

WALKING THE OJIBWE PATH

A Memoir in Letters

By Richard Wagamese

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Discussion Questions

- 1. What are some of the greatest lessons in life that you have learned? Who taught them to you?
- 2. Wagamese writes about his feelings of displacement being the only Native child in school and the pressure to play into harmful stereotypes. What does that say about Indigenous cultures and their relationship with modern society? Has this relationship changed since Wagamese's childhood in the 1960s? How or how not?
- 3. Richard Wagamese was one of Canada's foremost writers and one of the leading Indigenous writers in North America. Read another example of his writing and craft an in-depth analysis. What is it about? What is its desired affect? Who is the target audience?
- 4. During his time on the hill, Wagamese recounts a story John told him about how animals were meant to be Man's teachers. Is this story still relevant in modern society? Why or why not?
- 5. Reflect on the role nature plays in Walking the Ojibwe Path. For four days Wagamese sits exposed in a dirt circle on the top of a hill. What does he learn? How does the world around him lead him to his many revelations?