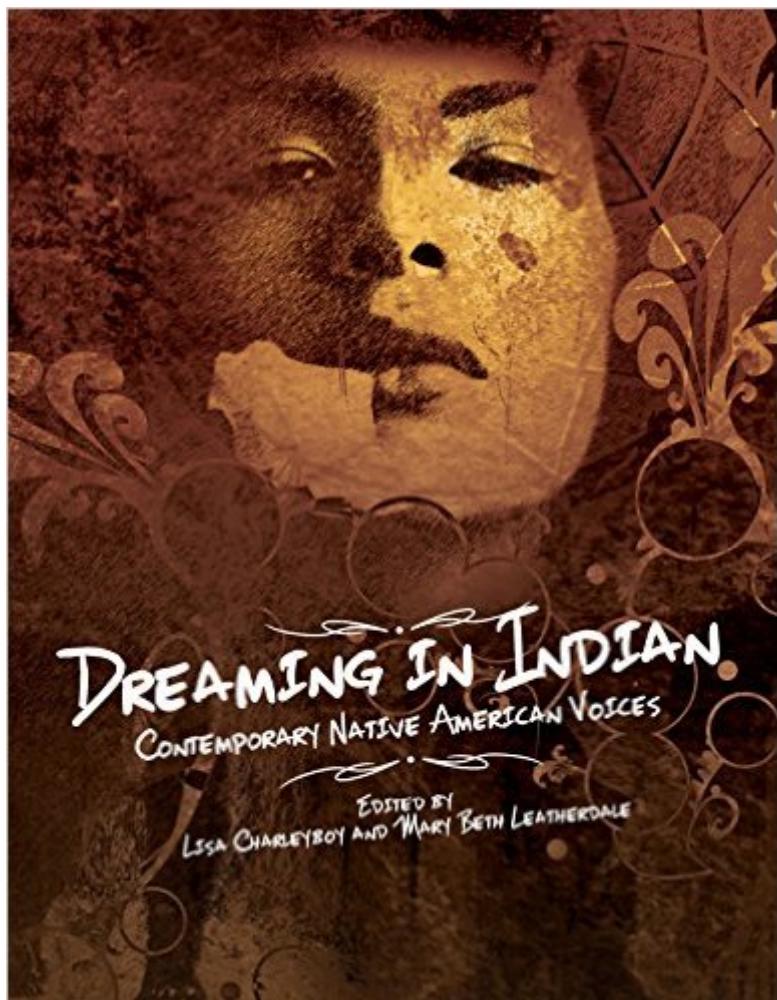


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# Dreaming In Indian: Contemporary Native American Voices



## **Synopsis**

A powerful and visually stunning anthology from some of the most groundbreaking Native artists working in North America today. Truly universal in its themes, Dreaming In Indian will shatter commonly held stereotypes and challenge readers to rethink their own place in the world. Divided into four sections, "Roots," "Battles," "Medicines," and "Dreamcatchers," this book offers readers a unique insight into a community often misunderstood and misrepresented by the mainstream media.

## **Book Information**

Hardcover: 128 pages

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Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.4 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (6 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #618,839 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #75 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Canada #444 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Native North & South Americans #846 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Multicultural

Age Range: 12 - 14 years

Grade Level: 6 - 12

## **Customer Reviews**

This is a book that is both easy and difficult to review; easy because it is simply excellent, difficult because it is so many things in one wonderful source. While it is intended for both Native and non-Native youth of high school age as a way of both becoming more aware of the truths of Indigenous ways of life of the past and present, the participants are both older and younger than that age group. It is also a book that I would recommend to adult readers who want a more realistic view of Indian life than that which is usually provided in the various media. Using memoir, poetry, fiction, various forms of artistic expression, fashion, hip hop lyrics, and many other forms, Dreaming in Indian provides a portrait of the people of today as well as some from earlier days who were forcibly removed from their families and tribes. There is traditional; there is modern. A touch of

tradition: And finally, I had one more question: "Mom, why do we greet the dawn?" She said, "We greet the dawn because we are the people of the dawn. We are the first ones to see the white light coming to announce the sunrise, and when the sun comes up, it gives us light and we are able to see where we are going and we are able to work, and the sun gives us warmth and the Elders feel better and are able to move around. There is magic everywhere," she added, "like when the sun and moon are in the sky at the same time, on the full moon, it's magic." (My Mother's Teachings, Isabelle Knockwood. p 17) From that same article, In 1867, the British North America Act stated Canada's goal "Our country's goal is to destroy the tribal society and to assimilate Indians into the white dominant society as quickly as it is convenient." (p 17) The United States pursued similar goals. The US ended their program in the 1950s and 1960s, Canada later. And now for the modern: Q & A with Arigon Starr..... What inspired you to create a Native American superhero? Thinking about me and my sister as kids looking for something to read that had Native people in it. Anywhere. Even as a sidekick. I hope my work inspires other kids to write their stories, too. (p 31) So much here. I have only scratched the surface. I very strongly recommend this book to young adults, their parents and other interested adults. An ecopy of this book was provided by the publisher through NetGalley in return for an honest review.

I would like to start off by saying I like this book. It's similar to a magazine in that it is very visual. The book has more visuals than writing. I rated it three stars because the book is advertised as being appropriate for grades 6 and up, but I would say the themes addressed are more appropriate for upper high school. I work on a reservation and hoped to find a book for my middle grade students, but there is talk of sexual abuse, prostitution, and drug and alcohol abuse that makes me reluctant to share this book in its entirety with my classes. I liked some of the art and the topics of stereotypes, but I also wish there were more articles.

DREAMING IN INDIAN: CONTEMPORARY NATIVE AMERICAN VOICES edited by Lisa Charleyboy and Mary Beth Leatherdale is an outstanding anthology sure to engage youth in discussions about 21st century Native American culture. The beautifully illustrated text includes the perspectives of over 50 contemporary artists. The predominately young adult authors challenge traditional stereotypes and encourage youth to think about what it means to be a Native American in today's society. The individual pieces featured in the collection address authentic issues facing Native American youth. While some works explore problems such as residential schools that are unique to Indian culture, others contain universal themes such as bullying that will resonate with

all young adults. Many of the works focus on issues of acceptance, prejudice, self-esteem, and tolerance through everyday experiences like sports, dance, and fashion. The stunning layout and visual display will immediately attract the attention of teen readers. Photographs, sketches, paintings, comics, and collage are just a few of the many types of illustrations that so effectively convey the artists thoughts and insights of the artists. These illustrations are expertly woven into the engaging poetry and prose. Readers will be fascinated by the cultural references from food and family to music and medicine. Along with their names, the tribal affiliation of each artist is identified. This information is particularly useful for students who wish to learn more about individuals with particular tribal affiliations. The book is divided into four sections focusing on the themes of roots, battles, medicines, and dreamcatchers. These areas would provide a rich starting point for group discussions. This original work is a valuable resource for any library seeking to expand its cultural collection. Although aimed at young adults, there are aspects of this book that would appeal to both younger and older audiences too. For many teens, reading *THE ABSOLUTELY TRUE DIARY OF A PART-TIME INDIAN* by Sherman Alexie is their only exposure to Native American culture. Through this book, young people may gain a better appreciation of the diversity of interests and experiences of indigenous youth. ARC NetGalley Review

Inspiring overall but a little bit disjointed [writing styles, images by different artists] and in places sketchy. Hard to pinpoint why, but it just did not seem to be a totally engaged attempt to address a profound topic. However -- glad it exists!

A beautiful contemporary book which made a perfect gift.

A very interesting book

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