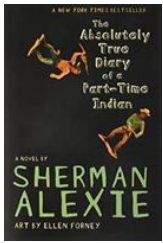


# YA Books by Native American Authors

Books by Native American authors in a wide variety of genres, for teens.

## Fiction

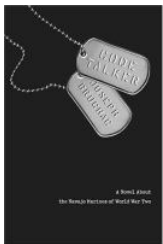
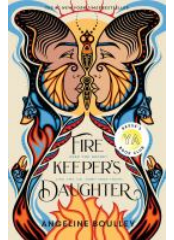


***The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian* by Sherman Alexie | [YA ALE](#)**

Budding cartoonist Junior leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white farm town school where the only other Indian is the school mascot.

***Firekeeper's Daughter* by Angeline Boulley | [YA BOU](#)**

Daunis, who is part Ojibwe, defers attending the University of Michigan to care for her mother and reluctantly becomes involved in the investigation of a series of drug-related deaths.

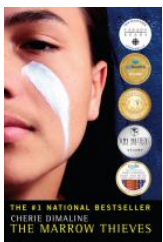


***Code Talker* by Joseph Bruchac | [YA BRU](#)**

After being taught in a boarding school run by whites that Navajo is a useless language, Ned Begay and other Navajo men are recruited by the Marines to become Code Talkers, sending messages during World War II in their native tongue.

***Turtle Under Ice* by Juleah Del Rosario | [YA DEL](#)**

Told in two voices, sisters Row and Ariana are frozen by grief over their mother's death, years before, until Ariana leaves for reasons Row does not understand. **You might also like *500 Words or Less*, another novel in verse by Del Rosario.**

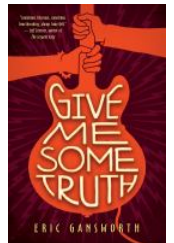


***The Marrow Thieves* by Cherie Dimaline | [YA DIM](#)**

In a future world ravaged by global warming, people have lost the ability to dream, and the dreamlessness has led to widespread madness. The only people still able to dream are North America's indigenous population - and it is their marrow that holds the cure for the rest of the world.

***Give Me Some Truth* by Eric L. Gansworth | [YA GAN](#)**

In 1980 life is hard on the Tuscarora Reservation in upstate New York... Carson Mastick dreams of forming a rock band, and Maggi Bokoni longs to create her own conceptual artwork... but tensions are rising between the reservation and the surrounding communities, and somehow in the confusion of politics and growing up Carson and Maggi have to make a place for themselves.

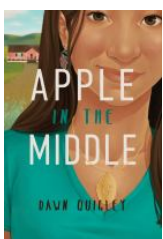


***Walking in Two Worlds* by Wab Kinew | [YA KIN](#)**

An Indigenous teen girl is caught between two worlds, both real and virtual, in the YA fantasy debut from bestselling Indigenous author Wab Kinew. Perfect for fans of Ready Player One and the Otherworld series.

***Elatsoe* by Darcie Little Badger | [YA LIT](#)**

A paranormal murder mystery set in an alternative America where vampires, ghosts, monsters, and other creatures of legend are real. Seventeen-year-old Ellie uses the supernatural gifts she inherited from her Six-Great-Grandmother to find the murderer of her cousin.

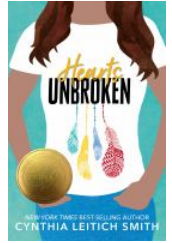


***Apple in the Middle* by Dawn Quigley | [YA QUI](#)**

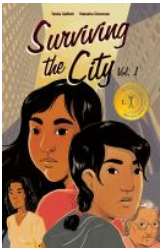
After her wealthy father gives her the boot one summer, Apple reluctantly agrees to visit her Native American relatives on the Turtle Mountain Indian Reservation in northern North Dakota for the first time... Bouncing in the middle of two cultures, Apple meets her Indian relatives, shatters Indian stereotypes, and learns what it means to find her place in a world divided by color.

***Hearts Unbroken* by Cynthia Leitich Smith | [YA SMI](#)**

Louise Wolfe breaks up with her first boyfriend after he makes a racist remark about her Native American heritage, and begins covering the multicultural casting of the new school play and the racial hostilities it has exposed. You might also like *Rain is Not My Indian Name*, another novel by Smith.



**Graphic Novels**

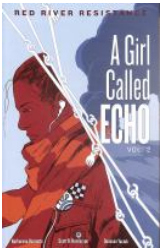


***Surviving the City* by Tasha Spillett | [YA G SPI](#)**

Miikwan and Dez are best friends. Miikwan's Anishinaabe; Dez is Inninew. Together, the teens navigate the challenges of growing up in an urban landscape... However, when Dez's grandmother becomes too sick, Dez is told she can't stay with her anymore. With the threat of a group home looming, Dez can't bring herself to go home and disappears.

***Four Faces of the Moon* by Amanda Strong | [YA G FOU](#)**

Adapted from the acclaimed stop-motion animated film of the same name, written and directed by Amanda Strong, *Four Faces of the Moon* brings the oral and written history of the Michif, Cree, Nakoda and Anishinaabe Peoples and their cultural link to the buffalo alive on the page.



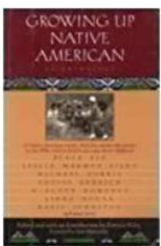
***A Girl Called Echo* series by Katherena Vermette | [YA G VER](#)**

Featuring compelling illustrations, a female main character, and the contemporary foster care system, this series follows Echo as she discovers her Métis heritage firsthand while slipping back and forth through time. (from Goodreads)

**Nonfiction**

***Reawakening our ancestors' lines: revitalizing Inuit traditional tattooing* by Angela Hovak Johnston | [YA 391.6 JOH](#)**

In 2005, when Angela Hovak Johnston heard that the last Inuk woman tattooed in the old way had died, she set out to tattoo herself in tribute to this ancient custom and learn how to tattoo others. What was at first a personal quest became a project to bring the art of traditional tattooing back to Inuit women across Nunavut, starting with Johnston's home community of Kugluktuk.

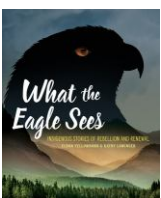


***Growing up Native American: an anthology*, ed. Patricia Riley | [YA 810.8 GRO](#)**

A collection of writings about childhood--short fiction pieces and essays--by 22 Native American writers, from the 19th century to the 1990s, each briefly introduced.

***Everything you wanted to know about Indians but were afraid to ask* by Anton Treuer | [YA 909.0497 TRE](#)**

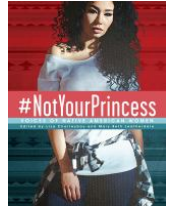
Ranging from "Why is there such a fuss about nonnative people wearing Indian costumes for Halloween?" to "Why is it called a 'traditional Indian fry bread taco'?" to "What's it like for natives who don't look native?" to "Why are Indians so often imagined rather than understood?", and beyond, *Everything You Wanted to Know About Indians But Were Afraid to Ask* (Young Readers Edition) does exactly what its title says...



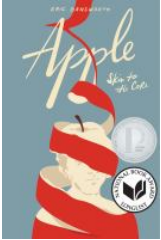
***What the eagle sees: indigenous stories of rebellion and renewal* by Eldon Yellowhorn | [YA 970.0049 YEL](#)**

Traces the history of the indigenous populations of the Americas after the arrival of Europeans, discussing how different civilizations faced disease, war, broken promises, and forced assimilation to keep their cultures alive.

**#NotYourPrincess: voices of Native American women**, ed. Lisa Charleyboy and Mary Beth Leatherdale | [YA 971.004 NOT](#)



#Not Your Princess presents an eclectic collection of poems, essays, interviews, and art that combine to express the experience of being a Native woman. Stories of abuse, humiliation, and stereotyping are countered by the voices of passionate women making themselves heard and demanding change.

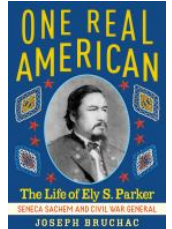


**Apple: Skin to the Core** by Eric Gansworth | [YA B GAN](#)

Eric Gansworth is telling his story... The story of his family, of Onondaga among Tuscaroras, of Native folks everywhere. From the horrible legacy of the government boarding schools, to a boy watching his siblings leave and return and leave again, to a young man fighting to be an artist who balances multiple worlds.

**One Real American: The life of Ely S. Parker** by Joseph Bruchac | [YA B PAR](#)

A member of the Seneca, an Iroquois nation, Parker was an attorney, engineer, and tribal diplomat. ...Bruchac provides an expertly researched, intimate look at a man who achieved great success in two worlds yet was caught between them.



Unless otherwise noted, all plot descriptions are from our online catalog.