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**Selected American Indian Literature for Young Adults**  
**(Grades 9 and up)**

Alexie, Sherman (Spokane/Coeur d'Alene). *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven*. Harper Perennial, 1994.

A collection of contemporary short stories centering on three young men living on the Spokane Reservation.

Alexie, Sherman (Spokane/Coeur d'Alene). *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*. Little Brown, 2007.

Funny, sad, moving and inspiring, it's the story of Arnold Spirit's freshman year when he chose to go to an all-white school near his reservation. The Young Adult winner of the **2008 American Indian Youth Literature Award** and the **2007 National Book Award**.

Alexie, Sherman (Spokane/Coeur d'Alene). *Flight*. Black Cat, 2007.

A quick-read, *Flight* is about Zits who time travels through US history, inhabiting different people's bodies, as he makes his way back to the present and a brighter future.

Bruchac, Joseph (Abenaki). *March Toward the Thunder*. Dial Books, 2008.

In 1864, fifteen year old Louis Nolette joins the Irish Brigand and soon sees what war really is. Based on his great-grandfather's Civil War service, Joseph Bruchac tells a powerful and moving story.

Culleton, Beatrice (Métis). *April Raintree*. Peguis Publishers, 1992.

The story of two Métis sisters who grow up in the foster care system and must come to terms with their non-Native/non-white status, and the history of alcoholism in their family.

Deloria, Ella Cara (Yankton Dakota). *Waterlily*. University of Nebraska, 1988.

A historical novel written in the 1940s and not published until 1988, this book by a leading authority of Sioux culture and lifeways, is excellent for all ages.

*Do All Indians Live In Tipis? Questions and Answers from the National Museum of the American Indian*. Collins in collaboration with the Smithsonian Institution, 2007.

About 100 questions answered by NMAI staff; topics range from question asked in the title to "what is a winter count?" to "do Indians pay taxes?" There is lots of good information here for educators and older students.

Erdrich, Louise (Ojibwa). *Love Medicine*. Henry Holt, 1984.

The first of Erdrich's tetralogy about four Anishinabe families and reservation life; told as interrelated short stories from the perspectives of a range of characters. This series also includes *The Beet Queen*, *Tracks*, and *The Bingo Palace*.

Fire, John (Lame Deer - Lakota) and Richard Erdoes. *Lame Deer: Seeker of Visions*. Pocket Books, 1972.

The humor-filled autobiography of Lame Deer, a holy man of the Lakotas born on the Rosebud Reservation in the early twentieth century.

Hale, Janet Campbell (Coeur d'Alene). *The Jailing of Cecelia Capture*. University of New Mexico Press, 1987.

Cecelia Capture, a law student and mother, has been jailed for drunk driving. In prison she reflects on her life growing up on the reservation in Idaho, her marriage and life in San Francisco and her decision to return to college.

Maracle, Lee (Salish/Cree). *Will's Garden*. Theytus Books, 2002.

Coming-of-age story as Will prepares for his Becoming Man Ceremony. Filled with dreams, thoughts, actions, reflections and decisions.

McGregor, Lurline Wailana (Native Hawaiian). *Between the Deep Blue Sea and Me*. Kamehameha, 2009.

Torn between her career as a museum curator in California and her family responsibilities in Hawai'i, Maona Kawelo must make some difficult choices. **The 2010 American Indian Youth Literature Young Adult Award** winner.

*Moccasin Thunder: American Indian Stories for Today*, edited by Lori Marie Carlson. Harper Collins, 2005.

Ten short stories by Native writers-some stories are gritty, some are thoughtful, some are funny, and all are important.

*Night is Gone, Day is Still Coming: Stories and Poems by American Indian Teens and Young Adults*. Candlewick Press, 2003.

"The poems and stories collected within this anthology provide a clear vision of how young Indian writers are interpreting and reflecting upon their lives in small towns, reservations, and large metropolitan cities throughout North America." Preface, xi.

Power, Susan (Dakota). *The Grass Dancer*. Berkley Books, 1995.

Set on a North Dakota reservation, this is the story of two lovers separated by death and now struggling to be reunited through the lives and fates of their descendants.

Red Shirt, Delphine (Lakota). *Bead on an Anthill: A Lakota Childhood*. U of Nebraska Press, 1998.

Delphine Red Shirt's autobiography, focusing on her childhood on the Pine Ridge Reservation in Nebraska, and on the Lakota language and culture.

*Rising Voices: Writings of Young Native Americans*. Charles Scribner, 1992.

Selected poems and essays by young American the "set the record straight about their identity, their families, communities, rituals, histories, education, and harsh realities."

Slipperjack, Ruby (Ojibwa). *Honour the Sun*. Pemmican Publications, 1987.

The diaries of The Owl, a girl from northern Ontario, as she grows from a happy child to a teenager troubled by her mother's alcoholism and unhappy events in the community.

Seals, David (Huron). *The Powwow Highway*. Plume, 1990.

Two Cheyenne men are taking a road trip from Montana's Lame Deer Reservation to New Mexico. It's a journey of enlightenment, a quest for greatness and one of the wildest and funniest rides you've ever been on. Film adaptation also available.

Taylor, Drew Hayden (Ojibway). *The Night Wanderer: A Native Gothic Novel*. Annick Press, 2007.

Mysterious Pierre L'Errant comes to Otter Lake and rents a room in the basement of Tiffany's house, while she's having difficult relationships with her boyfriend and her father. They both resolve their issues-in different ways.