



***Powwow Day* by Traci Sorell;
Illustrated by Madelyn Goodnight**
Charlesbridge, 2022
9781580899482 (Hardcover)
*Age Range: 4 to 8
Preschool to Grade 3

BOOK SYNOPSIS

In this uplifting, contemporary Native American story, River is recovering from illness and can't dance at the powwow this year. Will she ever dance again?

River wants so badly to dance at powwow day as she does every year. In this picture book perfect for beginning readers, follow River's journey from feeling isolated after an illness to learning the healing power of community.

Additional information explains the history and functions of powwows, which are commonplace across the United States and Canada and are open to both Native Americans and non-Native visitors. Author Traci Sorell is a member of the Cherokee Nation, and illustrator Madelyn Goodnight is a member of the Chickasaw Nation.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

- ★ “A tender and inspiring view of Indigenous traditions and how -celebrating them can lead to healing and redemption.” – *School Library Journal*, **starred review**
- ★ “A heartwarming picture book about the roles of courage, culture, and community in the journey of personal healing. “ – *Kirkus Reviews*, **starred review**
- ★ “Sorell . . . creates a resonant, hopeful tale about the healing power of community and tradition, deftly capturing the powwow’s essence.” – *Publishers Weekly*, **starred review**

“ . . . vibrant picture book about acceptance and hope.” – *Foreword Reviews*

“ . . . lyrical and uplifting story.” – Shelf Awareness

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- 2022 – 2023 Read Across America
- Kirkus Reviews Best Picture Books of 2022
- 2022 SLJ Best Books of the Year
- Chicago Public Library Best Picture Books of 2022
- 2022 Shelf Awareness Best Children’s Books of the Year
- A 2022 Junior Library Guild Selection
- Bookstagang's Best Bookshelf Building Picture Books of 2022
- Bookstagang's Best of 2022 Community Favorite Award in Best Bookshelf Building Picture Books
- CSMCL Best Multicultural Children's Books of 2022
- 2023 Charlotte Zolotow Highly Commended book
- 2023 ALA Notable Children’s Books
- 2023 CCBC Choices Best of the Year List
- 2023 – 2024 Washington Children's Choice Picture Book Award nominee
- 2023 Capitol Choices Noteworthy Books for Children and Teens
- 2023 – 2024 Wyoming Book Awards, Buckaroo Award nominee
- 2023 100 Children’s Authors and Illustrators Everyone Should Know – Traci Sorell

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [Powwow Day Activity Kit](#)
- [The Children's Book Podcast Interview](#)
- [The Children's Bookshelf | WCMU Public Radio](#)
- [Interview with Mr. Schu's Watch. Connect. Read. Blog](#)
- [American Indians in Children's Literature \(AICL\) Blog Post](#)
- [Traci Sorell: Powwow Day Interview - YouTube](#)
- [The Making of Powwow Day with Traci Sorell and Madelyn Goodnight - YouTube](#)

AUTHOR STATEMENT (OPTIONAL)

Through my work, I focus on crafting fiction and nonfiction stories in a variety of formats for all ages. Those stories center the humanity, sovereignty, history, contemporary lives, and contributions of Native Nations and their citizens. In most schools nationwide, the K–12 curriculum does not include these types of stories. All young people in this country need to know the past and present of the people indigenous to this land. That is part of our responsibility in growing informed future generations. It is critical for Native created books to be available in school libraries, classrooms, public libraries, community centers, bookstores and homes to make that happen.

***A NOTE ON AGE RANGES**

A publisher-suggested age range covers the gamut of readers that publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate age range for the diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.