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Creating Recreational Opportunities while Bringing Walker Lake Back to Life

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Devastation of Alaska Native Villages Kipnuk and Kwigillingok

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18 Must-Read Books by Indigenous Authors

Gathering of Native Americans brings together local tribes for cultural activities



In the 1960s, Harvard graduate student Jean Briggs made a remarkable discovery about human anger.

At 34, she traveled beyond the Arctic Circle and lived in the tundra for 17 months. No roads. No heating. No grocery stores. Winters dropped below -40°C .

Briggs convinced an Inuit family to “adopt” her so she could observe their life in its natural rhythm. Soon, she noticed something extraordinary: the adults had an almost superhuman ability to control their anger. They never lost their temper.

One day, someone spilled a boiling kettle inside an igloo, damaging the ice floor. No shouting. No blame. Just a calm, “Too bad,” before fetching more water. Another time, a fishing line—painstakingly woven for days—snapped on the very first cast. The only response? “Let’s make another one.”

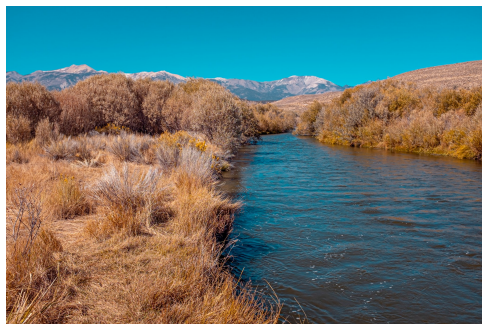
Next to them, Briggs felt like an impulsive child. So she began asking: How do Inuit parents teach their children this emotional mastery?

One afternoon, she found her answer. A young mother was playing with her angry two-year-old son. She handed him a small stone and said, “Hit me with it. Again. Harder.” When he threw it, she covered her eyes and pretended to cry, “Ooooh, that hurts!”

To Briggs, it seemed strange—until she realized it was a powerful lesson. The Inuit believe you never scold a small child or speak to them in an angry voice. Instead, they use gentle play to teach empathy and self-control. Even if a child hits or bites you, you respond with calm, not rage.

Maybe the rest of us could learn something from a culture where anger isn’t feared... because it’s understood. 🙌

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1GdQEL3yxd/>



[Creating Recreational Opportunities while Bringing Walker Lake Back to Life](#)

By [Tim Hauserman](#)

September 9, 2025

The high desert of Western Nevada is a land of starkly beautiful multi-colored peaks, endless waves of sagebrush, and stands of drought resistant pinyon pines. It is a hardy land of quiet allure, but in the midst of this arid landscape, a few bustling rivers bordered by green ribbons of vegetation liven up the landscape and provide the essentials of life. One of these rivers is the Walker River.

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### **Glacier melt will lead to ice-free peaks in California for first time in human history**

New research shows massive glaciers in Sierra Nevada projected to melt away by the beginning of the next century

[https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2025/oct/07/california-sierra-nevada-glaciers?](https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2025/oct/07/california-sierra-nevada-glaciers?utm_source=firefox-newtab-en-us)  
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## Why Trump's purge of 'negative' national park signs includes climate change

10/10/2025 02:38

**National parks are melting, burning, and drying out. Rangers are being forced to take down signs explaining why.**

Extract: "Thanks to President Donald Trump, Interior is ensuring that the American people are no longer being fed the lies of the delusional Green New Scam," said Aubrie Spady, the Interior's deputy press secretary, in a statement. "The content was taken down because this administration believes in only administering facts based on real science to the American public, not brainless fear-mongering rhetoric used to steal taxpayer dollars."

Elizabeth Peace, a spokesperson for the National Park Service, put it a more neutral way: "The president has directed federal agencies to review interpretive materials to ensure accuracy, honesty, and alignment with shared national values."

The sign removals are part of a larger pattern to hide information about climate change from public view. In his second term, Trump has launched an assault on climate science, [deleting landmark climate reports](#), [slashing funding](#) for climate research, and ending [a program](#) that tracked the country's greenhouse gas emissions. Language about the changing climate [has vanished from federal websites](#), including entire pages about it [on the Park Service website](#).

In response, scientists, academics, and other volunteers have worked to [save the data](#) that's being lost and try to [make it available](#) for the public to find again.

The erasure of "negative" stories at national parks has spurred another such initiative, called "[Save Our Signs](#)." The goal is to crowdsource photos of signs from National Park Service sites all around the country to create a publicly accessible collection. So far, Save Our Signs has received more than 10,000 photos from hundreds of sites, said Jenny McBurney, a government publications librarian who helped start the project.

Politicians are also pushing back. Last week, Pingree and dozens of representatives [signed a letter](#) to National Park Service director Jessica Bowron condemning the removal of historical signs and asking for detailed information on all the signs that had been flagged for violations, altered, or removed.

McBurney said that the Save Our Signs project is still accepting photos, even though it's already seen an outpouring of support. "You can just tell that people really care about our parks, and they want to make sure that this important information is preserved."

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[Devastation of Alaska Native Villages Kipnuk and Kwigillingok](#)

<https://substack.com/@christineboneski/note/c-165805998?r=5z4zi5>
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## **Newsom signs bill to automatically admit qualified graduates to CSU system**

By Thomas Gase | [tgase@timesheraldonline.com](mailto:tgase@timesheraldonline.com) | Vallejo Times Herald

Governor Gavin Newsom announced Wednesday that he has signed Senate Bill 640, a bill authored by Senator Christopher Cabaldon, which will provide automatic admission to the California State University system to high school graduates who meet CSU eligibility requirements, without an application.

SB 640 takes effect beginning with the 2026–27 academic year.

“SB 640 reimagines the path from high school to college,” said Cabaldon in a news release. “It makes higher education the natural next step, not an intimidating maze of forms and fees. Every eligible student deserves that life-changing moment of opening an acceptance letter.”

The bill is modeled after West Sacramento’s Home Run initiative, a local program launched by Cabaldon during his tenure as mayor, which guarantees tuition-free admission to Sacramento City College for every local graduate and builds off CSU’s Riverside County pilot program, which led to a 3,000-student increase in enrollment paperwork completion over the previous year.

By removing unnecessary application barriers, the policy aims to boost college enrollment, particularly among students who are academically qualified but deterred by the complexity or cost of the admissions process.

Cabaldon’s district also contains two CSU campuses that have experienced some of the sharpest enrollment declines in the CSU system: Cal Poly Maritime Academy in Vallejo and Sonoma State University, which faced severe budget shortfalls and announced significant program reductions before ultimately receiving \$45 million in state funding this year.

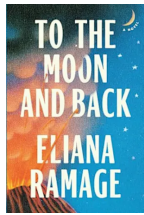
“This is a common-sense solution to two urgent problems,” said Cabaldon. “Tens of thousands of students are qualified but never apply. At the same time, CSU campuses are seeing alarming enrollment declines. This policy bridges that gap, and it does so with a tool that’s as powerful emotionally as it is administratively: the acceptance letter.”

***Historical note: when I was in high school, any graduate of a certified CA high school who had a B average was automatically admitted to the UC system, not necessarily campus of choice. History does repeat itself!***

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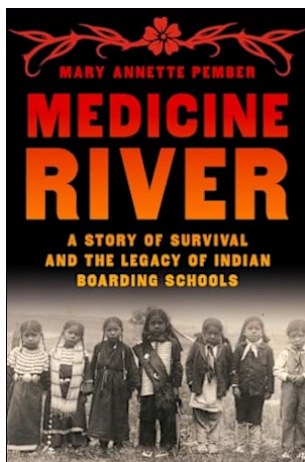
18 Must-Read Books by Indigenous Authors By BookBub October 09, 2025

This has been a great year for new books by Indigenous American authors, and we’re excited to celebrate Indigenous Peoples’ Day by sharing some of our favorites! Spanning genres from action-packed thrillers to contemporary fiction, there’s something for everyone. You’ll also find a new nonfiction book from the author of *Braiding Sweetgrass* and a Good Morning America Book Club pick!



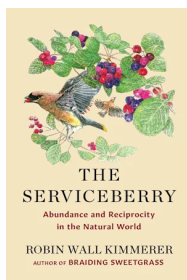
[To the Moon and Back](#) [Eliana Ramage](#)

Ambitious Steph Harper is on a mission to become the first Cherokee astronaut — and she won't let anything get in her way. But her quest to realize her dreams and go to the moon will push her and everyone she loves to the limits... This captivating read follows Steph across decades and continents as she navigates love, loss, and family secrets. [Kaliane Bradley](#), author of *The Ministry of Time*, [says](#), “*To the Moon and Back* is a wonderful reckoning with the true price of an at-any-cost ambition and a powerful story about the mixture of combativeness, compromise, and love that forms the heart of a family.”



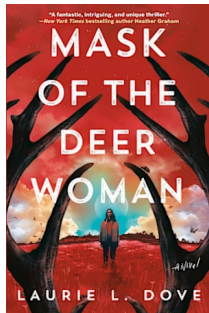
[Medicine River](#) [Mary Annette Pember](#)

Journalist Mary Pember's mother attended a government-funded boarding school as a child, where Native traditions, families, and culture were actively stamped out. Tens of thousands of children were forced to attend these schools, were pitched as benevolent institutions — while in reality being a means of erasure. “I have never read a book that has changed me so profoundly,” [says Solito](#) author [Javier Zamora](#).



[The Serviceberry](#) [Robin Wall Kimmerer](#)

In this instant *New York Times* bestseller, the acclaimed author of *Braiding Sweetgrass* reflects on reciprocity and connection in nature and the economy, inspired by Indigenous wisdom and a tree that shares its wealth with its neighbors and surroundings. *Kirkus Reviews* [says](#), “[Kimmerer’s] beautiful and hopeful prose leaves readers feeling sated, galvanized, and keenly aware of the world around them. A welcome meditation on living in harmony with the earth and fostering deeper connections with one another.”



[Mask of the Deer Woman](#)

[Laurie L. Dove](#)

After losing her daughter, ex-detective Carrie Starr returns to her father's reservation to rebuild her life as the new tribal marshal. When college student Chenoa Cloud goes missing, Starr's investigation dredges up painful memories and draws her into the unsettling presence of Deer Woman, a spirit tied to her father's stories. [K. T. Nguyen](#), author of [You Know What You Did](#), [says](#), "*Mask of the Deer Woman* is a creepy, atmospheric page-turner and a thoughtful exploration of identity and belonging."



[The Haunting of Room 904](#)

[Erika T. Wurth](#)

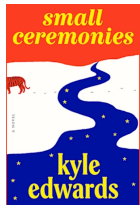
Paranormal investigator Olivia Becente gained her supernatural ability to communicate with ghosts and other spirits after her sister died in room 904 of the Brown Palace Hotel in Denver. When she's hired by a mysterious group to investigate the hotel, she learns that every few years, a woman is found dead in room 904 — even if she's staying in a different room on the property. Olivia's quest for the truth leads her to shocking revelations about her sister's life... and brings her face-to-face with a terrifying curse that might target Olivia's mother next. [S.A. Cosby](#) [says](#) this riveting read is "an electric, terrifying journey into the world beyond the veil."



[Love Is a War Song](#)

[Danica Nava](#)

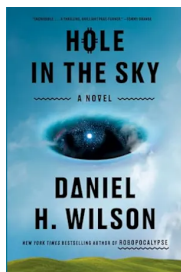
Avery Fox is a successful pop singer... dealing with a scandal. When an attempt to be loud and proud of her Muscogee heritage backfires and she retreats to her grandmother's Oklahoma ranch, she doesn't seem to fit in on the reservation. Lucas Iron Eyes has been working on the ranch since he was a teenager, and he does not appreciate Avery's antics. But when the ranch is threatened with a shutdown, the two of them cut a deal — Avery will help raise the necessary funds to save it, and Lucas will teach her how to connect with their heritage. Surely their relationship can be strictly business, right? [Lyla Sage](#), *New York Times* bestselling author of [Swift and Saddled](#), [says](#), "*Love Is a War Song* is the book of the summer!"



[Small Ceremonies](#)

[Kyle Edwards](#)

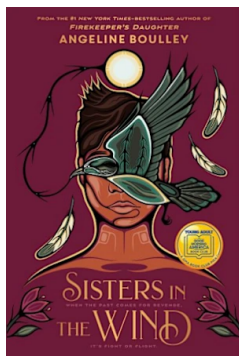
As his hockey team faces their final season, Indigenous teen Tommy Shields grapples with his own uncertain future in Winnipeg. Surrounded by gang violence and insecurities, Tommy searches for his place in a world that feels all too quick to abandon him. *Publishers Weekly* [says](#), “This will stay with readers.”



[Hole in the Sky](#)

[Daniel H. Wilson](#)

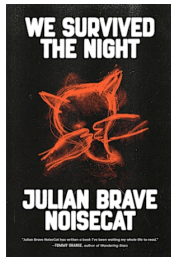
First contact has always been a fascinating concept. Here, we meet Jim Hardgray and his teenage daughter Tawny. Jim notices an atmospheric disturbance, while elsewhere astrophysicist Mikayla Johnson discovers an oddity and the president receives a message stating that first contact is imminent. As a citizen of Cherokee Nation and a threat forecaster for the United States Air Force, author Daniel H. Wilson promises to bring his own fresh take to first contact.



[Sisters in the Wind](#)

[Angeline Boulley](#)

In this *Good Morning America* Book Club pick from a *New York Times* bestselling author, a young woman is on the run from her past. Ever since Lucy Smith’s father died five years ago, she’s been living on her own, trying to avoid becoming a ward of the state. But when she meets Mr. Jameson, he reveals something she never knew: her mother was Ojibwe, which means Lucy also is — and she has sisters and a grandmother still living. As Lucy meets her new family and community, she must also solve a dangerous mystery...



[We Survived the Night](#)

[Julian Brave NoiseCat](#)

Julian Brave NoiseCat explores oral stories, Indigenous culture, and his relationship with his father in this profound book. When NoiseCat's father abandoned his family, NoiseCat and his non-Native mother were embraced by Native communities in the US and Canada. Here, he explores the modern issues facing North America's First Peoples and their fight for recognition, as well as his own experiences. [Tommy Orange says](#), "Written in gorgeous, sparse prose, *We Survived the Night* reads like a novel."

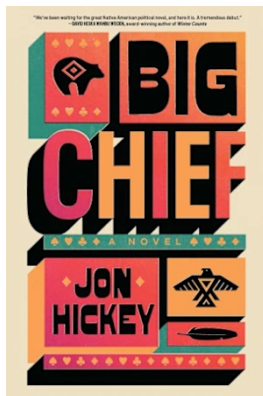
Release date: October 14



[The Devil Is a Southpaw](#)

[Brandon Hobson](#)

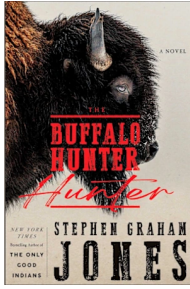
In this novel within a novel, Milton Muleburn spins a story of his time incarcerated alongside Matthew Echota, a Cherokee artist. Their friendship and rivalry, plus the trauma they faced, changed both their lives — and Matthew's escape from the juvenile detention center left a massive mark on Milton, who recounts it here in a funny, sly, surrealistic tale.



[Big Chief](#)

[Jon Hickey](#)

Law school graduate Mitch Caddo might feel like an outsider in his Anishinaabe homeland, but he's still running the government alongside his childhood friend, Mack Beck, who is the tribal president. As Mack runs for reelection, he's challenged by a woman whose aide is Mack's own sister, Layla — who Mitch used to be in love with. As the power struggle intensifies, Mitch and Layla end up working together in this novel that the *San Francisco Chronicle* [calls](#) "propulsive... a master class... a dazzling, fast-paced pressure-cooker journey about not letting others define who we are, but rather deciding that for ourselves."



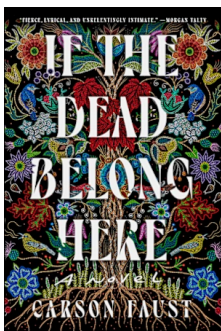
[The Buffalo Hunter Hunter](#) [Stephen Graham Jones](#)

NPR [says](#), “*The Buffalo Hunter Hunter* is Stephen Graham Jones’s horror masterpiece. The prose is gorgeous and the plot is complex.” Etsy Beaucarne is a middle-aged junior professor who comes into possession of a diary written by her ancestor Arthur — a Lutheran priest. In it, he recounts his efforts to minister to a Blackfeet man named Good Stab, and the stories Good Stab tells him. Slowly, it becomes clear Good Stab is a vampire whose story is soaked in gore, tragedy, and revenge.



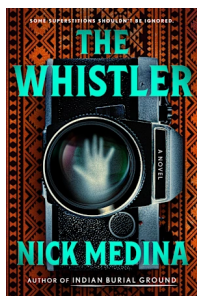
[Old School Indian](#) [Aaron John Curtis](#)

It’s been years since 43-year-old Abe Jacobs left the reservation where he grew up. He’s now a poet with a shaky open marriage — and when he’s diagnosed with a rare disease, he heads home to his great uncle. As Abe tries to heal, he must confront his past, his family, and his relationship. Nathan Hill, author of *Wellness*, [calls](#) this “an inspired novel by an author whose voice absolutely sizzles on the page.”



[If the Dead Belong Here](#) [Carson Faust](#)

When six-year-old Laurel Taylor goes missing, her family is torn apart by grief, while her sister, Nadine, is haunted by visions that seem to connect the disappearance to long-ago family tragedies. Guided by her elders and the wisdom of Indigenous folklore, Nadine hopes that appeasing the ghosts of the past will help bring her sister home and heal her family. [Morgan Talty](#), author of *Night of the Living Rez*, [says](#), “*If the Dead Belong Here* is a thunderclap of a novel — fierce, lyrical, and unrelentingly intimate. Carson Faust writes across time, bloodline, and grief with mythic authority and needlepoint precision.”



[The Whistler](#) [Nick Medina](#)

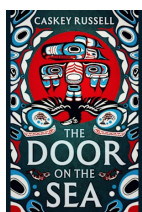
From the author of [Indian Burial Ground](#) and [Sisters of the Lost Nation](#) comes a chilling new tale of folklore and terror. Once a rising ghost-hunting star, Henry Hotard's life changes forever after an accident leaves him paralyzed and back with his grandparents on the reservation. He soon becomes convinced a sinister presence is stalking him — one that his girlfriend dismisses as trauma but he knows is terrifyingly real. To banish the haunting, Henry must return to the choices that led to his downfall...



[The Bone Thief](#) [Vanessa Lillie](#)

In this gripping new thriller, a Native teen goes missing as stolen remains vanish from an archaeological site near a privileged summer camp. As archaeologist Syd Walker investigates, she uncovers a disturbing pattern of disappearances tied to the powerful Founders Society — forcing her to confront a long history of violence that the town has tried to keep buried for generations. Liz Moore, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The God of the Woods*, [says](#), “*The Bone Thief* is a riveting mystery with a plot that seamlessly blends history with fiction.”

Release date: October 28



[The Door on the Sea](#) [Caskey Russell](#)

When Elān captures the raven that's been stealing his salmon catch, he unwittingly takes the first step in an epic adventure. Elān's home has been invaded by the Koosh, shape-shifting warriors. In exchange for his freedom, the raven offers Elān the location of a powerful weapon the Koosh have lost — a weapon that could be used against them to end their reign of terror. Elān assembles a motley canoe crew to seek out the weapon, including the foul-mouthed raven, and they soon find themselves battling storms, giants, and other terrors in a quest to save his people.

Gathering of Native Americans brings together local tribes for cultural activities

The Gathering of Native Americans (GONA) at the Atlantis celebrated Native American culture through traditional teachings and storytelling.

One of its facilitators says the event builds community and helps break the cycle of generational trauma.

"[Trauma]'s passed on to our children or our grandchildren," says Gary Neumann, "And they're born and they don't know why they're angry ... why they're restless ... why they don't feel like they belong anywhere."

Neumann adds that children feel this, "Because our ancestors and our families didn't have a chance to heal that trauma. So, they carried it inside and passed it on."

GONA offered traditional teachings, storytelling, and cultural activities. For one of those activities, attendees were divided into clans, and each clan came up with a name, symbol, cheer and banner.

Neumann says each banner depicts "What broke apart our Indian world, whether it's in the symbol or world, boarding schools, colonization, all of those things."

The Reno-Sparks Indian Colony will keep these banners and display them as a reminder of the community's work.

Other activities include the 'Wall of Stars', where people have their picture taken, and then people can leave positive affirmations on a sheet of paper with the photo on it.

The 'generosity table' lets people leave gifts for others.

"Everyone will get to take something home that someone else made," Neumann says. "People say, 'I can't make anything. I'm not good at making anything.' But when you look at that table, it's very creative."

Reno-Sparks Tribal Health Center helped host the event. Its director, Angie Wilson, says GONA showcased how tight-knit the native community is.

"All of the neighboring tribes from this area have been in attendance," Wilson says. "A lot of these families are related. Our communities are tied together. It's been amazing to see the turnout and the collaboration."

The event centered on four traditional native values: belonging for young children, mastery for adolescents, interdependence for adults, and generosity for elders.

Organizers say they hope this event is the first of many annual gatherings.