

INDIGENOUS VOICES IN LITERATURE: CHILDREN'S BOOKS

1

SWEETEST KULU BY CELINA KALLUK

Sweetest Kulu is a beautiful bedtime poem written by acclaimed throat singer, Celina Kalluk. It describes the gifts given by all the animals of the Arctic to a newborn baby or kulu, the Inuktitut term of endearment for babies or young children. Furthermore, the book is imbued with traditional Inuit values of love and respect for the land and its animal inhabitants.



2

THE MARROW THIEVES BY CHERIE DIMALINE

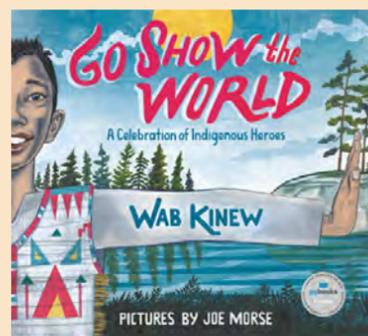
In *The Marrow Thieves*, the earth is nearly destroyed by global warming, however, an even greater threat lurks. The Indigenous peoples of North America are now being hunted and harvested for their bone marrow as it is needed to recover the rest of the population's ability to dream. In order to survive this dark, new world, Frenchie and his friends head north to the old lands in order to try to hide and survive. However, one of them may be the key to defeating the marrow thieves.



3

GO SHOW THE WORLD BY WAB KINEW

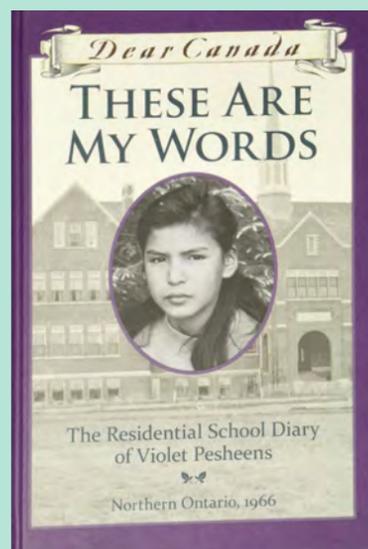
Go Show the World: A Celebration of Indigenous Heroes celebrates the stories of Indigenous peoples throughout time. The book showcases a number of diverse Indigenous persons from both the United States and Canada. Some of these figures are well-known and widely recognized like NHL goaltender, Carey Price, while others are less well-known. Individually, these stories inspire, but collectively, they impart an important message that Indigenous peoples matter and this is what they can do.



4

DEAR CANADA: THESE ARE MY WORDS BY RUBY SLIPPERJACK

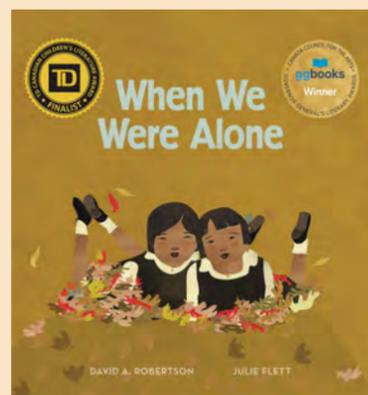
A part of the Dear Canada series, *These Are My Words: The Residential School Diary of Violet Pesheens* tells the story of a 12-year old girl's experience at residential school in 1966. Throughout the book, Violet writes about her struggles at the residential school including missing her family, her loss of identity and the fear she has of forgetting the things she values most such as her language and culture. Though this novel is fictional, it draws from the real experiences the author had at residential school.



5

WHEN WE WERE ALONE BY DAVID A. ROBERTSON

As a young girl helps tend to her grandmother's garden, she begins to notice some things that make her curious. For example, why does her grandmother have long, braided hair and beautifully coloured clothing? Why does she speak another language and spend so much time with her family? When she asks her grandmother about these things, she is told about life in a residential school and how all these things were taken away.



Many of these titles and more have already been included in a Raven Reads subscription box. To learn more about ways to access other great Indigenous authors please see: <https://ravenreads.org>



INDIGENOUS VOICES IN LITERATURE: AUTHORS OF CHILDREN'S BOOKS

SWEETEST KULU BY CELINA KALLUK



Celina Kalluk is an Inuit throat singer, novelist and educator. Currently, she is an Inuktitut Language Specialist and Cultural Arts teacher for grades seven through twelve at Qarmartalik School in Resolute Bay, Nunavut.

Other works by the author: The People Behind the Inukshuk,

1

THE MARROW THIEVES BY CHERIE DIMALINE



Cherie Dimaline is an award-winning Métis author and editor. She was the founding editor of Muskrat Magazine, a columnist and editor for Chatelaine magazine, and is the founder and organizer of the annual Indigenous Writers' Gathering.

Other works by the author: Empire of Wild.

2

GO SHOW THE WORLD BY WAB KINEW



Wab Kinew is an Ojibway hip-hop artist, journalist, broadcaster, university administrator, author, activist and politician. He spent his early years on Onigaming First Nation in northern Ontario before moving with his family to Winnipeg. Currently, he is the Leader of the Manitoba New Democratic Party and the Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba.

Other works by the author: The Reason You Walk and Walking in Two Worlds.

3

DEAR CANADA: THESE ARE MY WORDS BY RUBY SLIPPERJACK



Ruby Slipperjack is a member of the Eabametoong First Nation, and is an accomplished author and painter. In the 1960s, Slipperjack attended Shingwauk Residential School in Sault Ste. Marie for several years before attending high school in Thunder Bay. She currently resides in Thunder Bay having recently retired as a professor in the Indigenous Learning Department at Lakehead University.

Other works by the author: Dog Tracks, Little Voice and Honour the Sun.

4

WHEN WE WERE ALONE BY DAVID A. ROBERTSON



David A. Robertson is a member of Norway House Cree Nation and is a critically acclaimed and award-winning author of both fiction and non-fiction. To date, he has published over 20 books across a variety of genres including novels, children's books and memoir. He also writes and hosts a podcast called, "Kiwew."

Other works by the author: Black Water, Sugar Falls: A Residential School Story, The Misewa Saga, and many more.

5

Many of these titles and more have already been included in a Raven Reads subscription box. To learn more about ways to access other great Indigenous authors please see: <https://ravenreads.org>

