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One of the first Native American autobiographers, Black Hawk is chiefly recognized for his role in the Black Hawk War of 1832, during which he and his followers attempted to retain possession of Sauk and Fox lands east of the Mississippi river. He later dictated his life story, which was published as *The Life of Ma-Ka-tai-me-she-kia-kiak or Black Hawk*.

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The chief of the Duwamish and Suquamish tribes of the Pacific Northwest, Seattle is credited with delivering a moving and influential speech sometime between 1853 and 1855. While later versions of this speech have been hailed for their powerful environmental messages and have been translated into numerous languages, the authenticity of Chief Seattle's speech has been seriously questioned.	
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Allen is a Pueblo Laguna and Sioux poet, critic, essayist, novelist, and editor whose works focus on her identity as a woman, mixed blood, and lesbian in Laguna and white society.	
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A Pequot minister, Apess was an outspoken advocate of civil rights for Native Americans as well as one of the first Indian autobiographers. His <i>A Son of the Forest</i> has been praised as a moving example of the "conversion narrative" genre and as a persuasive, well-written piece of civil rights advocacy.	
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Of Choctaw descent, Barnes has gained a reputation as an author who	

utilizes but ultimately transcends his regional and ethnic heritage. He has been praised for his ability to use imagery and symbolism to create a sense of history and place, and for his probing questions about twentieth-century society.

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A Lakota Sioux political activist and autobiographer, Brave Bird is best known for <i>Lakota Woman</i> and <i>Ohitika Woman</i> . <i>Lakota Woman</i> , which was written under the name Mary Crow Dog, won the American Book Award in 1991 and was a national bestseller.	
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Conley is a Cherokee novelist, short story writer, and poet, whose works accurately depict the Old West and focus on the history, traditions, and folklore of the Cherokee people.	
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A Dakota Sioux poet, short story writer, and novelist, Cook-Lynn is especially concerned with the tension between white culture and Native American identity. She has stated that "writing is an essential act of survival for contemporary American Indians."	
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A Yankton Sioux anthropologist, linguist, and novelist, Deloria was a leading authority on Sioux culture and language. She gathered, translated, and edited numerous Sioux legends and tales, many of which were published in the bilingual collection <i>Dakota Texts</i> .	
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Deloria, a Sioux nonfiction writer, is one of the most outspoken figures in Native American affairs. He is often considered a radical thinker because he advocates Native American cultural nationalism and the fulfillment of early treaty obligations by the United States government.	
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A Modoc author of a diverse body of work in different genres, Dorris is praised for his sensitive and intelligent treatment of Native American concerns. He is known for such works as <i>The Crown of Columbus</i> , a collaborative effort with his wife Louise Erdrich, and <i>The Broken Cord</i> , a chronicle of the effects of fetal alcohol syndrome on his adopted son Adam.	
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From childhood among the Santee Sioux to adulthood as a graduate of Dartmouth College and Boston University Medical School, Eastman spent much of his life trying to reconcile the opposing values and beliefs of white society and Sioux culture. He is known for his autobiographies <i>Indian Boyhood</i> and <i>From the Deep Woods to Civilization</i> , as well as numerous collections of Sioux folktales and legends.	

Louise Erdrich 1954-	276
A Chippewa novelist, short story writer, poet, and nonfiction writer, Erdrich is a leading figure in contemporary American literature. She has been praised by a wide range of critics for the universality of her themes, the poetic quality of her literary voice, and the generosity with which she presents her characters and the stories they tell. She is known for such works as <i>The Beet Queen</i> , <i>Tracks</i> , and <i>Love Medicine</i> .	
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A Kiowa playwright, Geiogamah is known for works in which he employs humor, realism, and idiomatic language to subvert negative stereotypes about Native Americans and to address the alienation felt by Indians in contemporary American society.	
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Glancy is a Cherokee poet, short story writer, playwright, and essayist who is known for works in which she uses realistic language and vivid imagery to address such subjects as spirituality, family ties, her identity as a mixed blood, and her relationship to the landscape of the Great Plains.	
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Harjo is a Muskogee Creek poet whose works are often set in the American Southwest, emphasize the plight of the individual, and reflect Creek values, myths, and beliefs. She has been consistently praised for her thematic concerns and the universal relevance of her verse.	
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Henson is a Cheyenne poet whose verse is noted for its powerful imagery, brevity, and universal appeal as well as its incorporation of Cheyenne philosophy and social commentary.	
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A Chickasaw poet, short story writer, novelist, playwright, and essayist, Hogan has played a prominent role in the development of contemporary Native American poetry. Most critics agree that her spiritual attitude toward the natural world and her confrontational attitude toward all forces detrimental to the human spirit raise the impact of her work above the ordinary.	

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Johnson was a well-known Mohawk poet, short story writer, essayist, and performer at the turn of the twentieth century. She is remembered as an early voice for Native American concerns in Canada and remains one of Canada's most popular poets.	
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An Ojibway nonfiction writer, short story writer, and autobiographer, Johnston is predominantly concerned with the preservation of his Ojibway culture. He has been praised for his accurate and loving portrayal of Ojibway customs and ceremonies, his humorous characterizations, and his attention to language.	
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A well-known Mississauga Ojibway religious leader, Jones actively sought civil and land rights for Native Canadians in the nineteenth century. Through letters, speeches, and sermons he argued for the full participation of Native Americans in white society and on one occasion made a presentation to England's Queen Victoria.	
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A Mohawk poet, short story writer, and playwright, Kenny has been a leading figure in the renaissance of Native American poetry since the 1970s. Critics have praised Kenny's ability to create a world in which humankind and nature are fused and have noted his adept use of oral traditions and Native symbols.	
Thomas King 1943-	373
King is a Cherokee novelist, short story writer, scriptwriter, author of children's books, and editor whose works attempt to abolish common stereotypes about Native Americans through satire and humor. He has won numerous awards, including the Governor General's Award for <i>A Coyote Columbus Story</i> .	
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La Flesche, an Omaha, was the first Native American anthropologist. He is best known for <i>The Osage Tribe</i> , a four-volume ethnographic study based on eighteen years of research.	
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A Lovelock Paiute poet, Louis is noted for verse in which he incorporates ironic humor and a sometimes bitter tone to document the prejudices and social problems faced by many Native Americans.	
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Maracle is a Métis autobiographer, poet, short story writer, and novelist, whose works reflect her antipathy toward sexism, racism, and white cultural domination in Canadian society. Critics have acknowledged Maracle's works as having "vitality" and a sense of emotional intensity reflective of her spiritual approach to life and writing.	

Markoosie 1942-	403
Markoosie was the first Canadian Inuit to publish a book in English. His <i>Harpoon of the Hunter</i> is a story of survival and coming-of-age in the perilous world of the Arctic.	
John Joseph Mathews 1894-1979	409
An Osage novelist, biographer, historian, and autobiographer, Mathews is credited with being one of the first Native Americans to write fiction about Native Americans. His novel <i>Sundown</i> has been praised for its realistic and objective depiction of mixed bloods.	
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McNickle was a Cree-born Salish-Kootenai novelist, short story writer, biographer, and anthropologist, who is considered by many to be among the founders of contemporary Native American literature and ethnohistory. Among his groundbreaking works of anthropology are <i>The Indian Tribes of the United States</i> and <i>They Came Here First</i> .	
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N. Scott Momaday 1934-	432
Momaday, a Kiowa novelist, poet, autobiographer, and nonfiction writer, is widely recognized as one of the most respected and successful contemporary Native American literary figures. His novel <i>House Made of Dawn</i> was the first work by a Native to win the Pulitzer Prize and has greatly influenced other Native American writers.	
Daniel David Moses 1952-	449
Moses is a Delaware poet and playwright who has been praised for his intelligent and thoughtful exploration of spiritual concerns, his original use of imagistic language, and his inclusion of Native oral traditions in his works. He has been called "one of the best of Canada’s young native writers."	
Mountain Wolf Woman 1884-1960	456
Mountain Wolf Woman is the author of the critically acclaimed <i>Mountain Wolf Woman, Sister of Crashing Thunder: The Autobiography of a Winnebago Indian</i> . Although the volume relates Mountain Wolf Woman’s education, marriages, and tribal and family life, it is also recognized as an evocative account of Winnebago history and culture.	
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Mourning Dove, a Colville-Okanagan novelist and short story writer, is best known for <i>Cogewea the Half-Blood</i> , often considered the first novel published by a Native American woman.	

Duane Niatum 1938-	472
A Klallam poet, short story writer, and playwright, Niatum draws heavily on the myths and languages of many different Native American peoples to create works that synthesize the worldview of his ancestors with Western European literary forms.	
Samson Occom 1723-1792	482
A Mohegan missionary, educator, essayist, and hymn and sermon writer, Occom is believed to be one of the first Native American scholars. One critic has stated: "Certainly in terms of productivity, variety and success, it could be said that Samson Occom is the 'father' of modern Native American literature."	
Simon Ortiz 1941-	486
Ortiz, a Acoma Pueblo, is one of the most respected and widely read Native American writers. In his poetry, short stories, and essays, he incorporates sociopolitical analyses, emphasizes compassion and humanity over material concerns, and asserts that the survival of all people is dependent upon their relationship to the land and to each other.	
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Oskison was a Cherokee author who is known for novels and short stories in which he depicted life in the Cherokee Indian Territory of the American West during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.	
Louis Owens 1948-	508
Of Choctaw and Cherokee heritage, Owens has published critical studies of John Steinbeck's fiction, two novels reflective of his Native heritage, and a study of Native American novels. He has stated that he writes "to explore the dilemmas of all mixed-bloods in America" and "to illuminate our relationship with the natural world."	
Simon Pokagon 1830-1899	514
Pokagon was a Potawatomi novelist and essayist who is credited with writing the first Native American novel about Indian life, <i>Queen of the Woods/O-Gî-Mâw-Kwe Mit-I-Gwâ-Kî</i> . The authorship of this work, however, has sometimes been questioned.	
Alexander Posey 1873-1908	526
A highly respected Creek journalist, poet, orator, and short story writer, Posey was among the best known literary and political figures in Oklahoma at the turn of the century. His short stories, essays, and journalism have been praised for their humor, incorporation of numerous personas, and penetrating political commentary.	
Carter Revard 1931-	538
Revard, an Osage poet, short story writer, and essayist, is known for verse in which he blends traditional Native images with contemporary issues and uses various poetic forms and multiple voices. He has stated that poetry "matters like hell" to Native Americans.	

John Rollin Ridge 1827-1867	540
Ridge, a Cherokee novelist, poet, and journalist, was the author of the first novel in English by a Native American, <i>The Life and Adventures of Joaquin Murieta</i> .	
Lynn Riggs 1899-1954	549
A Cherokee playwright and poet, Riggs is the author of more than twenty-eight plays. He is best known for <i>Green Grow the Lilacs</i> , upon which the popular Rodgers and Hammerstein musical <i>Oklahoma!</i> is based.	
Will Rogers 1879-1935	557
Of Cherokee descent, Rogers was one of the most celebrated humorists and public figures of his day. His aphoristic and satirical observations revealed the foibles and injustices of American society and reaffirmed the humorist's role as the "voice" of the average American.	
Wendy Rose 1948-	567
Of Hopi and Miwok descent, Rose is a poet who frequently examines the alienation of the halfbreed in both white and Native cultures. Her work is infused with overtones of pain, anger, and bitterness and is preoccupied with spirituality, communion with the natural world, and the encroachment of white culture on Native society.	
Leslie Marmon Silko 1948-	575
Silko, a Laguna Pueblo novelist, poet, and short story writer, is among the foremost writers to emerge from the Native American literary renaissance of the 1970s. Her novels <i>Ceremony</i> and <i>Almanac of the Dead</i> have been praised for their vivid characterizations and inventive plots.	
Martin Cruz Smith 1942-	587
A novelist of Pueblo and Yaqui descent, Smith is best known for his 1981 best seller <i>Gorky Park</i> and is considered a leading author in the suspense-thriller genre.	
Luther Standing Bear 1868?-1939?	598
Standing Bear is a Oglála Lakota Sioux autobiographer, nonfiction writer, short story writer and essayist who is primarily remembered for <i>Land of the Spotted Eagle</i> , in which he attempted to educate the American public about Sioux beliefs and customs and to analyze the differences between the two cultures.	
Hyemeyohsts Storm 1935-	607
A controversial figure in Native American literature, Storm, a Northern Cheyenne, is best known for his popular novel <i>Seven Arrows</i> , a work which details the annihilation of the Plains Indians population and the desecration of Native American culture.	
Don C. Talayesva 1890-?	616
Talayesva's <i>Sun Chief: Autobiography of a Hopi Indian</i> is based on approximately 350 hours of interviews and over 8,000 pages of diary entries.	

It remains a popular and often-cited account of Hopi life.

- Mary TallMountain** 1918- 623
TallMountain is a Koyukon Athabascan poet, essayist, and short story writer whose works incorporate her interest in Native and Christian spirituality as well as imagery drawn from her Athabascan heritage and childhood in rural Alaska.
- Luci Tapahonso** 1953?- 628
Tapahonso's poems and short stories are highly autobiographical, infused and shaped by her beliefs and identity as a Navajo woman. She has been praised for her feminist and individualist sensibilities, her depiction of Navajo traditions and humor, and her ability to sensitively convey her multifaceted identity to diverse audiences.
- Gerald Vizenor** 1934- 635
Vizenor is a prolific author whose novels, plays, essays, and stories draw heavily upon his experiences as a mixed-blood Chippewa. He frequently challenges conventional notions about Native American life in his essays and autobiographical memoirs, and his fiction is often described as postmodern because of his use of experimental narrative structures, word play, and complex symbols and imagery.
- Anna Lee Walters** 1946- 649
Walters is a Pawnee and Otoe-Missouria novelist, essayist, short story writer, author of children's books, and poet, who has utilized her Native American background to make tribal perspectives accessible to modern audiences. She has been praised for her effective blending of literary and artistic genres, her realistic depiction of Native American culture, and her focus on spiritual concerns.
- James Welch** 1940- 659
A Blackfeet and Gros Ventre novelist and poet, Welch is best known for his novels *Winter in the Blood*, which has received high praise for its treatment of modern concerns from a Native perspective, and *The Death of Jim Loney*, which focuses on a mixed blood's alienation from both white and Indian societies.
- Roberta Hill Whiteman** 1947- 669
Whiteman, an Oneida poet, is noted for her collection *Star Quilt*, which has been praised for its simple and rhetorical language, vivid imagery, and sincere and distinctive voice.
- Sarah Winnemucca** 1844-1891 675
Winnemucca, a Northern Paiute, is remembered for her outspoken campaign to end governmental injustices against Native Americans and her autobiographical *Life Among the Piutes*. This work which documents her role as an interpreter during the 1878 Bannock War, her lecture tours throughout the United States, and her meeting with government officials to discuss unfair reservation policies.

Ray A. Young Bear 19??- 683
A Mesquakie poet and novelist, Young Bear is highly regarded for verse that explores the conflicts between his Mesquakie heritage and his identity as a writer. His novel *Black Eagle Child: The Facepaint Narratives* is considered Young Bear's attempt to document his heritage without betraying tribal secrets.

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