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# Ancient Child N Scott Momaday

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The Indolent Boys,  
Children of the Sun,  
and the Moon in  
Two Windows Kids  
Can Press Ltd

Silas visits the  
ancestral home of the  
Umber family to  
learn ancient family  
secrets in this “ dark  
and gothic ”  
(School Library  
Journal)  
contemporary ghost  
story, the second  
book in the  
Undertaken trilogy.

Silas Umber has  
finally come into his  
own as the  
Undertaker of  
Lichport when an  
invitation arrives: a  
mysterious word  
carved into the door  
of his house.  
Intrigued, Silas  
ventures beyond the  
marshes to visit

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Arvale Manor, the ancestral estate of the UMBER family. There, he discovers that the extended UMBER family may be dead, but they are not gone: Indeed, many of them still dwell in Arvale, waiting for an Undertaker to return and preside over the Door Doom, an archaic rite that grants a terrible power to summon and bind the dead in judgment, forcibly sending them to their eternal rest. As Silas reluctantly assumes the mantle of Janus, the Watcher at the Threshold, he begins to learn more about his strange and ancient family. And deep below the earth, in the catacombs and

sunken towers, grim spirits grow restless at his arrival—hungry for freedom and eager for vengeance. As the only living Undertaker at Arvale Manor, Silas must put an ancient wrong to right, as he discovers that even a house of ghosts can be haunted by its past—for in matters of family, we are who we were. Marc Simmons of New Mexico Penguin “Both a masterpiece about the universal human condition and a masterpiece of Native American literature. . . . A book everyone should read for the joy and emotion of the language it

contains.” — The Paris Review A special 50th anniversary edition of the magnificent Pulitzer Prize-winning novel from renowned Kiowa writer and poet N. Scott Momaday, with a new preface by the author A young Native American, Abel has come home from war to find himself caught between two worlds. The first is the world of his father’s, wedding him to the rhythm of the seasons, the harsh beauty of the land, and the ancient rites and traditions of his people. But the other world—modern, industrial

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America—pulls at Abel, demanding his loyalty, trying to claim his soul, and goading him into a destructive, compulsive cycle of depravity and disgust. An American classic, *House Made of Dawn* is at once a tragic tale about the disabling effects of war and cultural separation, and a hopeful story of a stranger in his native land, finding his way back to all that is familiar and sacred. In the *Bear's House* Harper Collins Momaday draws on various traditions and influences, especially Native American oral tradition, in

poems that shift between nature and society, past and present, actuality and legend

### **A Novel**

HarperCollins

*The Way to Rainy Mountain* recalls the journey of Tai-me, the sacred Sun Dance doll, and of Tai-me's people in three unique voices: the legendary, the historical, and the contemporary. It is also the personal journey of N. Scott Momaday, who on a pilgrimage to the grave of his Kiowa grandmother traversed the same route taken by his forebears and in so doing confronted his Kiowa heritage. It is an evocation of

three things in particular: a landscape that is incomparable, a time that is gone forever, and the human spirit, which endures. Celebrating fifty years since its 1969 release, this new edition offers a moving new preface and invites a new generation of readers to explore the Kiowa myths, legends, and history with Pulitzer Prize-winning author N. Scott Momaday.

[The Facepaint Narratives](#) UNM Press

Ancient Child Harper Collins

*The Gourd Dancer* Dial Press

A biography and a

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complete bibliography of New Mexico's leading independent historian.

The Ancient Child

Penguin

Mixing prose and poetry, ancient traditions and modern sensibilities, this brilliant, profane, and poignant coming-of-age story is a masterpiece of Native American literature. At a Thanksgiving party held in a Bureau of Indian Affairs gymnasium, the elders of the Meskwaki Settlement in central Iowa sip coffee while the teenagers plot

their escape. Edgar Bearchild and Ted Facepaint, too broke to join their friends for a night of drinking in a nearby farm town, decide to attend a ceremonial gathering of the Well-Off Man Church, a tribal sect with hallucinogenic practices. After partaking of the congregation's sacred star medicine, Edgar receives a prophetic vision and comes to a newfound understanding of his people's past and present that will ultimately reshape the course of his life.

Set against the backdrop of the tumultuous 1960s, *Black Eagle Child* is the story of Edgar's passage from boyhood to manhood, from his youthful misadventures with Ted, to his year at prestigious liberal arts college in California, to his return to Iowa and success as a poet. Deftly crossing genre boundaries and weaving together a multitude of tones and images—from grief to humor, grape Jell-O to supernatural strobe lights—it is also an unforgettable portrait of what it means to be a

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Native American in the modern world. *The Collected Poetry of Ray Young Bear* Simon and Schuster "In The Moon in Two Windows, Momaday returns to themes he first explored in *The Indolent Boys*. Set in the early 1900s, the screenplay centers on the children of defeated Indian tribes who are forced into assimilation at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, where the U.S. Government

established the first off-reservation boarding school. Momaday's characters - including Jim Thorpe and fellow players on the school's renowned football team - are propelled across an unimaginable cultural divide. Some survive, others do not - and all are changed forever."--BOOK JACKET. **The Man Made of Words** Harper Collins Amy Hempel's compassion, intensity, and illuminating

observations have made her one of the most distinctive and admired modern writers. In three stunning books of stories, she has established a voice as unique and recognizable as the photographs of Cindy Sherman or the brushstrokes of Robert Motherwell. *The Dog of the Marriage*, Hempel's fourth collection, is about sexual obsession, relationships gone awry, and the unsatisfied longings of everyday life. In "Offertory," a modern-day Scheherazade entertains and manipulates her lover with stories of her sexual encounters with a married couple as a very young woman.

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In "Reference # 388475848-5," a letter contesting a parking ticket becomes a beautiful and unnerving statement of faith. In "Jesus Is Waiting," a woman driving to New York sends a series of cryptically honest postcards to an old lover. And the title story is a heartbreaking tale about the objects and animals and unmired desires that are left behind after death or divorce. These nine stories teem with wisdom, emotion, and surprising wit. Hempel explores the intricate psychology of people falling in and out of love, trying to locate something or someone elusive or lost. Her sentences

are as lean, original, and startling as any in contemporary fiction. *Telling about Bear in N. Scott Momaday's The Ancient Child* University of Oklahoma Press A mute Indian child has an extraordinary experience one Christmas when, following a figure who seems to be his beloved dead grandfather, he becomes part of a circle in which he, animals, nature, and all the world join in a moment of peace and good will.

*The Way to Rainy Mountain, 50th Anniversary Edition* Gale, Cengage Learning Driven by his dream to write and stage an epic stage production of interwoven Chinese novels Wittman Ah Sing, a Chinese-American hippie in the late '60s. *Death Watch* Odyssey Editions "These are the poems of a master poet. . . . When you read these poems, you will learn to hear deeply the sound a soul makes as it sings about the mystery of dreaming and becoming." — Joy Harjo, *Mvskoke*

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Nation, U.S. Poet Laureate Pulitzer Prize winner and celebrated American master N. Scott Momaday returns with a radiant collection of more than 200 new and selected poems rooted in Native American oral tradition. One of the most important and unique voices in American letters, distinguished poet, novelist, artist, teacher, and storyteller N. Scott Momaday was born into the Kiowa tribe and grew up on Indian reservations in the Southwest. The customs and traditions that influenced his

upbringing—most notably the Native American oral tradition—are the centerpiece of his work. This luminous collection demonstrates Momaday’s mastery and love of language and the matters closest to his heart. To Momaday, words are sacred; language is power. Spanning nearly fifty years, the poems gathered here illuminate the human condition, Momaday’s connection to his Kiowa roots, and his spiritual relationship to the American

landscape. The title poem, “The Death of Sitting Bear” is a celebration of heritage and a memorial to the great Kiowa warrior and chief. “I feel his presence close by in my blood and imagination,” Momaday writes, “and I sing him an honor song.” Here, too, are meditations on mortality, love, and loss, as well as reflections on the incomparable and holy landscape of the Southwest. The Death of Sitting Bear evokes the essence of human experience and speaks to us all.

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*New and Selected Poems*  
HarperCollins  
They say the dead should rest in peace. Not all the dead agree. This start to *The Undertaken* trilogy is a “thought-provoking gothic fantasy” and a “genuinely eerie tale” (Publishers Weekly). When Silas UMBER’s father, Amos, doesn’t come home from work one night, Silas discovers that his father was no mere mortician, but an Undertaker who worked to bring *The Peace to*

lost and wandering souls. With Amos gone, Silas and his mother move back to Lichport, the crumbling seaside town where he was born, and Silas seizes the opportunity to investigate his father’s disappearance. When his search leads him to his father’s old office, he comes across a powerful artifact: the Death Watch, a tool that allows the owner to see the dead. Death Watch in hand, Silas begins to unearth

Lichport’s secret history—and discovers that he has taken on his father’s mantle as Lichport’s Undertaker. Now, Silas must embark on a dangerous path into the Shadowlands to embrace his destiny and discover the truth about his father—even if it kills him. Critically acclaimed folklorist Ari Berk explores the worlds of the living and the dead, and the relationships between parents and children in



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an novel steeped in lore, mystery, and magic.

*Dream Drawings*

Harpercollins

James Welch

never shied away from depicting the lives of Native Americans

damned by destiny and temperament to the margins of society. The

Death of Jim

Loney is no exception. Jim

Loney is a mixed-blood, of white and Indian parentage.

Estranged from both communities,

he lives a solitary, brooding

existence in a small Montana town. His nights are filled with

disturbing dreams that haunt his waking hours.

Rhea, his lover, cannot console him; Kate, his sister, cannot penetrate his world. In sparse, moving prose,

Welch has crafted a riveting tale of disenfranchisement and self-destruction. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world.

With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres

and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

**A Novel** UNM Press

The author chronicles the lives of three generations of Chinese men in America, woven from memory, myth and fact. Here's a storyteller's tale of what they endured in a strange new land.

**The Dog of the Marriage**

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University of New Mexico Press  
In his first novel since the Pulitzer Prize-winning *House Made of Dawn*, N. Scott Momaday shapes the ancient Kiowa myth of a boy who turned into a bear into a timeless American classic. The *Ancient Child* juxtaposes Indian lore and Wild West legend into a hypnotic, often lyrical contemporary novel--the story of Locke Setman, known

as Set, a Native American raised far from the reservation by his adoptive father. Set feels a strange aching in his soul and, returning to tribal lands for the funeral of his grandmother, is drawn irresistibly to the fabled bear-boy. When he meets Grey, a beautiful young medicine woman with a visionary gift, his world is turned upside down. Here is a magical saga of one man's tormented search for his identity--a quintessential

American novel, and a great one. *Black Eagle Child* Simon and Schuster "Dazzling. . . . In glittering prose, Momaday recalls stories passed down through generations, illuminating the earth as a sacrosanct place of wonder and abundance. At once a celebration and a warning, Earth Keeper is an impassioned defense of all that our endangered planet stands to lose." — Esquire A magnificent testament to the earth, from Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist and poet N. Scott Momaday. One of the most distinguished

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voices in American letters, N. Scott Momaday has devoted much of his life to celebrating and preserving Native American culture, especially its oral tradition. A member of the Kiowa tribe, Momaday was born in Lawton, Oklahoma and grew up on Navajo, Apache, and Pueblo reservations throughout the Southwest. It is a part of the earth he knows well and loves deeply. In *Earth Keeper*, he reflects on his native ground and its influence on his people. "When I think about my life and the lives of my ancestors," he writes, "I am inevitably led to the conviction that I,

and they, belong to the American land. This is a declaration of belonging. And it is an offering to the earth." In this wise and wondrous work, Momaday shares stories and memories throughout his life, stories that have been passed down through generations, stories that reveal a profound spiritual connection to the American landscape and reverence for the natural world. He offers an homage and a warning. He shows us that the earth is a sacred place of wonder and beauty, a source of strength and healing that must be honored and protected before it's too late. As he

so eloquently and simply reminds us, we must all be keepers of the earth.

### **Configurations of a Timeless**

**Kind** Open Road Media

Explores through words and images the stories and cultures of some Native American tribes.

### **Reflections on the American Land**

Vintage

Collects the author's writings on sacred geography, Billy the Kid, actor Jay Silverheels, ecological ethics, Navajo place names, and old ways of knowing

### **Fools Crow**

University of Arizona Press

"In the Presence

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of the Sun presents 30 years of selected works by [N. Scott] Momaday, the well-known Southwest Native American novelist. His unadorned poetry, which recounts fables and rituals of the Kiowa nation, conveys the deep sense of place of the Native American oral tradition. Here are dream-songs about animals (bear, bison, terrapin) and life away from urban alienation, an imagined re-creation based on Billy the Kid, prose poems about Plains Shields (and a fascinating discussion of their

background), and new poems that utilize primary colors ('forms of the earth') to express instinctive continuities of a pre-Columbian vision."--Library Journal "The strong, spare beauty of In the Presence of the Sun is compelling evidence that Scott Momaday is one of the most versatile and distinguished artists in America today."--Peter Matthiessen ". . . the images, the voices, the people are shadowy, elusive, burning with invention, like flames against a dark sky. For behind them is

always the artist-author himself . . . a man with a sacred investiture. Strong medicine, strong art indeed."--The New York Times Book Review