

**Reading Suggestions From Wapiti Regional Library**  
**Indigenous Reads for Teens**

**Title: I Will See You Again**

**Author:** Lisa Boivin.

**Description:** An illustrated memoir that chronicles Lisa Boivin's journey through her grieving process following her brother's death. When Boivin learns of his passing overseas, she sets out to bring him home. She finds comfort and strength through memories and dreams of all the moments she and her brother shared together and through her Dene traditions. The lyrical art and story offers a universal message of hope and love. (Source: Highwater Press)

**Title: Fire Song**

**Author:** Adam Garnet Jones.

**Description:** Following his sister's suicide, Shane, a gay Indigenous teenager in Northern Ontario, struggles to support his family. Shane is eventually forced to choose between his family's home and his own future. "Fire Song" is an adaptation of Adam Garnet Jones's award-winning film. (Source: Annick Press)

**Title: Those Who Dwell Below**

**Author:** Aviaq Johnston.

**Description:** A sequel to Aviaq Johnston's debut novel, "Those Who Run in the Sky". After being trapped in a spirit world, a young shaman named Pitu returns to his life in the Arctic. When Pitu gets wind of a nearby community that is starving, he realizes he must travel to the depths of the ocean to meet with the sea goddess Nuliajuk. (Source: Inhabit Media)

**Title: The Ghost Collector**

**Author:** Allison Mills.

**Description:** A young girl named Shelly has an important job. She catches ghosts in her hair and helps them transition to the afterlife. But when Shelly's mom dies, she stops helping the ghosts and starts hoarding them, as she waits for her mother's ghost to arrive. This book is inspired by Mills's great-grandmother's life and influenced by her Cree heritage.. (Source: Annick Press)

**Title: Dakwākāda Warriors**

**Author:** Cole Pauls.

**Description:** Two Earth Protectors are charged with saving the planet from evil pioneers and cyborg sasquatches. This comic, translated into two dialects of Southern Tutchone, serves as an allegory for colonialism. (Source: Conundrum Press)

**Title: Ghosts**

**Author:** David A. Robertson.

**Description:** This is the third book in David A. Robertson's Reckoner series following an Indigenous teen named Cole Harper, who returns home after many years away. In "Ghosts", Cole is dead and time is running out for Wounded Sky First Nation as Mihko Laboratories, which manufactured an illness that once afflicted the community, has reopened its research facilities. (Source: HighWater Press)

**Title: Surviving the City**

**Author:** Tasha Spillett. Illustrated by Natasha Donovan.

**Description:** High school students Miikwan, who is of Anishinaabe descent, and Dez, who is of Innineew descent, are best friends in Winnipeg. Both have experienced loss, as women in their lives have gone missing or been murdered. Miikwan and Dez lean on each other and their communities for support

and strive to change the devastating trend of missing and murdered Indigenous women. (Source: Portage and Main Press)

**Title: Northwest Resistance (A Girl Called Echo Vol 3)**

**Author:** Katherena Vermette.

**Description:** This is the next chapter in Katherena Vermette's graphic novel series follows time-travelling teen Echo Desjardins as she witnesses the return of Louis Riel. The first two books in the A Girl Called Echo series were "Pemmican Wars" and "Red River Resistance." (Source: HighWater Press)

**Title: He Who Dreams**

**Author:** Melanie Florence.

**Description:** Juggling soccer, school, friends and family leaves John with little time for anything else. But one day at the local community center, following the sound of drums, he stumbles into an Indigenous dance class. Before he knows what's happening, John finds himself stumbling through beginner classes with a bunch of little girls, skipping soccer practice and letting his other responsibilities slide. When he attends a pow wow and witnesses a powerful performance, he realizes that he wants to be a dancer more than anything. But the nearest class for boys is at the Native Cultural Center in the city, and he still hasn't told his family or friends about his new passion. If he wants to dance, he will have to stop hiding. Between the mocking of his teammates and the hostility of the boys in his dance class, John must find a way to balance and embrace both the Irish and Cree sides of his heritage. (Source: Orca Book Publishers)

**Title: Monsters**

**Author:** David Alexander Robertson.

**Description:** Cole Harper is struggling to settle into life in Wounded Sky First Nation. He may have stopped a serial killer, but the trouble is far from over. A creature lurks in the shadows of Blackwood Forest, the health clinic is on lockdown by a mysterious organization, and long-held secrets threaten to bubble to the surface. Can Cole learn the truth about his father's death? Why won't Choch give him a straight answer? Where the heck is Jayne? Oh, and high school sucks. (Source: HighWater Press)

**Title: The Outside Circle**

**Author:** Paatti LaBoucane-Benson. Illustrated by Kelly Mellings.

**Description:** In this graphic novel, two Aboriginal brothers surrounded by poverty, drug abuse, and gang violence, try to overcome centuries of historic trauma in very different ways to bring about positive change in their lives. Pete, a young Aboriginal man wrapped up in gang violence, lives with his younger brother, Joey, and his mother who is a heroin addict. One night, Pete and his mother's boyfriend, Dennis, get into a big fight, which sends Dennis to the morgue and Pete to jail. Initially, Pete keeps up ties to his crew, until a jail brawl forces him to realize the negative influence he has become on Joey, which encourages him to begin a process of rehabilitation that includes traditional Aboriginal healing circles and ceremonies. Powerful, courageous, and deeply moving, The Outside Circle is drawn from the author's twenty years of work and research on healing and reconciliation of gang-affiliated or incarcerated Aboriginal men. (Source: House of Anansi Press)

**Title: Dear Canada: These Are My Words: The Residential School Diary of Violet Presheens**

**Author:** Ruby Slipperjack.

**Description:** Violet Pesheens has been taken to Residential School. She misses her Grandma; she has run-ins with Cree girls; at her "white" school, everyone just stares; and everything she brought has been taken from her, including her name—she is now just a number. But worst of all, she has a fear. A fear of forgetting the things she treasures most: her Anishnabe language; the names of those she knew before; and her traditional customs. A fear of forgetting who she was. Her notebook is the one place she can record all of her worries, and heartbreaks, and memories. And maybe, just maybe there will be hope at the end of the tunnel. Drawing from her own experiences at Residential School, Ruby Slipperjack creates

a brave, yet heartbreaking heroine in Violet, and lets young readers glimpse into an all-too important chapter in our nation's history. (Source: Scholastic Canada)

**Title: Curse of the Shaman: A Marble Island Story**

**Author:** Michael Kusugak. Illustrated by Vladyana Krykorka.

**Description:** Sometimes even shamans get cranky. That was baby Wolverine's misfortune—to be cursed by an out-of-sorts shaman frustrated by his own baby daughter's incessant crying. Not only has shaman Paaliaq forbidden the future marriage of Wolverine to Breath, Paaliaq's beautiful but teary baby girl, he has cursed Wolverine, banishing him when he becomes a young man. And even when a contrite Paaliaq later revokes the curse, the shaman's even crankier magic animal will not. Now Wolverine finds himself stranded on a barren island, locked in a life-or-death struggle to return to his home, his family and a very special young girl. (Source: Harper Collins)

**Title: Son of a Trickster**

**Author:** Eden Robinson.

**Description:** Everyone knows a guy like Jared: the burnout kid in high school who sells weed cookies and has a scary mom who's often wasted and wielding some kind of weapon. Jared does smoke and drink too much, and he does make the best cookies in town, and his mom is a mess, but he's also a kid who has an immense capacity for compassion and an impulse to watch over people more than twice his age, and he can't rely on anyone for consistent love and support, except for his flatulent pit bull, Baby Killer (he calls her Baby)--and now she's dead. Jared can't count on his mom to stay sober and stick around to take care of him. He can't rely on his dad to pay the bills and support his new wife and step-daughter. Jared is only sixteen but feels like he is the one who must stabilize his family's life, even look out for his elderly neighbours. But he struggles to keep everything afloat...and sometimes he blacks out. And he puzzles over why his maternal grandmother has never liked him, why she says he's the son of a trickster, that he isn't human. Mind you, ravens speak to him--even when he's not stoned. You think you know Jared, but you don't. (Source: Chapters)

**Title: The Peacemaker: Thanadelthur**

**Author:** David Alexander Robertson.

**Description:** The story of Thanadelthur, a young Dene woman enslaved by the Cree, who becomes a guide for the Hudson Bay Company. In 1715 she negotiated a peace between longstanding enemies, the Cree and Dene. The Peacemaker is one book in the Tales from Big Spirit series. Tales from Big Spirit is a unique six-book graphic novel series that delves into the stories of some of the great Indigenous heroes from Canadian history—some already well known and others who deserve to be. (Source: Scholastic Canada)

**Title: My Name is Seepeetza**

**Author:** Shirley Sterling.

**Description:** At six years old, Seepeetza is taken from her happy family life on Joyaska Ranch to live as a boarder at the Kamloops Indian Residential School. Life at the school is not easy, but Seepeetza still manages to find some bright spots. Always, thoughts of home make her school life bearable. An honest, inside look at life in an Indian residential school in the 1950s, and how one indomitable young spirit survived it. (Source: House of Anansi Press)

**Title: 7 Generations: A Plains Cree Saga**

**Author:** David Alexander Robertson.

**Description:** A Plains Cree Saga that includes four graphic novels: Stone, Scars, Ends/Begins, and The Pact. Edwin is facing an uncertain future. Only by learning about his family's past—as warriors, survivors of a smallpox epidemic, casualties of a residential school—will he be able to face the present and embrace the future. (Source: Strong Nations)

**Title: Moonshot: the Indigenous Comics Collection****Author:** Hope Nicholson.**Description:** A collection of short stories created by indigenous writers and incredible artists in Canada and the US. From traditional stories to exciting new visions of the future, this collection presents some of the finest comic book and graphic novel work in North America. The traditional stories presented in the book are with the permission from the elders in their respective communities, making this a truly genuine, never-before-seen publication. "Moonshot" is an incredible collection will amaze, intrigue and entertain! (Source: AH Comics)**Title: Secret Path****Author:** Gord Downie and Jeff Lemire.**Description:** A ten song digital download album by Gord Downie with a graphic novel by illustrator Jeff Lemire that tells the story of Chanie "Charlie" Wenjack, a twelve-year-old boy who died in flight from the Cecilia Jeffrey Indian Residential School fifty years ago. Chanie, misnamed Charlie by his teachers, was a young boy who died on October 22, 1966, walking the railroad tracks, trying to escape from the Cecilia Jeffrey Indian Residential School to return home. Chanie's home was 400 miles away. He didn't know that. He didn't know where it was, nor how to find it, but, like so many kids—more than anyone will be able to imagine—he tried. (Source: Simon & Schuster)**Title: Nunavik****Author:** Michel Hellman.**Description:** Part autobiography and part documentary, *Nunavik* is an honest and often funny account of Hellman's trek through Northern Quebec – where he meets members of the First Nations, various activists and a few shady characters along the way. Throughout the book, the author acknowledges (and challenges) his own prejudices while questioning the way the North forges our identity – both as individuals and as a nation. (Source: Pow Pow Press)**Title: Alec's Journey****Author:** J.C. Wesley.**Description:** Twelve-year-old Atungalik has learned to live with death and deprivation in his unforgiving Inuit homeland of the Barrens. There are greater challenges ahead, as he's pulled into new worlds - first, under the stern command of a trading post manager, and then in the urban dazzle of Ottawa and Winnipeg. Atungalik becomes Alec, and learns the city ways, but will he lose his Inuit identity and forget who he is? Alec's Journey is a deep and absorbing story of change, history, and the strength it takes for a young person to welcome both. (Source: Pemmican Publications)**Title: Lightfinder****Author:** Arron Paquette.**Description:** A fantasy novel about Aisling, a young Cree woman who sets out into the wilderness with her Kokum (grandmother), Aunty and two young men she barely knows. They have to find and rescue her runaway younger brother, Eric. Along the way she learns that the legends of her people might be real and that she has a growing power of her own. The story follows the paths of Aisling and Eric, siblings unwittingly thrust into a millennia old struggle for the future of life on earth. It deals with growing up, love and loss, and the choices life puts in our path. Love and confusion are in store, as are loss and pain. Things are not always what they seem and danger surrounds them at every turn. Will Raven's mysterious purposes prevail? With darkness closing in how will they find the light to guide them? Will Aisling find Eric in time? (Source: Kegedonce Press)

**Title: In Search of April Raintree****Author:** Beatrice Mosionier.**Description:** When two Métis sisters are taken from their family, they end up in separate foster homes. Despite the distance, they remain close, even as they make decisions that will take them farther apart, emotionally, culturally and geographically. As a child, Beatrice Culleton Mosionier was also in foster care, and she wrote this book in 1983 after losing two sisters to suicide. A moving story about determination, triumph and the bond that siblings share. (Source: CBC Books)**Title: Tilly****Author:** Monique Gray Smith.**Description:** Tilly has always known she's part Lakota on her dad's side. She's grown up with the traditional teachings of her grandma, relishing the life lessons of her beloved mentor. But it isn't until an angry man shouts something on the street that Tilly realizes her mom is Aboriginal too — a Cree woman taken from her own parents as a baby. Tilly feels her mother's pain deeply. She's always had trouble fitting in at school, and when her grandma dies unexpectedly, her anchor is gone. Then Abby, a grade-seven classmate, invites her home for lunch and offers her "something special" to drink. Nothing has prepared Tilly for the tingling in her legs, the buzz in her head and the awesome feeling that she can do anything. From then on, partying seems to offer an escape from her insecurities. But after one dangerously drunken evening, Tilly knows she has to change. Summoning her courage, she begins the long journey to finding pride in herself and her heritage. Just when she needs it most, a mysterious stranger offers some wise counsel: "Never question who you are or who your people are. It's in your eyes. I know it's in your heart." (Source: Sono Nis Press)**Title: Where I Belong****Author:** Tara White.**Description:** This moving tale of self-discovery takes place during the Oka uprising in the summer of 1990. Adopted as an infant, Carrie has always felt somehow out of place. Recurring dreams haunt her, warning her that someone close to her is in danger... When she discovers that her birth family is Mohawk living in Quebec, she makes the long journey and finally achieves the sense of home and belonging that had always eluded her. (Source: Tradewind Books)**Title: Shadows Cast by Stars****Author:** Catherine Knutsson.**Description:** In two hundred years, a plague will wipe out much of humanity. Only a few people are immune: the descendants of First Nations people. This includes 16-year-old Cassandra Mercredi. But being immune to the plague is just as dangerous: the government wants her blood to harvest the antibodies that cause immunity. Cassandra and her family go into hiding on the mysterious Island, but will they ever be safe again? Blending Aboriginal, Greek and Arthurian mythology, *Shadows Cast by Stars* is a fast-paced and moving adventure story for the ages. (Source: CBC Books)**Title: We are all...Treaty People****Author:** Maurice Switzer.**Description:** *We Are All Treaty People* is the 34-page illustrated history produced by the Union of Ontario Indians to promote their understanding of treaties for all people in Ontario. Written by Maurice Switzer, with coloured drawings by Charley Herbert, the explains the history of the Anishinaabeg, or Anishinabek nations. The nations of Ojibwa, Chippewa, Odawa, Mississauga, Potawatomi, Algonquin, and Delaware peoples are described. This book gives the history of the culture, values, co-existence, Seven Years War, treaties, Oka, and present day events. First Nations, Inuit and Métis content and perspectives. (Source: Goodminds)

**Title: The Girl Who Grew a Galaxy****Author:** Cherie Dimaline.

**Description:** As Ruby Bloom experiences a series of traumatic childhood events, planets start to grow around her head. The planets represent everyday feelings of guilt, envy, anxiety, and a range of other common emotions. Ruby has a lot going on; her mother is eating herself to death, a soul crushing museum job, and her flamboyant best friend who humiliates and saves her in equal doses. And then there's a galaxy of odd planets that spin around her head. When Ruby's sent to New Orleans for work, she finds an astronomer in an attic that just might be the way out of her chaotic solar system.

**Title: The Marrow Thieves****Author:** Cherie Dimaline.

**Description:** 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: Cold Skies****Author:** Thomas King

**Description:** Thumps DreadfulWater has finally found some peace and quiet. His past as a California cop now far behind him, he's living out his retirement as a fine-arts photographer in the small town of Chinook. His health isn't great, and he could use a new stove, but as long as he's got his cat and a halfway decent plate of eggs, life is good. All that changes when a body turns up on the eve of a major water conference and the understaffed sheriff's department turns to Thumps for help. Thumps wants none of it, but even he is intrigued when he learns the deceased was developing a new technology that could revolutionize water and oil drilling . . . and that could also lose some very powerful people a lot of money. As strangers begin to pour into Chinook for the conference, Thumps finds himself sinking deeper and deeper into a conflict between secretive players who will kill to get what they want. In Cold Skies, the sly, wry, reluctant investigator of DreadfulWater and The Red Power Murders returns for another irresistible mystery that only Thomas King could tell.

**Title: Those Who Run in the Sky****Author:** Aviaq Johnston.

**Description:** A coming-of-age story that follows a young shaman named Pitu as he learns to use his powers and ultimately finds himself lost in the world of the spirits. After a strange and violent blizzard leaves Pitu stranded on the sea ice, without his dog team or any weapons to defend himself, he soon realizes that he is no longer in the world that he once knew. The storm has carried him into the world of the spirits, a world populated with terrifying creatures. After stumbling upon a fellow shaman who has been trapped in the spirit world for many years, Pitu must master all of his shamanic powers to make his way back to the world of the living, to his family, and to the girl that he loves.

**Title: #Not Your Princess: Voice of Native American Women****Author:** Edited by Lisa Charleyboy & Mary Beth Leatherdale.

**Description:** Whether looking back to a troubled past or welcoming a hopeful future, the powerful voices of Indigenous girls and women across North America resound in this book. In the same visual style as the bestselling Dreaming in Indian, #NotYourPrincess presents an eclectic collection of poems, essays, interviews, and art that combine to express the experience of being a Native woman. Stories of abuse, intergenerational trauma, and stereotyping are countered by the voices of passionate women demanding change and realizing their dreams. Sometimes outraged, often reflective, but always strong,

the women in this book will give teen readers insight into the lives of women who, for so long, have had their history hidden and whose modern lives have been virtually invisible.

**Title: The Missing**

**Author:** Melanie Florence

**Description:** Feather, a Cree teenager in Winnipeg, watches her friends go missing — then is traumatized further when her own brother is wrongly implicated in one girl's disappearance. This young adult novel deals with contemporary issues like violence against Indigenous women and girls, and is also a classic mystery.

**Title: Rez Runaway**

**Author:** Melanie Florence

**Description:** Raised on a reserve in northern Ontario, seventeen-year-old Joe Littlechief tries to be like the other guys. But Joe knows he's different -- he's more interested in guys than in any of the girls he knows. One night Joe makes a drunken pass at his best friend Benjy and, by the next morning, everyone on the rez is talking about Joe. His mother, a devout Christian, is horrified, and the kids who are supposed to be his friends make it clear there's no place for him in their circle, or even on the rez. Joe thinks about killing himself, but instead runs away to the city. Alone and penniless on the streets of Toronto, Joe comes to identify with the Aboriginal idea of having two spirits, or combining both feminine and masculine identities in one person. He also begins to understand more about how his parents have been affected by their own experiences as children in residential schools -- something never discussed on the rez. And he realizes he has to come to terms with his two-spiritedness and find people who accept him for who he is. This is a novel that reflects the complex realities faced by young LGBTQ and aboriginal youth today. (Source: Amazon)

**Title: Just Lucky**

**Author:** Melanie Florence

**Description:** Fifteen-year-old Lucky loves her grandparents, but when her grandma sets the kitchen on fire, Lucky can't hide what's happening any longer, and she is sent into foster care. She quickly learns that some families are okay, and some aren't. And some really, really aren't. None of them feel like home. And they're certainly not family.

**Title: Jordin Tootoo: the highs and lows in the journey of the first Inuit player in the NHL**

**Author:** Melanie Florence

**Description:** Hockey is a relatively new sport in Canada's North. It wasn't until 2003 that Jordin Kudluk "Thunder" Tootoo became the first Inuk to play in an NHL game. Although hockey is a rough sport to begin with, Jordin Tootoo is known for having to "fight his way through." Jordin has had more than his fair share of fights -- both on and off the ice. He's had to overcome the social problems that are associated with the North, fight his way through the discrimination and culture shock he encountered after leaving Rankin Inlet and moving to Alberta to play in the Juniors, and see his way through the grief of losing his NHL-bound older brother and hero, Terence Tootoo, to suicide in 2002. This new biography explores the struggles and accomplishments of the most recognized role model for young Aboriginal and Inuit people today.

**Title: Pemmican Wars (A Girl Called Echo. Vol 1)**

**Author:** Katherena Vermeest. Illustrated by Scot B. Henderson and colouring by Donovan Yaciuk.

**Description:** Echo Desjardins, a 13-year-old Métis girl, is struggling with feelings of loneliness while attending a new school and living with a new foster family. Then an ordinary day in Mr. Bee's history class turns extraordinary and Echo's life will never be the same. During Mr. Bee's lecture, Echo finds herself transported to another time and place, a bison hunt on the Saskatchewan prairie, and back

again. In the following weeks, Echo slips back and forth in time. She visits a Metis camp, travels the old fur-trade routes and experiences the perilous era of the pemmican wars.

**Title: Secret Path**

**Author:** Gord Downie. Illustrated by Jeff Lemire.

**Description:** Twelve-year-old Chanie Wenjack, misnamed Charlie by his teachers, died on October 22, 1966, trying to escape residential school and return to his family. Acknowledging a dark part of Canada's history — the mistreatment of Indigenous children and families by the residential school system — the story of Chanie Wenjack's tragic death compels all Canadians to make peace with the truth of the past. Chanie's story is Canada's story.

**Title: The Night Wanderer: a native gothic novel**

**Author:** Drew Hayden Taylor

**Description:** A troubled teenager's life on a reservation is complicated when her father rents her room to an ancient vampire, newly returned to his tribal home from Europe. A blending of Gothic romance and modern coming-of-age, this is unlike any other vampire story.

**Title: Fire Starters (graphic novel)**

**Author:** Jen Storm

**Description:** Looking for a little mischief after finding an old flare gun, Ron and Ben find themselves in trouble when the local gas bar on Agamiing Reserve goes up in flames, and they are wrongly accused of arson by the sheriff's son. As the investigation goes forward, community attitudes are revealed, and the truth slowly comes to light.

**Title: The Pact (graphic novel)**

**Author:** David A. Robertson

**Description:** As the pain and loss of James's residential school experiences follow him into adulthood, his life spirals out of control. Haunted by guilt, he is unable to maintain a relationship with Lauren and their son Edwin. Edwin, mired in his own pain, tries to navigate past the desolation of his fatherless childhood. As James tries to heal himself he begins to realize that, somehow, he may save his son's life — as well as his own. When father and son finally meet, can they heal their shattered relationship, and themselves, or will it be too late?

**Title: Strangers**

**Author:** David A. Robertson

**Description:** When Cole Harper is compelled to return to Wounded Sky First Nation, he finds his community in chaos: a series of shocking murders, a mysterious illness ravaging the residents, and reemerging questions about Cole's role in the tragedy that drove him away 10 years ago.

**Title: Apple in the Middle**

**Author:** Dawn Quigley

**Description:** Apple Starkington turned her back on her Native American heritage the moment she was called a prairie nigger—a racial slur for someone of white and Indian descent—not that she really even knows how to be an Indian in the first place. Too bad the white world doesn't accept her either. And so begins her quirky habits to gain acceptance.



**Title: Good for Nothing****Author:** Michel Noel

**Description:** The year is 1959, and fifteen-year-old Nipishish returns to his reserve in northern Quebec after being kicked out of residential school, where the principal tells him he's a good-for-nothing who, like all Indians, can look forward to a life of drunkenness, prison and despair.

**Title: Kiss of the Fur Queen****Author:** Tomson Highway

**Description:** Born into a magical Cree world in snowy northern Manitoba, Champion and Ooneemeetoo Okimasis are all too soon torn from their family and thrust into the hostile world of a Catholic residential school. Their language is forbidden, their names are changed to Jeremiah and Gabriel, and both boys are abused by priests. As young men, estranged from their own people and alienated from the culture imposed upon them, the Okimasis brothers fight to survive. Wherever they go, the Fur Queen--a wily, shape-shifting trickster--watches over them with a protective eye. For Jeremiah and Gabriel are destined to be artists. Through music and dance they soar.

**Title: A Big Dose of Lucky****Author:** Marthe Jocelyn

**Description:** Malou has just turned sixteen, hardly old enough to be out in the world on her own, and all she knows for sure is that she's of mixed race and that she was left at an orphanage as a newborn. When the orphanage burns to the ground, she finds out that she may have been born in a small town in Ontario's cottage country. Much to her surprise, Parry Sound turns out to have quite a few young brown faces, but Malou can't believe they might be related to her. After she finds work as a cleaner in the local hospital, an Aboriginal boy named Jimmy helps her find answers to her questions about her parents. The answers are as stunning, and life-changing, as anything Malou could have imagined back at the orphanage.

**Title: Rain is Not My Indian Name****Author:** Cynthia Leitich Smith

**Description:** *The next day was my fourteenth birthday, and I'd never kissed a boy -- domestic style or French. Right then, I decided to get myself a teen life.* Cassidy Rain Berghoff didn't know that the very night she decided to get a life would be the night that Galen would lose his. It's been six months since her best friend died, and up until now Rain has succeeded in shutting herself off from the world. But when controversy arises around her aunt Georgia's Indian Camp in their mostly white midwestern community, Rain decides to face the outside world again -- at least through the lens of her camera. Hired by her town newspaper to photograph the campers, Rain soon finds that she has to decide how involved she wants to become in Indian Camp. Does she want to keep a professional distance from the intertribal community she belongs to? And just how willing is she to connect with the campers after her great loss?