

## Indian (Native American) Authors

The literature of American Indians (Native Americans) has its origins in rituals, ceremonies, storytelling, oratory, and autobiographical and historical accounts of the tribes. Not until the 20th Century did Indian literature come into its own with a variety of genres such as poetry, drama, novels, and short stories.

Listed below are selected Native American writers, their tribes, if known (in parentheses), and their writings, gleaned from *Literatures of the American Indian* by A. Lavonne Brown Ruoff and other sources.

(See also List 151, Indian [Native American] Literature, and List 152, Indian/White Relations: Westerns.)

### 19th-Century Indian Writers

**William Apes** (Pequot)

*A Son of the Forest* (autobiography)

**David Cusick**

*Sketches of Ancient History of the Six Nations*

**George Copway** (Ojibway)

*Traditional History and Characteristic Sketches of the Ojibway Nation*

*Running Sketches of Men and Places, in England, France, Germany, Belgium, and Scotland*

*Life, History, and Travels of Kah-Ge-Gah-Bowh* (autobiography)

**Peter Jones** (Kahkewaquonaby)

*History of the Ojibway*

**Charles Warren** (Ojibwa)

*History of the Ojibways, Based on Traditions and Oral Statements*

**Peter Dooyentate Clarke** (Wyandott)

*Origin and Traditional History of the Wyandotts and Other Indian Tribes in North America*

**Elias Johnson** (Tuscarora)

*Legends, Traditions and Laws of the Iroquois, or Six Nations, and History of Tuscarora Indians*

**Andrew J. Blackbird** (Ottawa)

*History of the Ottawa and Chippewa Indians of Michigan; A Grammar of Their Language, and Personal and Family History of the Author*

**George Henry** (Ojibwa)

*An Account of The Chippewa Indians, Who Have Been Travelling Among the Whites, in the United States, England, Ireland, Scotland, France, And Belgium*

**Rollin Ridge** (part Cherokee)

*Life and Adventures of Joaquin Murieta* (novel)

*Poems*

*A Trumpet of Our Own* (essays)

**Sarah Winnemucca Hopkins** (Piute)

*Life Among the Piutes* (autobiography)

**Simon Pokagon** (Potawatomi)

*Queen of the Woods* (novel attributed to Pokagon)

**Early 20th-Century Indian Writers**

**Emily Pauline Johnson** (part Mohawk)

- White Wampum* (poetry)
- Canadian Born* (poetry)
- Flint and Feather* (poetry)
- The Moccasin Maker* (short stories)

**Alexander Posey** (Creek)

- Indian Journal* (Ed.)
- The Poems of Alexander Posey*

**Charles Eastman**

- Soul of the Indian* (nonfiction)
- The Indian Today* (history)
- Indian Heroes and Great Chieftains* (nonfiction)
- Indian Boyhood* (autobiography to age fifteen)
- From the Deep Woods to Civilization* (autobiography)

**Charles and Elaine Eastman**

- Red Hunters and the Animal People* (animal stories)
- Old Indian Days* (stories)
- Wigwam Evenings: Sioux Folktales Retold*

**Luther Standing Bear** (Sioux)

- My People, the Sioux* (co-authored nonfiction)
- Land of the Spotted Eagle* (co-authored nonfiction)
- My Indian Boyhood* (book for children)

**Gertrude Bonnin** (Sioux)

- American Indian Stories* (autobiographical essays)

**Francis LaFlesche** (Omaha)

- The Middle Five* (autobiography)

**John G. Neihardt** (Ed.) (Lakota Sioux)

- Black Elk Speaks* (autobiography)

**Will Rogers** (Cherokee descent)

- Roger-isms: The Cowboy Philosopher on the Peace Conference*
- Roger-isms: The Cowboy Philosopher on Prohibition*
- Illiterate Digest*
- Letters of a Self-Made Diplomat to His President*
- There's Not a Bathing Suit in Russia*
- Ether and Me*

**John Milton Oskison** (part Cherokee)

- Wild Harvest* (novel)
- Black Jack Davy* (novel)
- Brothers Three* (novel)
- Tecumseh and His Times* (biography)

**John Joseph Mathews** (Osage)

*Wah' Kontah* (nonfiction)

*Sundown* (novel)

*Life and Death of an Oilman: The Career of E. W. Marland* (biography)

*The Osages: Children of the Middle Waters* (nonfiction)

**D'Arcy McNickle** (part Cree ancestry)

*The Surrounded* (novel)

*The Runner in the Sun* (novel for middle-schoolers)

*Wind from an Enemy Sky* (novel)

*They Came Here First* (nonfiction)

*The Indian Tribes of The United States* (nonfiction)

*Indians and Other Americans* (nonfiction)

*Native American Tribalism* (nonfiction)

*Indian Man* (biography)

**Lynn Riggs** (Cherokee)

*The Iron Dish* (poetry)

*Big Lake* (drama)

*Borned in Texas* (folk drama produced as *Roadside*)

*Green Grow the Lilacs* (folk drama produced as *Oklahoma!*)

*Cherokee Night* (drama)

**Ella C. Deloria** (part Sioux)

*Dakota Texts* (nonfiction)

*Dakota Grammar* (nonfiction)

*Speaking of Indians* (nonfiction)

*Waterlily* (novel)

**Modern Indian Writers (1950s–2000s)**

**John Fire** (Sioux)

*Lame Deer, Seeker of Visions* (autobiography)

**Christine Quintasket** (part Colville), published posthumously

*Co-Ge-We-A, the Half Blood* (novel co-authored)

*Mourning Dove: A Salish Autobiography* (co-authored)

**N. Scott Momaday** (Kiowa)

*House Made of Dawn* (novel)

*The Way to Rainy Mountain* (autobiography)

*Ancient Child* (novel)

*Names* (autobiography)

*The Gourd Dancer* (poetry)

**Elizabeth Cook-Lynn** (Sioux)

*Then Badger Said This*

**Leslie Marmon Silko** (part Laguna Pueblo)

*Ceremony* (novel)

*Storyteller* (short stories and poetry)

**James Welch** (Blackfeet/Gros Ventre)

*Winter in the Blood* (novel)

*The Death of Jim Loney* (novel)

*Fools Crow* (novel)

**Gerald Vizenor** (Ojibwa/Anishanabe)

*Twin Citian* (contributing editor)

*Interior Landscapes* (autobiography)

*Word Arrows* (fiction/nonfiction)

*Earth Divers* (fiction/nonfiction)

*The People Named the Chippewa* (fiction/nonfiction)

*Darkness in Saint Louis Bearheart* (novel)

*Griever: An American Money King in China* (novel)

*The Trickster of Liberty: Tribal Heirs to a Wild Baronage at Petronia* (novel)

**Louise Erdrich** (Ojibwa) and **Michael Dorris** (Modoc)

*Love Medicine* (novel)

*The Beet Queen* (novel)

*Tracks* (novel)

*The Crown of Columbus* (novel)

*Jacklight* (poetry)

**Michael Dorris** (Modoc)

*A Yellow Raft on Blue Water* (novel)

*The Broken Cord: A Family's Ongoing Struggle with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome* (nonfiction)

**Martin Cruz Smith** (Senecu del Sur/Yaqui)

*Nightwing* (mystery novel)

*Stallion Gate* (mystery novel)

*Gorky Park* (mystery novel)

*Polar Star* (mystery novel)

**Thomas King** (Cherokee)

*Medicine River* (novel)

**Anna Walters** (Otoe/Pawnee)

*Ghost Singer* (novel)

**Paula Gunn Allen** (part Laguna/Sioux)

*The Woman Who Owned the Shadows* (novel)

*Skins and Bones: Poems 1979–81*

**Janet Campbell Hale** (Coeur d'Alene/Kootenai)

*The Jailing of Cecelia Capture* (novel)

*Owl's Song* (novel)

**Forest Carter** (Cherokee)

*The Education of Little Tree* (autobiographical fiction for teenagers)

*Rebel Outlaw, Josey Wales* (western)

*The Vengeance Trail of Josey Wales* (western)

*Watch for Me on the Mountain* (western)

**Germaine Arnaktauyok** (Inuit)

*Harpoon of the Hunter: Markoosie*

**Simon Ortiz** (Acoma)

*Fight Back* (poetry)

*Going for the Rain* (poetry)

*The Good Journey* (poetry)

*Howbah Indians* (short stories)

*From Sand Creek* (poetry)

**Peter Blue Cloud**

*Elderberry Flute Song* (poetry and tales)

**Joy Harjo**

*What Moon Drove Me to This* (poetry)

*In Mad Love and War* (poetry)

**Linda Hogan** (Chickasaw)

*Mean Spirit* (historical novel)

**Hanay Geiogamah** (Kiowa)

*New Native American Drama: Three Plays*

**Vine Deloria Jr.** (Sioux)

*Custer Died for Your Sins* (nonfiction)

*We Talk, You Listen* (nonfiction)

**A. Grove Day** (Ed.)

*The Sky Clears: Poetry of the American Indian* (songs and chants)

**Denton R. Bedford** (Minsee)

*Tsali*

**Roger Russell Nasnaga** (Shawnee)

*Indians' Summer*

**Chief George Pierre** (Colville)

*Autumn's Bounty*