

# Quotes

## Muscogee Creek

- You must be able to see where you have been before you can possibly know where you want to go.

## Sojourner Truth

- "I cannot read a book," "but I can read the people."
- An Indiana audience threatened to torch the building if she spoke. Sojourner Truth replied, "Then I will speak to the ashes."
- In 1858, when a group of men questioned her gender, claiming she was not properly feminine in her demeanor, Sojourner Truth, exposed her bosom to the entire assembly, proclaiming that shame was not hers but theirs.

## Chicago Women Against Rape's 1970's statement of purpose

- "Rape violently reflects the sexism in a society where power is unequally distributed between women and men, black and white, poor and rich...In rape, the woman is not a sexual being but a vulnerable piece of public property; the man does not violate society's norms so much as take them to a logical conclusion."

**Ephraim Webster, (1786)** Fur trader that lived with the Onondaga and Oneida for years and eventually adopted by the people.

- "The Indians have no altercations, and in ten years I have not heard any angry expressions nor seen any degree of passion. They treat their women with respect, even tenderness, they used no ardent spirits. They settled differences amicably."

**William Bartram**, who was an American Naturalist, wrote about the Creek and Cherokee Indian

- "An Indian never attempts, nay, he cannot use towards a woman amongst them any indelicacy or indecency, either in action or language. I never saw or heard of an instance of an Indian beating his wife or other female or reproving them in anger or in harsh language.

## Little Wolf

- "We have been south and suffered a great deal down there. Many have died of diseases which we have no name for. Our hearts looked and longed for this country where we were born. There are only a few of us left, and we only wanted a little ground, where we could live. We left our lodges standing and ran away in the night. The troops followed us. I rode out and told the troops we did not want to fight; we only wanted to go north, and if they would let us alone, we would kill no one. The only reply we got was a volley. After that we had to fight our way, but we killed none who did not fire at us first. My brother, Dull Knife, took one-half of the band and surrendered near Fort Robinson. [...] They gave up their guns, and then the whites killed them all."

**Cherie Dimaline, [The Marrow Thieves](#)**

- "We go to the schools and they leach the dreams from where our ancestors hid them, in the honeycombs of slushy marrow buried in our bones. And us? Well, we join our ancestors, hoping we left enough dreams behind for the next generation to stumble across."
- "Sometimes you risk everything for a life worth living, even if you're not the one that'll be alive to see it."