INDIGENOUS AUTHORS & STORIES

All titles listed available at libraries in the Monroe County Library System.
**Fiction**

**Probably Ruby: A Novel** by Lisa Bird-Wilson (2022)
An Indigenous woman adopted by white parents goes in search of her identity in this unforgettable debut novel about family, race, and history.

**Too Much Lip** by Melissa Lucashenko (2020)
Gritty and darkly hilarious novel quaking with life-winner of Australia’s Miles Franklin Award— that follows a queer, First Nations Australian woman as she returns home to face her family and protect the land of their ancestors.

**Little Big Bully** by Heid E. Erdrich (2020)
Renowned Native American poet Heid E. Erdrich applies her rich inventive voice and fierce wit to the deforming effects of harassment and oppression.

**Walking the Clouds** ed. by Grace L. Dillon (2012)
This anthology of science fiction features contributions by Native American, First Nations, Aboriginal Australian, and New Zealand Māori authors.

**VenCo** by Cherie Dimaline (2023)
Lucky St. James is facing eviction from her Toronto apartment. She feels a strange calling, which leads her to find a silver spoon buried in the wall, radiating with an otherworldly energy. Lucky is familiar with the magic of her indigenous ancestors, but she has no idea that the spoon connects her to a teeming network of witches across North America who have anxiously awaited her discovery.

**Woman of Light: A Novel** by Kali Fajardo-Anstine (2022)
A dazzling epic of betrayal, love, and fate that spans five generations of an Indigenous Chicano family in the American West, from the author of the National Book Award finalist *Sabrina & Corina.*
The Night Watchman by Louise Erdrich (2020)
Thomas Wazhashk is a Chippewa tribal council member, who, after witnessing efforts from the US Government to “emancipate” Native Americans with a new bill, fights against this threat to their land and identities.

The Removed by Brandon Hobson (2021)
A Cherokee family struggles with their grief after their son’s traumatic death at the hands of police. The father suffers from Alzheimer’s, the mother with his care, the other son from drug addiction and the daughter from dizzying spells, which all prompt new spiritual connections leading up to the Cherokee National Holiday.

Calling for a Blanket Dance by Oscar Hokeah (2022)
A young Native American boy in a splintering family grasps for stability and love, making all the wrong choices until he finds a space of his own.

Bad Cree by Jessica Johns (2023)
A young Cree woman is tormented by vivid dreams from before her sister’s untimely death and wakes up with a severed crow’s head in her hands before returning to her rural hometown in Alberta seeking answers.

The Only Good Indians by Stephen Graham Jones (2020)
Four American Indian men from the Blackfeet Nation, who were childhood friends, find themselves in a desperate struggle for their lives, against an entity that wants to exact revenge upon them for what they did during an elk hunt ten years earlier by killing them, their families, and friends.

There, There by Tommy Orange (2018)
Twelve Native Americans travel to the Big Oakland Powwow in California for different reasons. This multi-generational novel moves across each person’s story and provides a slice of life look at an America that many have never experienced.

Beadworkers by Beth Piatote (2019)
Beth Piatote’s debut story collection opens with a feast, grounding its stories in the landscapes and lifeworlds of the Native Northwest, exploring the inventive and unforgettable pattern of Native American life in the contemporary world.
**Tread of Angels** by Rebecca Roanhorse (2022)
From the best-selling author of *Between Earth and Sky* series comes a genre-bending standalone murder mystery with angels and demons.

**When Two Feathers Fell From the Sky** by Margaret Verble (2021)
Set in 1926 Nashville, this novel follows a death-defying young Cherokee horse-diver who, with her companions from the Glendale Park Zoo, must get to the bottom of a mystery that spans centuries.

**Making Love with the Land** (2022) and **Jonny Apple Seed** (2019) by Joshua Whitehead
*Jonny Appleseed* is a funny, moving, original story about a 20-something Two-Spirit/Indigiqueer person living and loving and working and remembering in the week leading up to his stepdad’s funeral. It won the 2021 Canada Reads Award. *Making Love with the Land* is a genre-defying collection of essays about nature, kinship, queerness, and language.

**The Clockwork Dynasty** by Daniel Wilson (2017)
A tale set in the near future finds the world thrown into chaos by rebelling artificial intelligences under the leadership of a murderous technology called Archos, that kills its creator and takes over the global network, triggering an unprecedented united front among all human cultures.

**NONFICTION & BIOGRAPHY**

**New Native Kitchen: Celebrating Modern Recipes of the American Indian** by Freddie Bitsoie (2021)
Chef Bitsoie shares his expertise and culinary insights into Native American cooking and suggests new approaches for every home cook. With recipes as varied as the peoples that inspired them, this essential cookbook celebrates the Indigenous heritage of American cuisine.
Black Elk: Being the Life Story of a Holy Man of the Oglala Sioux
by Black Elk (1979)
This inspirational and powerful story reveals the life and visions of the Lakota healer Nicholas Black Elk and the tragic history of his Sioux people during the epic closing decades of the Old West.

The Rediscovery of America: Native People and the Unmaking of US History (2023 rel. 4/25/23) by Ned Blackhawk
A sweeping retelling of U.S. History that recognizes that Native Americans are essential to understanding the evolution of modern America.

Lakota Woman by Mary Brave Bird (1990)
Mary Brave Bird grew up fatherless in a one-room cabin, without running water or electricity, on the Rosebud Indian Reservation in South Dakota. Rebelling against the aimless drinking, punishing missionary school, narrow strictures for women, and violence, she joined the new movement of tribal pride sweeping Native American communities in the sixties and seventies.

Indigenous Firsts: A History of Native American Achievements and Events by Yvonne Wakim Dennis (2023)
This collection recognizes and honors 2,000 barrier-breaking trailblazers and history-making events in multiple fields: arts, entertainment, business, sovereignty, education, government, religion, science, sports, music, and more.

Our History is the Future: Standing Rock versus the Dakota Access Pipeline, and the Long Tradition of Indigenous Resistance
by Nick Estes (2019)
Nick Estes traces traditions of Indigenous resistance leading to the #NoDAPL (No Dakota Oil Pipeline) movement from the days of the Missouri River trading forts through the Indian Wars, the Pick-Sloan dams, the American Indian Movement, and the campaign for Indigenous rights at the United Nations.
Dog Flowers by Danielle Gellar (2021)
After Gellar’s mother dies from alcohol, she returns home to the Navajo reservation to confront her family’s history and retrace her mother’s life as she sorts through a series of her mother’s documents, diaries, and photographs.

Weaving Sundown in a Scarlet Light: 50 Poems for 50 Years
by Joy Harjo (2023)
Harjo selects her best poems from across fifty years, beginning with her early discoveries of her own voice and ending with moving reflections on our contemporary moment. Generous notes on each poem offer insight into Harjo’s inimitable poetics as she takes inspiration from Navajo horse songs and jazz, reckons with home and loss, and listens to the natural messengers of the earth.

Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants
by Robin Wall Kimmerer (2015)
As a botanist, Kimmerer has been trained to ask questions of nature with the tools of science. As a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, she embraces the notion that plants and animals are our oldest teachers. She brings these two lenses of knowledge together to forge a voyage that is scientific, yet mythical and historical, yet sacred.

Dark Emu: Aboriginal Australia and the Birth of Agriculture
by Bruce Pascoe (2018)
Bruce Pascoe uncovers evidence that long before the arrival of white men, Aboriginal people across the continent were building dams and wells; planting, irrigating, and harvesting seeds, and then preserving the surplus and storing it in houses, sheds, or secure vessels; and creating elaborate cemeteries and manipulating the landscape.

Red Paint: The Ancestral Autobiography of a Coast Salish Punk
by Sasha taqwšeblu LaPointe (2022)
This memoir focuses on LaPointe’s journey to make her way in the world, escaping poverty and abuse and wanting to build a better future for herself and her people. She enters the punk scene of the Pacific Northwest and learns about herself and her path to educating about the historical and current traumas Indigenous communities face.
Heart Berries by Terese Marie Mailhot (2018)
This memoir is a coming-of-age story of a young woman on the Seabird Island Indian Reservation in the Pacific Northwest. After diagnoses of post-traumatic stress disorder and bipolar II disorder, Mailhot is given a notebook and begins to write her way out of trauma.

A rare and often intimate glimpse at the resilience and perseverance of Native women who face each day positively and see the richness in their lives.

Highway of Tears: A True Story of Racism, Indifference, and the Pursuit of Justice for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
by Jessica McDiarmid (2019)
This work of investigative journalism follows a series of unsolved disappearances and murders of Indigenous women in rural British Columbia along Highway 16, a 450-mile stretch of dirt and asphalt, surrounded by rugged wilderness and snowy mountain peaks.

Heartbeat of Wounded Knee: Native America from 1890 to the Present by David Treuer (2019)
David Treuer combines memoir and history to shed light on the intimate story of the Sioux tribe’s resiliency in a transitional era from traditional to modern, moving forward after the events at Wounded Knee.

Poūkahangatus by Tayi Tibble (2022)
The American debut of an acclaimed young poet as she explores her identity as a twenty-first-century Indigenous woman.

Carry: A Memoir of Survival on Stolen Land by Toni Jensen (2020)
A powerful, poetic memoir about what it means to exist as an Indigenous woman in America, told in snapshots of the author’s encounters with gun violence.
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