

UCLA

American Indian Culture and Research Journal

Title

Fauxskins

Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/9kr4r68g>

Journal

American Indian Culture and Research Journal , 43(4)

ISSN

0161-6463

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Publication Date

2019-09-01

DOI

10.17953/aicrj.43.4.erdrich

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POETRY



Fauxskins

Heid E. Erdrich

Their war paint and stoic pout we laugh at we can't help it
 Their profile pictures DNA reveals their family secrets

When she was dying our grandmother told me how ashamed she was to be . . .
Pappy would get drunk and say "You're an Injun and you'll always be . . ."
My great-grandmother the full-blooded (Generokee) didn't need papers to be . . .

Their *high cheekbones* Their *dark-haired* aunts Their uncle's *nickel profile*
 It's all phrenology to them

I've always been so close to nature so close to animals so close to rocks so close to you
 I am right behind you getting better than you at the language the beadwork the smudge
 the water protection and skirt shaming and de-colonizing and outrage and being . . .

so spiritual so yes very spiritual your *spirit animal*

Red Pony High Wolf Sky Wolf Flying Wolf Woof Woof
 Names always in English (ancestors spirits speak English
 apparently)

The author of seven collections of poetry, HEID E. ERDRICH has twice won a Minnesota Book Award for poetry. An anthology she has edited, *New Poets of Native Nations* (2018), received an American Book Award from the Before Columbus Foundation and a Midwest Booksellers Choice Award. She has also won fellowships and awards from the Native Arts and Cultures Foundation, the McKnight Foundation, the Minnesota State Arts Board, the Bush Foundation, the Loft Literary Center, and First People's Fund. Erdrich grew up in Wahpeton, North Dakota, and is Ojibwe enrolled at Turtle Mountain. She works as an educator and visual arts curator and collaborator, teaches in the low-residency MFA creative writing program of Augsburg University, and in 2019, was distinguished visiting professor in the liberal arts at the University of Minnesota, Morris. She lives in Minneapolis. "Fauxskins" will be published in *Little Big Bully*, a collection of Erdrich's poetry (Penguin, 2020) and appears by prior arrangement with the author.

Or room on the shelf? The list of Native Authors of Indigenous Descent
the publishers crowing the university of diversity the museum the funder
Should we leave them under the impression? Failing to understand complexity
tribal sovereignty

We decide who is we

There are so many we 570-some tribes that other tribes and laws agree
Oh laws! There goes old colonizer me!

You know she's not really You know she used to say she's . . .
Now they're all . . . you know . . . Métis

You know there but for the
 quantum rules tribal rolls
 per cap casinos allotments
 fur trade journals conversions census
 bad math blood math
 ancestry
 (dis)enrollment
 (go I)
 goes me

INNOVATIONS IN STORE WITH NEW EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Beginning next issue, Dr. Randall Akee will present his first issue as the recently appointed editor-in-chief of the *American Indian Culture and Research Journal* and Pamela Grieman will return to her position as managing editor. Dr. Akee is currently editing a special issue on how COVID-19 is impacting Native American communities and has been actively working to reshape *AICRJ*. The first change readers will notice is migration of the online edition to our new web platform, Meridian. And there will be more changes to come next year. We'll keep you posted! ■

PREPARE FOR *AICRJ*'S NEW PLATFORM

On October 6, 2020, the online *American Indian Culture and Research Journal* (*AICRJ*) is migrating to a new online platform called Meridian, hosted by Silverchair. The new URL is <https://meridian.allenpress.com/aicrj>, but the old URL, <https://uclajournals.org>, will redirect to the new site. With this move comes many enhancements, including:

- Mobile-responsive web design
- Optional split-screen reading experience
- Suggested articles based on browser history, saved searches, alerts and notifications

If you are an institutional subscriber, you should have received an email from publications assistant Cheyenne Suzukawa (editorial-assist@aisc.ucla.edu) asking you to send updated IP lists to ensure a smooth transition. She also sent instructions explaining how to reset your passwords. If you have not received this email, please reach out to Cheyenne at the email address above. In the meantime, email meridiansupport@allenpress.com and copy Pamela Grieman at grieman@ucla.edu if you experience access problems. Please be patient during the transition—the new bells and whistles will be worth it! ■

The screenshot shows the website interface for the American Indian Culture and Research Journal. At the top, there is a search bar and navigation links for 'University of California' and 'John Smith'. The main header includes the journal title 'AMERICAN INDIAN CULTURE AND RESEARCH JOURNAL' and navigation options: 'ISSUES', 'SUBSCRIBE', 'ADVERTISING', 'LIBRARY RECOMMENDATION FORM', 'INFORMATION', and 'HELP'. The 'UCLA INDIAN STUDIES CENTER' logo is in the top right. The main content area features a 'CURRENT ISSUE' section for 'Volume 43, Issue 3' dated '1 May 2021', with a 'View This Issue' button. Below this is an 'About AICRJ' section describing the journal as a premier journal in Native American studies. A 'Submit an Article' button is visible. At the bottom, there is a table with columns 'Latest', 'Most Read', and 'Most Cited', listing recent articles such as 'Notes on Becoming a Comrade: Indigenous Women, Leadership, and Movement(s) for Decolonization' by Jordana Shifren.

