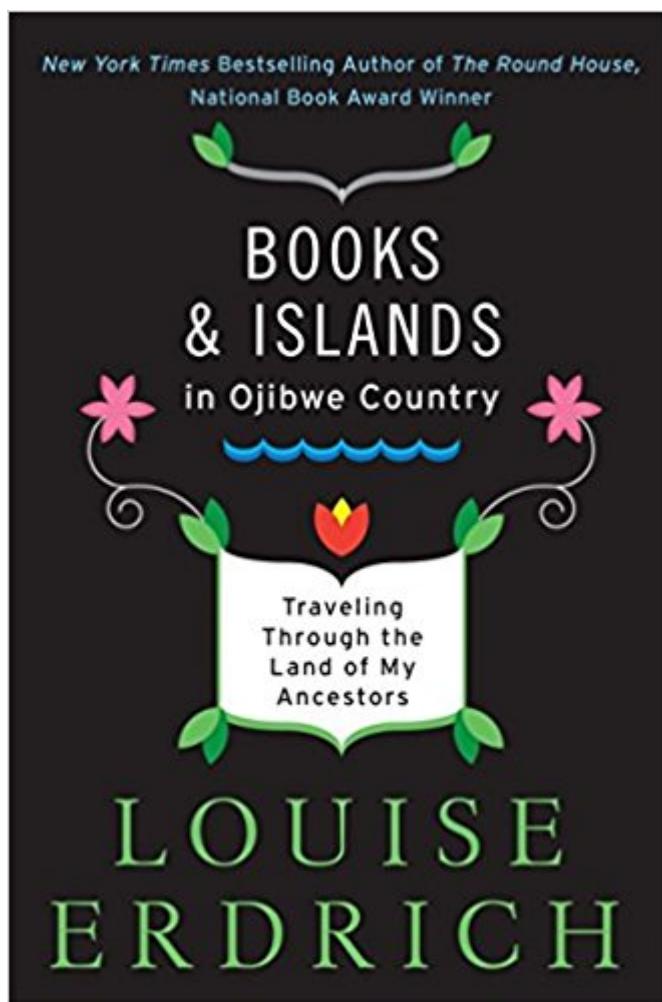


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# Books And Islands In Ojibwe Country: Traveling Through The Land Of My Ancestors



## Synopsis

For more than three decades, bestselling author Louise Erdrich has enthralled readers with dazzling novels that paint an evocative portrait of Native American life. From her dazzling first novel, *Love Medicine*, to the National Book Award-winning *The Round House*, Erdrich's lyrical skill and emotional assurance have earned her a place alongside William Faulkner and Willa Cather as an author deeply rooted in the American landscape. In *Books and Islands in Ojibwe Country*, Erdrich takes us on an illuminating tour through the terrain her ancestors have inhabited for centuries: the lakes and islands of southern Ontario. Summoning to life the Ojibwe's sacred spirits and songs, their language and sorrows, she considers the many ways in which her tribe—whose name derives from the word *ozhibii'ige*, "to write"—have influenced her. Her journey links ancient stone paintings with a magical island where a bookish recluse built an extraordinary library, and she reveals how both have transformed her. A blend of history, mythology, and memoir, *Books and Islands in Ojibwe Country* is an enchanting meditation on modern life, natural splendor, and the ancient spirituality and creativity of Erdrich's native homeland—a long, elemental tradition of storytelling that is in her blood.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

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Louise Erdrich is the author of fifteen novels as well as volumes of poetry, children's books, short stories, and a memoir of early motherhood. Her novel *The Round House* won the National Book Award for Fiction. *The Plague of Doves* won the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award and was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, and her debut novel, *Love Medicine*, was the winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award. Erdrich has received the Library of Congress Prize in American Fiction, the prestigious PEN/Saul Bellow Award for Achievement in American Fiction, and the Dayton Literary Peace Prize. She lives in Minnesota with her daughters and is the owner of Birchbark Books, a small independent bookstore.

I have read almost all of Louise Erdrich's books. This memoir reminds me of the descriptions of Peter Matthiessen. She is someone who lives close to nature and to books. I hope there are still people in North America who are in touch with both books and nature. Maybe they are our indigenous people or those with indigenous blood. Maybe, like the Monarchs, they will come down through this country spreading beauty and children.

Unlike her many wonderful novels, this is a detailed account of her travel through the northern Minnesota lake region with her baby daughter. It is filled with wisps of Indian philosophy and lore. It will stay with you and enrich you.

Being nestled in the area of the Anishinaabe I was a bit sad that our Bruce Peninsula was not a big part of this book. But I am very pleased with the contents. Also, as an ex librarian, the section of the old books made my mouth water. Erdrich is a fine writer.

I pay attention in class and always do my homework and at Terry Davis's suggestion (for skills with figurative language) I read this book and I'm happy. Louise is a good story teller and I felt spiritual as we interacted. I will read one of her novels soon, maybe "The Plague of Doves". Thanks Terry (and Louise).

This little book is one in a National Geographic series. Erdrich recounts a trip she took with her 18-month old daughter (born when she was in her late 40s) through the Ojibwe country of northern Minnesota and the lakes of Ontario. It's more meditation than travelogue. It is also a peaceful book, unlike her fiction which tends to take me on an emotional roller coaster. It's a quiet picture of Ojibwe terrain with a detour into a very small part of the book world.

Another wonderful book by Erdrich. I am always eagerly waiting for the next release! She captures for the rest of us a life that we don't appreciate or understand and I thank her for that.

This book opened my heart. It gave me a new level of compassion and caring for those who came before me, those with me now and those who will follow.

A very enjoyable read. Expanded my knowledge of native culture. The information was organized into short pieces--my favorite form of reading for the past decade.

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