



Indian Killer

By Sherman Alexie

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“Part thriller, part magical realism, and part social commentary, *Indian Killer* . . . lingers long past the final page.”—*Seattle Weekly*

A national best seller, *Indian Killer* is arguably Sherman Alexie’s most controversial book to date—a gritty, racially charged literary thriller that, over a decade after its first publication, remains an electrifying tale of alienation and justice. A serial murderer called the Indian Killer is terrorizing Seattle, hunting, scalping, and slaughtering white men. Motivated by rage and seeking retribution for his people’s violent history, his grizzly MO and skillful elusiveness both paralyze the city with fear and prompt an uprising of racial brutality. Out of the chaos emerges John Smith. Born to Indians but raised by white parents, Smith yearns for his lost heritage. As his embitterment with his dual life increases, Smith falls deeper into vengeful madness and quickly surfaces as the prime suspect. Tensions mount, and while Smith battles to allay the anger that engulfs him, the Indian Killer claims another life. With acerbic wit and chilling page-turning intensity, Alexie takes an unflinching look at what nurtures rage within a race both colonized and marginalized by a society that neither values nor understands it.

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Indian Killer By Sherman Alexie Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Native American Sherman Alexie's new novel is a departure in tone from his lyrical and funny earlier work, which include *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven* and *Reservation Blues*. The main character is an Indian serial killer who incites racial tension by murdering whites in retribution for his people's history. The killer leaves clear signs of his motives by scalping his victims, and leaving feathers as gestures of Indian defiance. The killer is a conflicted creation--raised by loving white parents, but twisted by loss of his identity as an Indian. Alexie layers the story with complications and ancillary characters, from a rabid talk show host, to vengeance seeking whites, to liberals who find their patronizing espousal of Indian causes no longer so easy.

From Publishers Weekly

In a startling departure from his earlier, more lyrical fiction, Native American novelist Alexie (*Reservation Blues*) weighs in with a racially charged literary thriller. Seattle is rife with racial tension as the city is terrorized by a serial murderer nicknamed "Indian Killer" because the victims, all white, are scalped and their bodies topped with a pair of white owl feathers. At the center of the novel stands the mentally disintegrating John Smith, a 6'6" Native American ignorant of his tribal roots because he was adopted and raised by white parents. As the city's racial divide increases, Marie Polatkin, a combative Spokane activist and scholarship student, organizes demonstrations and distributes sandwiches and sedition to homeless Indians, while reactionary shock-jock Truck Schultz rails on the air against casinos on reservations. Three white men with masks and baseball bats (compatriots of a murdered University of Washington student) prowl the downtown area beating any Native American they find; a trio of Indians similarly beat and knife a white boy. Through it all float a number of psychological half-breeds, among them a mystery writer who's an Indian wannabe and a buffoonish white professor of Native American literature who is forced to re-evaluate his qualifications. Over the last few years, Alexie, who is Spokane/Coeur d'Alene, has built a reputation as the next great Native American writer. This novel bolsters that contention. It displays a brilliant eye for telling detail, as well as startling control, as Alexie flips points of view among a wide array of characters without ever seeming to resort to contrivance. The narrative voice can sound detached and affectless, and some readers will miss the lyricism and humor of the author's earlier work, but this novel offers abundant evidence of a most promising talent extending its range. 75,000 first printing; \$75,000 ad/promo; author tour; rights: Nancy Stauffer.

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From Library Journal

Alexie (*The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven*, LJ 9/1/93) was recently cited by *Granta* as one of today's best young American novelists. In his latest novel, a quasi-thriller, a mysterious Indian is killing and scalping white men in Seattle. The most obvious suspects are John Smith, an Indian who was adopted and raised by white parents, and Reggie Polatkin, the product of a marriage between a Spokane woman and an abusive white man. The novel's appeal, however, lies not in our drive to detect the killer's identity but in the sheer wonder of Alexie's fabulously sketched minor characters: Marie, a young, idealistic Spokane woman who befriends John; Wilson, a celebrated white mystery writer a la Tony Hillerman, who mistakenly believes he can elucidate the Native experience; and Dr. Mather, a "Wannabe Indian" who teaches Native American literature and clashes with Marie. Unfortunately, the humor that made the bleak stories in *The Lone Ranger and Tonto* so enjoyable is missing here, and the grinding of Alexie's axe is sometimes a bit loud. Still, this is a fine novel by an up-and-coming writer and, given the 75,000-copy first printing, there should be ample demand. For most fiction collections. *?Mark Annichiarico, "Library Journal"*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Wendell Darnell:

Information is provisions for individuals to get better life, information today can get by anyone in everywhere. The information can be a knowledge or any news even a huge concern. What people must be consider if those information which is in the former life are difficult to be find than now's taking seriously which one would work to believe or which one the resource are convinced. If you have the unstable resource then you have it as your main information there will be huge disadvantage for you. All those possibilities will not happen with you if you take Indian Killer as your daily resource information.

Dawn Campbell:

Indian Killer can be one of your starter books that are good idea. We recommend that straight away because this e-book has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in vocabulary, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The article author giving his/her effort to set every word into joy arrangement in writing Indian Killer although doesn't forget the main stage, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource details that maybe you can be certainly one of it. This great information can drawn you into new stage of crucial contemplating.

Craig Brown:

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Maxine Ford:

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