



# Core Learning Resources

*Building Strong Nations Together!*

## **First Peoples English 10/11** **Supplemental Texts/Readings**

### **Dog Tracks**

**by Ruby Slipperjack**

**School price \$13.46**

Abby is having trouble fitting in at Bear Creek Reserve after having lived most of her life with her grandparents in town. With the help of the reserve's chief, a puppy, and her parents' vision of a sled-dog tourist venture, Abby slowly begins to find her rhythm at Bear Creek. All she has to do is follow the dog tracks.

### **For the Children**

**by Rita Joe**

**School price \$15.26**

With the young person in mind, these strong, clear and encouraging poems from Rita Joe speak directly to all of us, a testament to courage and her hope for a better world. Down-to-earth and often humorous and a world honoured Mi'kmaw elder and Order of Canada recipient, in the book Rita Joe passes her torch to the young. Written at a lower level, but content is appropriate for older student.

### **Fearless Warrior**

**by Drew Hayden Taylor**

**School price \$17.96**

Taylor's powerful, haunting and incredibly entertaining stories in *Fearless Warrior* are a full frontal assault on stereotypes of all kinds--an edifying affirmation of humanity unlike anything else. More than anything else, these stories shine with a wisdom, an understanding of the human condition, that is rare among writers courageous enough to take on these themes.

### **Hollow Tree**

**by Herb Nabigon**

**School price \$16.16**

Before discovering native healing methods, Herb Nabigon could not imagine a life without alcohol. His powerful autobiography, *The Hollow Tree*, tells the story of his struggle to overcome addiction with the help of the spiritual teachings and brotherly love of his elders. Nabigon had spent much of his life wrestling with self-destructive impulses, feelings of inferiority and resentment, and alcohol abuse when Eddie Bellerose, an Elder, introduced him to the ancient Cree teachings. With the help of healing methods drawn from the Four Sacred Directions, the refuge and revitalization offered by the sweat lodge, and native cultural practices such as the use of the pipe Nabigon was able to find sobriety.

### **Kynship The Way of Thorn and Thunder series**

**by Daniel Heath Justice**

**School price \$11.66**

### **Dreyd The Way of Thorn and Thunder series**

**by Daniel Heath Justice**

**School price \$11.66**

### **Wyrwood The Way of Thorn and Thunder series**

**by Daniel Heath Justice**

**School price \$11.66**

The Everland-home of the tree-born Kyn since time immemorial, a deep green world of ancient mystery ...and danger. The wyr-powers of the Kyn and the other Eld Folk have preserved this wild region from the ravenous hunger of Humanity for over a thousand years, but those powers are fast fading away. As the eyes of Men turn once more to the Everland and its rich bounty, the leaders of the Folk gather in Sheynadwiin, the Kyn capital, hoping to find a way to survive the growing storm. This science fiction series is all about intrigue and adventure.

### **Lies to Live By**

**by Lois Beardslee**

**School price \$26.96**

"Lies to Live By," a series of interdependent tales, reflects the storyteller's role in interpreting traditional stories for contemporary audiences, while preserving traditions based not in mysticism but in pragmatism. In "Calm Days," three generations--the narrator, her grandfather, and her son--spend a week together on a remote island during the course of which they demonstrate the continuity of Ojibwe life. Together these stories weave the contemporary and the traditional to show how cultural diversity can be preserved even as cultural boundaries are transcended.

### **Lone Ranger and Tonto/Fistfight in Heaven**

**by Sherman Alexie**

**School price \$15.75**

In this darkly comic collection, Alexie brilliantly weaves memory, fantasy, and stark realism to paint a complex, grimly ironic portrait of life in and around the Spokane Indian Reservation. These twenty-two interlinked tales are narrated by characters raised on humiliation and government-issue cheese, and yet are filled with passion and affection, myth and dream. Against a backdrop of alcohol, car accidents, laughter, and basketball, Alexie depicts the distances between Indians and whites, reservation Indians and urban Indians, men and women, and, most poetically, modern Indians and the traditions of the past.

### **Misty Lake**

**by Dale Lakevold and Darrell Racine**

**School price \$16.16**

This is a play that tells a story of Patty, a Métis reporter who visits a northern reserve to interview Mary, a Dene woman, about residential schools and healing. What follows is a voyage of self-discovery as Patty realizes she must face her own demons. *Misty Lake* tackles a tricky and painful subject with intelligence, verve and originality. The result is a tender, poignant --and extremely funny-- snapshot of another's plight and place.

### **Moccasin Thunder**

**Edited by Lori Marie Carlson**

**School price \$19.79**

The ten stories that make up this collection are raw, original, and fresh. They are as different from one another as they are from anything you've read before. A supermarket checkout line, a rowboat on a freezing lake at dawn, a drunken dance in the gym, an ice hockey game on public-access TV.--These are some of the backgrounds against which ten outstanding authors have created their memorable characters. Their work -- both poignant and funny, sarcastic and serious -- reminds us that the First Nations/Aboriginal story is far from over -- it's being written every day.

### **Really Good Brown Girl**

**by Marilyn Dumont**

**School price \$12.60**

Marilyn Dumont's Métis heritage presents her with challenges that few people would want to face. But in *A Really Good Brown Girl*, she turns them into opportunities. In a voice that is fierce, direct, and true, she explores and transcends the multiple boundaries imposed by society on the self. She mocks, with exasperation and sly humour, the banal exploitation of Indianness, more-Indian-than-thou one-upmanship, and white condescension and ignorance. These are Indian poems, Canadian poems, and human poems.

### **Stoney Creek Woman**

**by Bridget Moran**

**School price \$17.96**

The captivating story of Mary John (who passed away in 2004), a pioneering Carrier Native whose life on the Stoney Creek reserve in central BC is a capsule history of First Nations life from a unique woman's perspective. A mother of twelve, Mary endured much tragedy and heartbreak--the pangs of racism, poverty, and the deaths of six children--but has survived with extraordinary grace and courage. She continues to be a positive role model. In 1997 she received the Order of Canada. This edition of *Stoney Creek Woman*, one of Arsenal's all-time bestsellers, includes a new preface by author Bridget Moran, and new photographs. Shortlisted for the Roderick Haig-Brown Regional Prize.

**Stolen Life, The: Journey of a Cree Woman by Rudy Wiebe and Yvonne Johnson School price \$20.70**

The powerful, major book, acclaimed across Canada, from the great-great-granddaughter of Chief Big Bear and Rudy Wiebe, twice winner of the Governor General's Award for Fiction. A story of justice and social injustices, of murder and morality, and of finding spiritual strength in events that might break us, told with redeeming compassion and poetic eloquence. *Stolen Life* is a raw, honest, and beautifully written account of the troubled society we live in, and a deeply moving affirmation of spiritual healing.

**Tales From Mocassin Avenue from Totem Pole Books School price \$26.10**

This is a collection of narrative prose by writers of Aboriginal descent from all over Canada, which reflects first of foremost the rich diversity of cultural expression through which Native writers are now making themselves heard. Pieces run the gamut from 'fact' to 'fiction', from animal fable to personal essay, from conventional short story to experimental prose poem. It's an eclectic mix sharing the uniqueness of each vision and the originality of each voice.

**That Tongued Belonging by Marilyn Dumont School price \$13.50**

The newest book from award-winning Métis poet Marilyn Dumont, is a collection of poems which search for acceptance in language, culture, love and geographical landscapes. These poems celebrate the humour and tenacity of Aboriginal women, lament the death of a mother, deride the political correctness of those ignorant of Aboriginal issues, recall the degradation of Aboriginal women, and chide the writer against the seduction of pop stardom, while challenging accepted ideas of love, age and femininity.

**War Dances By Sherman Alexie School price \$15.26**

Alexie populates his stories with ordinary men on the brink of exceptional change. *War Dances* takes us to the heart of what it means to be human. The new beginnings, successes, mistakes, and regrets that make up our daily lives are laid bare in this wide-ranging and provocative new work that is Alexie at the height of his powers.

**I would like to order:**

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Dog Tracks		13.46	
Fearless Warrior		17.96	
For the Children		15.26	
Hollow Tree		16.16	
Kynship The Way of Thorn and Thunder		11.66	
Dreyd The Way of Thorn and Thunder series		11.66	
Wyrwood The Way of Thorn and Thunder series		11.66	
Lies to Live By		26.96	
Lone Ranger and Tonto/Fistfight in Heaven		15.76	
Misty Lake		16.16	
Moccasin Thunder		19.79	
Really Good Brown Girl		12.60	
Stolen Life, The: Journey of a Cree Woman		20.70	
Stoney Creek Woman		17.96	
Tales From Mocassin Avenue		26.10	
That Tongued Belonging		13.50	
War Dances		15.26	
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