the teens find their way to Vancouver, where they cling together, searching for a place of safety and belonging. Over the decades they struggle to overcome the trauma they endured during their years at the Mission, come to terms with their past, and find a way forward.

**Love After The End: An Anthology Of Two-Spirit & Indigiqueer Speculative Fiction (2020)**  
editor Joshua Whitehead (Reserve Today)  
This exciting and groundbreaking fiction anthology showcases a number of new and emerging 2SQ (Two-Spirit and queer Indigenous) writers from across Turtle Island. These visionary authors show how queer Indigenous communities can bloom and thrive through utopian narratives that detail the vivacity and strength of 2SQness throughout its plight in the maw of settler colonialism's histories.



**Moon of the Crusted Snow: A Novel (2018)**  
by Waubgeshig Rice (Reserve Today)  
Moon of the Crusted Snow imagines a small community on the precipice of winter without power or communication where leaders must grapple with control, restore order, and save their people from a grave fate.

**My Heart Is A Chainsaw (2021)**  
by Stephen Graham Jones (fic)  
Protected by horror movie - especially the ones where the masked killer seeks revenge on a world that wronged them, Jade Daniels, an angry, half-Indian outcast, pulls us into her dark mind when blood actually starts to spill into the waters of Indian lake.

- **The Only Good Indians (2020)** by Jones was featured in our Best Books of 2020 Booklist

**The Removed (2021)**  
by Brandon Hobson (Reserve Today)  
A Cherokee family takes in a remarkable foster child on the eve of the Cherokee National Holiday and anniversary of a loved one's death.



**Sabrina & Corina: Stories (2019)**  
by Kali Fajardo-Anstine (Reserve Today)  
A debut story collection about female relationships and the deep-rooted truths of our homelands features Latina protagonists of indigenous descent who cautiously navigate the violence and changes in a Denver, Colorado community.

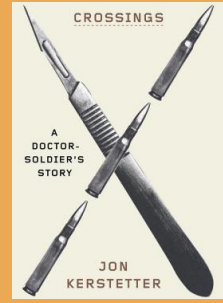
**The Sentence (2021)**  
by Louise Erdrich (fic)  
The Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award-winning author presents this unusual novel in which a small independent bookstore in Minneapolis is haunted from November 2019 to November 2020 by the store's most annoying customer.

**There There (2018)**  
by Tommy Orange (fic)  
A novel which grapples with the complex history of Native Americans; with an inheritance of profound spirituality; and with a plague of addiction, abuse and suicide, follows 12 characters, each of whom has private reasons for traveling to the Big Oakland Powwow.

**When Two Feathers Fell From The Sky (2021)**  
by Margaret Verble (fic)  
After disaster strikes during one of her shows, Two Feathers, a young Cherokee horse-diver on loan to Glendale Park Zoo from a Wild West show, must get to the bottom of a mystery that spans centuries with the help of an eclectic cast of characters.

**Winter Counts (2020)**  
by David Heska Wanbli Weiden (Mystery)  
A vigilante enforcer on South Dakota's Rosebud Indian Reservation enlists the help of an ex to investigate the activities of an expanding drug cartel, while a new tribal council initiative raises controversial questions.

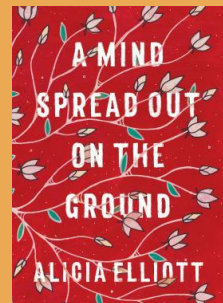
**NONFICTION**



**Crossings: A Doctor-Soldier's Story (2017)**  
by Jon Kerstetter (956.7044 KER)  
A Native American doctor shares a poignant memoir on his experiences as a medic and officer in Kosovo, Bosnia and the Iraq War before suffering an injury and stroke on his third tour, which forced him to return home and make a difficult transition to becoming a doctor-patient at home.

**Dog Flowers: A Memoir (2021)**  
by Danielle Geller (Bio)  
An award-winning essayist draws on archival documents in a narrative account that explores how her family's troubled past and the death of her mother, a homeless alcoholic, reflected the traditions and tragic history of her Navajo heritage.

**Heart Berries : A Memoir (2018)**  
by Terese Marie Mailhot (362.1968 MAI)  
Terese Mailhot's debut memoir chronicles her struggle to balance the beauty of her Native heritage with the often desperate and chaotic reality of life on the reservation.



**A Mind Spread Out On The Ground (2020)**  
by Alicia Elliott (Bio)  
A personal meditation on trauma, legacy, oppression and racism in North America, in an urgent and visceral work that asks essential questions about Native people in North America.

**When The Light Of The World Was Subdued, Our Songs Came Through : A Norton Anthology Of Native Nations Poetry (2020)**  
by Joy Harjo (811.0088 WHE)  
A personal meditation on trauma, legacy, United States Poet Laureate Joy Harjo gathers the work of more than 160 poets, representing nearly 100 indigenous nations, into the first historically comprehensive Native poetry anthology. This landmark anthology celebrates the indigenous peoples of North America, the first poets of this country, whose literary traditions stretch back centuries.