

tracks louise erdrich pdf

tracks louise erdrich pdf is a popular search term among readers and scholars interested in contemporary Native American literature. Louise Erdrich's novel **Tracks** is a significant work that explores the complex relationships within Native American communities, blending history, culture, and personal identity. Many seek digital versions such as a PDF to access this profound text conveniently. This article provides an in-depth overview of **Tracks** by Louise Erdrich, including its themes, characters, and cultural significance, as well as guidance on accessing a **tracks louise erdrich pdf** legally and ethically. Furthermore, it addresses common questions about the novel's availability in PDF format and its importance in literary studies. The following sections will help readers understand the essence of **Tracks** and how to approach obtaining the text in a digital format.

- Overview of Tracks by Louise Erdrich
- Thematic Analysis of Tracks
- Key Characters in Tracks
- Significance of Tracks in Native American Literature
- Accessing Tracks Louise Erdrich PDF
- Legal and Ethical Considerations for PDF Downloads

Overview of Tracks by Louise Erdrich

Tracks is a novel written by Louise Erdrich that was first published in 1988. It is part of Erdrich's series of novels set on a fictional Ojibwe reservation in North Dakota. The narrative intertwines the lives of Native American characters during a period of significant cultural and political change in the early 20th century. The story is told through multiple perspectives, primarily that of Nanapush, a tribal elder, and Fleur Pillager, a mysterious and powerful woman with deep spiritual connections.

The novel explores themes of identity, loss, and resilience, illustrating the conflict between traditional Native American ways of life and the imposed changes brought by European settlers and government policies. **Tracks** is notable for its lyrical prose and intricate storytelling that weaves myth, history, and personal experience.

Plot Summary

At the heart of **Tracks** is the struggle for survival and cultural preservation against the backdrop of colonialism and displacement. The narrative begins with the disappearance of a young woman and gradually reveals the impact of land disputes, alcoholism, and spiritual conflict on the community. The characters grapple with their sense of belonging and the challenge of maintaining their heritage in a rapidly changing world.

Author Background

Louise Erdrich is a renowned Native American author of Ojibwe descent. Her work often focuses on Native American themes, family dynamics, and the intersection of modern and traditional worlds. **Tracks** is part of her acclaimed body of work that has earned numerous literary awards and critical recognition.

Thematic Analysis of Tracks

The themes found in **Tracks** are rich and multifaceted, reflecting Louise Erdrich's deep engagement with Native American culture and history. The novel addresses issues such as cultural survival, identity, spirituality, and the impact of colonization.

Cultural Survival and Resistance

One of the central themes in **Tracks** is the resistance of Native American communities to cultural erasure. The characters embody the struggle to maintain their customs, language, and spiritual beliefs despite external pressures. This theme is portrayed through rituals, storytelling, and the characters' connection to the land.

Identity and Belonging

The novel explores the complex notion of identity, especially in relation to mixed heritage and displacement. Characters often confront feelings of alienation and the challenge of defining themselves within and outside their community. This theme resonates throughout the narrative as individuals seek to reconcile their past with their present.

Spirituality and Myth

Spirituality plays a vital role in **Tracks**, with the presence of traditional Ojibwe beliefs and mythological elements. Fleur Pillager's character, in

particular, embodies a mystical connection to nature and the supernatural. The novel blends realistic and mythic storytelling to emphasize the importance of spiritual continuity.

Key Characters in Tracks

The depth of **Tracks** is enhanced by its memorable characters, each contributing to the novel's exploration of cultural and personal themes. Understanding these characters is crucial to grasping the full impact of the narrative.

Nanapush

Nanapush serves as the primary narrator and a central figure in the community. He is wise, humorous, and deeply connected to his cultural roots. His storytelling provides insight into the history and struggles of his people, as well as the novel's broader themes.

Fleur Pillager

Fleur is a powerful and enigmatic woman who symbolizes the spiritual strength and resilience of the Ojibwe people. Her connection to the natural world and her ability to navigate both physical and metaphysical realms make her a focal point of the novel's mystical elements.

Margaret Kashpaw

Margaret is a complex character whose experiences reflect the challenges faced by Native American women during the time period. Her personal struggles and relationships highlight themes of survival and adaptation.

Significance of Tracks in Native American Literature

Tracks holds a prominent place in Native American literature due to its authentic portrayal of Ojibwe life and its nuanced examination of cultural survival. Louise Erdrich's work is praised for its literary artistry and its contribution to increasing awareness of Native American issues through fiction.

Literary Impact

The novel is recognized for its lyrical style and innovative narrative structure, which combines multiple perspectives and intertwines personal and communal histories. *Tracks* has influenced subsequent Native American writers and scholars by demonstrating the power of storytelling as a means of cultural preservation.

Cultural Representation

Erdrich's depiction of Native American characters and traditions challenges stereotypes and offers a more complex and humanized representation. The novel emphasizes the importance of heritage and the ongoing struggle against cultural assimilation.

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Supporting Authors and Publishers

Purchasing or borrowing **Tracks** through authorized channels supports the continued production of quality literature. It also fosters a sustainable literary environment where Native American voices can thrive and be heard globally.

Frequently Asked Questions

Where can I find a PDF of Louise Erdrich's book 'Tracks'?

You can find a PDF of 'Tracks' by Louise Erdrich on authorized ebook platforms or libraries. It's important to access it through legal channels such as purchasing from official retailers or borrowing from library digital collections.

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'Tracks' is a copyrighted work, so free downloads in PDF format from unauthorized sources are illegal. You can check if your local library offers a digital copy or purchase it through legitimate ebook sellers.

What is the summary of 'Tracks' by Louise Erdrich?

'Tracks' is a novel by Louise Erdrich that explores Native American life on a North Dakota reservation in the early 20th century, focusing on themes of cultural survival, identity, and family through interwoven narratives.

Are there any study guides or analysis PDFs available for 'Tracks' by Louise Erdrich?

Yes, various websites and educational platforms offer study guides and literary analyses of 'Tracks' in PDF format, which can help readers understand themes, characters, and context.

Can I legally share a PDF of 'Tracks' by Louise Erdrich with friends?

No, sharing copyrighted materials such as 'Tracks' in PDF form without permission is illegal. It's best to encourage friends to obtain their own copies through legal means.

What are some key themes discussed in 'Tracks' by Louise Erdrich?

Key themes in 'Tracks' include cultural identity, colonization, spirituality, family dynamics, and the struggle for Native American rights and survival.

Is there an audiobook or PDF version of 'Tracks' by Louise Erdrich available?

Yes, 'Tracks' is available in various formats including ebook (PDF, ePub) and audiobook versions, accessible through official retailers and library services.

How can I cite the PDF version of 'Tracks' by Louise Erdrich in academic papers?

When citing the PDF version, include the author's name, publication year, book title in italics, publisher, and the format or URL if accessed online, following the citation style required (e.g., APA, MLA).

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Additional Resources

1. *Tracks* by Louise Erdrich

This novel by Louise Erdrich explores the complex relationships between Native American families on a reservation in North Dakota during the early

20th century. The story is told through multiple perspectives, weaving together themes of identity, spirituality, and cultural survival. Erdrich's lyrical prose brings to life the struggles and resilience of her characters.

2. *Love Medicine by Louise Erdrich*

A companion novel to *Tracks*, *Love Medicine* delves into the interconnected lives of several Native American families living on the same reservation. The book spans several decades, offering rich character development and insight into the changing cultural landscape. Erdrich's storytelling captures the heartache and hope of her community.

3. *The Round House by Louise Erdrich*

This novel centers on a young Native American boy seeking justice after a traumatic event affects his family. *The Round House* combines a coming-of-age story with a legal thriller, highlighting issues of jurisdiction and violence on reservations. Erdrich's vivid narrative shines a light on contemporary Native American life.

4. *The Plague of Doves by Louise Erdrich*

Set in a small North Dakota town with a dark history, this novel explores the long-lasting effects of a tragic crime on multiple generations. Erdrich intertwines mystery, history, and cultural reflection, creating a haunting and powerful story. The book examines themes of justice, forgiveness, and community.

5. *Love and Trouble: Stories of Survival by Louise Erdrich*

This collection of short stories presents diverse voices and experiences within Native American communities. Erdrich's stories range from moments of humor to profound struggles, showcasing her ability to portray complex characters with empathy. The book offers a broader understanding of Native life beyond the reservation.

6. *Four Souls by Louise Erdrich*

Continuing the narrative from *Tracks*, *Four Souls* follows Fleur Pillager's journey as she seeks to reclaim her stolen land and identity. The novel combines elements of magical realism with a deep exploration of heritage and personal strength. Erdrich's evocative writing captures the mystical and real aspects of Native American existence.

7. *Shadow Tag by Louise Erdrich*

In this novel, Erdrich explores the repercussions of a tragic accident on a Native American family. The story examines themes of guilt, redemption, and the bonds of family through the perspectives of multiple characters. *Shadow Tag* highlights the complexities of forgiveness and healing within a community.

8. *The Birchbark House by Louise Erdrich*

Aimed at younger readers, this novel tells the story of an Ojibwe girl growing up in the 19th century. It provides a vivid portrayal of Native American life, traditions, and challenges during a time of great change. Erdrich's heartfelt narrative educates and engages readers through the eyes

of a child.

9. *Indian Killer* by Sherman Alexie

While not by Erdrich, this novel shares thematic concerns with *Tracks*, such as Native American identity and cultural conflict. It follows a serial killer in Seattle amidst racial tensions, blending dark humor with social critique. Alexie's work complements Erdrich's by offering another powerful voice in contemporary Native American literature.

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Tracks by Louise Erdrich: A PDF Exploration

Book Title: *Tracks: A Novel* by Louise Erdrich (PDF Version)

Content Outline:

Introduction: Overview of Louise Erdrich's *Tracks*, its historical context, and thematic concerns. Brief discussion of the novel's critical reception and enduring relevance.

Chapter 1: Resilience and Survival in the Face of Adversity: Examining the struggles faced by the protagonist, Pauline, and the resilience demonstrated by Native American communities throughout the novel.

Chapter 2: The Power of Storytelling and Oral Tradition: Exploring the significance of storytelling in preserving cultural identity and transmitting knowledge across generations within the narrative.

Chapter 3: Intertwined Narratives and Shifting Perspectives: Analyzing the multiple narrative voices and their contribution to understanding the complex history and experiences of the characters.

Chapter 4: Themes of Identity, Land, and Spirituality: Delving into the core themes of Native American identity, the profound connection to the land, and the role of spirituality in shaping lives and communities.

Chapter 5: Historical Context and the Representation of Native American History: Situating the novel within its historical context, exploring its portrayal of colonization, displacement, and the ongoing struggles for self-determination.

Chapter 6: Literary Style and Techniques: Analyzing Erdrich's distinctive writing style, including the use of magical realism, symbolism, and imagery.

Conclusion: Summary of key themes, an assessment of the novel's lasting impact, and a reflection on its continued relevance in contemporary society.

Tracks by Louise Erdrich: A Deep Dive into Resilience, Identity, and Storytelling

Louise Erdrich's *Tracks* is a powerful and evocative novel that masterfully weaves together multiple narratives to explore the complex history and experiences of Native American communities. This compelling story, now readily available in PDF format, offers readers a profound understanding of resilience, identity, and the enduring power of storytelling. This article delves deep into the novel's intricate layers, examining its thematic concerns, literary techniques, and lasting significance.

Introduction: A Novel of Resilience and Cultural Preservation

Tracks, first published in 1988, immediately established Erdrich as a significant voice in contemporary American literature. The novel's enduring appeal stems from its exploration of universal themes—survival, love, loss, and the struggle for identity—within the specific context of Native American history and culture. The story unfolds across multiple generations, intertwining the lives of various characters whose destinies are inextricably linked to the land and its history. Unlike many historical narratives, *Tracks* doesn't shy away from the complexities and traumas of colonization and its enduring impact, offering a nuanced and empathetic portrayal of the challenges faced by Native American peoples. The availability of *Tracks* as a PDF makes this rich and complex narrative accessible to a wider audience, fostering crucial discussions around Indigenous experiences and perspectives.

Chapter 1: Resilience and Survival in the Face of Adversity

The central narrative of *Tracks* follows Pauline, a young Native American woman navigating a life shaped by poverty, prejudice, and the lingering effects of colonization. Pauline's journey is one of remarkable resilience. She endures hardship, loss, and societal injustice, yet her spirit remains unbroken. Erdrich depicts her unwavering strength not as a superhuman feat, but as a testament to the enduring strength of the human spirit, particularly within the context of a marginalized community. The novel showcases the collective resilience of the entire community, highlighting how they support each other, share resources, and maintain their cultural identity in the face of immense pressure. The challenges they face resonate with the ongoing struggles faced by Indigenous communities worldwide, underscoring the novel's timeless relevance.

Chapter 2: The Power of Storytelling and Oral Tradition

Storytelling forms the very backbone of *Tracks*. The novel demonstrates how oral traditions serve as a crucial means of preserving cultural identity, history, and knowledge. The sharing of stories, songs, and legends creates a sense of community and strengthens cultural bonds. Through these

narratives, the past informs the present, providing context and meaning to the characters' experiences. The act of storytelling itself becomes an act of resistance, a way of countering the dominant narratives that have sought to erase or diminish Native American cultures. The interwoven narratives within *Tracks* illustrate the power of multiple perspectives and the importance of listening to diverse voices.

Chapter 3: Intertwined Narratives and Shifting Perspectives

Erdrich masterfully employs multiple narrative voices in *Tracks*. The shifting perspectives enrich the reader's understanding of the characters and their motivations. By presenting the story through the eyes of different individuals – including Pauline, her relatives, and even animals – Erdrich creates a tapestry of interconnected lives and experiences. This multifaceted approach avoids a singular, potentially reductive, portrayal of Native American identity, showcasing instead the diversity of experiences within the community. The reader gains a deeper appreciation for the nuances of individual lives and the collective struggles faced by the community as a whole.

Chapter 4: Themes of Identity, Land, and Spirituality

The novel powerfully explores the inextricable link between Native American identity, the land, and spirituality. For the characters in *Tracks*, the land is not merely a physical space but a sacred entity, intimately connected to their history, cultural practices, and spiritual beliefs. Their connection to the land shapes their understanding of themselves and their place in the world. The characters' spirituality provides solace, strength, and a sense of continuity amidst the challenges they face. The intertwining of these three elements underscores the deep-seated connection between people and their environment, a connection frequently disrupted by colonization.

Chapter 5: Historical Context and the Representation of Native American History

Tracks is deeply rooted in its historical context. It provides a powerful portrayal of the impact of colonization on Native American communities, including displacement, cultural disruption, and the ongoing struggle for self-determination. The novel doesn't shy away from depicting the harsh realities faced by Indigenous peoples, shedding light on the injustices they have endured. However, it also emphasizes the resilience, cultural richness, and ongoing fight for survival and cultural preservation. By weaving together fictional and historical elements, Erdrich creates a nuanced and complex representation of Native American history that challenges simplistic narratives and stereotypes.

Chapter 6: Literary Style and Techniques

Erdrich's writing style is characterized by its lyrical prose, vivid imagery, and skillful use of magical realism. The incorporation of magical elements adds a layer of depth and complexity to the narrative, reflecting the spiritual and mystical dimensions of Native American culture. The use of symbolism, particularly relating to animals and the natural world, adds another layer of meaning to the events unfolding in the story. Erdrich's ability to seamlessly blend realism and magical realism creates a truly unique and immersive reading experience. The careful construction of her sentences and the precise choice of words contribute to the novel's overall impact and emotional resonance.

Conclusion: A Lasting Legacy

Tracks remains a powerful and relevant work of literature, offering a profound and nuanced portrayal of Native American life and history. Its exploration of resilience, cultural preservation, and the enduring power of storytelling continues to resonate with readers today. The novel's accessibility in PDF format ensures that its message of hope, perseverance, and cultural pride reaches a broad audience, fostering a deeper understanding of Indigenous experiences and promoting dialogue around issues of social justice and cultural preservation. Erdrich's contribution to literature is undeniable, and Tracks stands as a testament to the power of storytelling to illuminate the human experience and challenge dominant narratives.

FAQs:

1. Is Tracks suitable for all ages? While not explicitly graphic, the novel deals with mature themes and historical trauma, making it more suitable for older teens and adults.
2. What makes Tracks a significant work of literature? Its powerful portrayal of Native American history, its nuanced character development, and its masterful use of literary techniques contribute to its significance.
3. Where can I find a PDF version of Tracks? Several online retailers and libraries may offer digital versions; however, always ensure you are accessing the book legally.
4. What are the main themes of Tracks? Resilience, identity, storytelling, spirituality, land, and the impact of colonization are central themes.
5. How does Erdrich use magical realism in Tracks? She blends realistic depictions of life with magical elements, reflecting the spiritual beliefs and worldview of Native American cultures.
6. What is the significance of the multiple narratives in Tracks? The shifting perspectives enrich the reader's understanding and offer a more complete picture of the community and its history.
7. Is Tracks a historical novel? While fictional, it's deeply rooted in historical context and reflects the experiences of Native Americans during a specific period.
8. What is the role of storytelling in Tracks? Storytelling acts as a means of preserving cultural identity, history, and knowledge, offering a form of resistance against dominant narratives.
9. How does Tracks contribute to contemporary discussions about Indigenous rights? By highlighting the ongoing struggles and resilience of Native Americans, the novel contributes to

conversations about self-determination and social justice.

Related Articles:

1. Louise Erdrich's Literary Style: A Comparative Analysis: Examining the evolution of Erdrich's writing style across her works.
2. The Representation of Native American Spirituality in Tracks: A deeper exploration of spiritual themes and their role in the narrative.
3. The Historical Context of Tracks: Colonization and its Impact on Native Communities: Detailed historical background relevant to the novel's setting and themes.
4. Magical Realism in Native American Literature: Erdrich and Beyond: Exploring the use of magical realism in other works of Indigenous literature.
5. Resilience in the Face of Adversity: Analyzing Pauline's Journey in Tracks: A character-focused analysis of Pauline's strength and perseverance.
6. The Power of Oral Tradition in Indigenous Cultures: Examining the importance of storytelling in the preservation of cultural heritage.
7. Comparing and Contrasting Tracks with other Works by Louise Erdrich: A comparative analysis of Tracks within the context of Erdrich's broader oeuvre.
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tracks louise erdrich pdf: Tracks Louise Erdrich, 2006 Set in North Dakota, at a time in the early 20th century when Indian tribes were struggling to keep what little remained of their lands, 'Tracks' is a tale of passion and deep unrest.

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tracks louise erdrich pdf: Love Medicine Louise Erdrich, 2010-08-15 The first of Louise Erdrich's polysymphonic novels set in North Dakota – a fictional landscape that, in Erdrich's hands, has become iconic – Love Medicine is the story of three generations of Ojibwe families. Set against the tumultuous politics of the reservation, the lives of the Kashpaws and the Lamartines are a testament to the endurance of a people and the sorrows of history.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: The Bingo Palace Louise Erdrich, 1995-02-15 Back on his reservation, Lipsha Morrissey, the illegitimate son of June Kashpaw and Gerry Nanapush, falls in love with Shawnee Ray and is torn between success and meaning, love and money, and the future and the past.

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tracks louise erdrich pdf: The Last Report on the Miracles at Little No Horse Louise Erdrich, 2009-03-17 A New York Times Notable Book "Stunning. . . a moving meditation. . . infused with mystery and wonder." —Atlanta Journal-Constitution In a masterwork that both deepens and enlarges the world of her previous novels, acclaimed author Louise Erdrich captures the essence of a time and the spirit of a woman who felt compelled by her beliefs to serve her people as a priest. The Last Report on the Miracles at Little No Horse deals with miracles, crises of faith, struggles with

good and evil, temptation, and the corrosive and redemptive power of secrecy. For more than a half century, Father Damien Modeste has served his beloved Native American tribe, the Ojibwe, on the remote reservation of Little No Horse. Now, nearing the end of his life, Father Damien dreads the discovery of his physical identity, for he is a woman who has lived as a man. To further complicate his quiet existence, a troubled colleague comes to the reservation to investigate the life of the perplexing, possibly false saint Sister Leopolda. Father Damien alone knows the strange truth of Leopolda's piety, but these facts are bound up in his own secret. He is faced with the most difficult decision: Should he tell all and risk everything . . . or manufacture a protective history for Leopolda, though he believes her wonder-working is motivated solely by evil? *The Last Report on the Miracles at Little No Horse* is a work of an avid heart, a writer's writer, and a storytelling genius.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: *The Birchbark House* Louise Erdrich, 2021-11-16 A fresh new look for this National Book Award finalist by Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Louise Erdrich! This is the first installment in an essential nine-book series chronicling one hundred years in the life of one Ojibwe family and includes charming interior black-and-white artwork done by the author. She was named Omakakiins, or Little Frog, because her first step was a hop. Omakakiins and her family live on an island in Lake Superior. Though there are growing numbers of white people encroaching on their land, life continues much as it always has. But the satisfying rhythms of their life are shattered when a visitor comes to their lodge one winter night, bringing with him an invisible enemy that will change things forever—but that will eventually lead Omakakiins to discover her calling. By turns moving and humorous, this novel is a breathtaking tour de force by a gifted writer. The beloved and celebrated Birchbark House series by Louise Erdrich includes *The Birchbark House*, *The Game of Silence*, *The Porcupine Year*, *Chickadee*, and *Makoons*, with more titles to come.

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tracks louise erdrich pdf: *Racing in Place* Michael Martone, 2008-01-01 Is it truth or fiction? Memoir or essay? Narrative or associative? To a writer like Michael Martone, questions like these are high praise. Martone's studied disregard of form and his unruffled embrace of the prospect that nothing--no story, no life--is ever quite finished have yielded some of today's most splendidly unconventional writing. Add to that an utter weakness for pop Americana and what Louise Erdrich has called a “deep affection for the ordinary,” and you have one of the few writers who could pull off something like *Racing in Place*. Up the steps of the Washington Monument, down the home stretch at the Indy Speedway, and across the parking lot of the Moon Winx Lodge in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, Martone chases, and is chased by, memories--and memories of memories. He writes about his grandfather's job as a meter reader, those seventies-era hotels with atrium lobbies and open glass elevators, and the legendary temper of basketball coach Bob Knight. Martone, as Peter Turchi has said, looks “under stones the rest of us leave unturned.” So, what is he really up to when he dwells on the make of Malcolm X's eyeglasses or the runner-up names for Snow White's seven dwarfs? In “My Mother Invents a Tradition,” Martone tells how his mom, as the dean of girls at a brand-new

high school in Fort Wayne, Indiana, “constructed a nostalgic past out of nothing.” Sitting at their dining room table, she came up with everything from the school colors (orange and brown) to the yearbook title (Bear Tracks). Look, and then look again, Martone is saying. “You never know. I never know.”

tracks louise erdrich pdf: *The Plague of Doves* Louise Erdrich, 2009-03-17 A finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, *The Plague of Doves*—the first part of a loose trilogy that includes the National Book Award-winning *The Round House* and *LaRose*—is a gripping novel about a long-unsolved crime in a small North Dakota town and how, years later, the consequences are still being felt by the community and a nearby Native American reservation. Though generations have passed, the town of Pluto continues to be haunted by the murder of a farm family. Evelina Harp—part Ojibwe, part white—is an ambitious young girl whose grandfather, a repository of family and tribal history, harbors knowledge of the violent past. And Judge Antone Basil Coutts, who bears witness, understands the weight of historical injustice better than anyone. Through the distinct and winning voices of three unforgettable narrators, the collective stories of two interwoven communities ultimately come together to reveal a final wrenching truth. Bestselling author Louise Erdrich delves into the fraught waters of historical injustice and the impact of secrets kept too long.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: *Books and Islands in Ojibwe Country* Louise Erdrich, 2003 An account of Louise Erdrich's trip through the lakes and islands of southern Ontario with her 18-month old baby and the baby's father, an Ojibwe spiritual leader and guide--

tracks louise erdrich pdf: *LaRose* Louise Erdrich, 2016-05-10 Winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award in Fiction Finalist for the PEN Faulkner Award In this literary masterwork, Louise Erdrich, bestselling author of the National Book Award-winning *The Round House* and the Pulitzer Prize nominee *The Plague of Doves*, wields her breathtaking narrative magic in an emotionally haunting contemporary tale of a tragic accident, a demand for justice, and a profound act of atonement with ancient roots in Native American culture. North Dakota, late summer, 1999. Landreaux Iron stalks a deer along the edge of the property bordering his own. He shoots with easy confidence—but when the buck springs away, Landreaux realizes he's hit something else, a blur he saw as he squeezed the trigger. When he staggers closer, he realizes he has killed his neighbor's five-year-old son, Dusty Ravich. The youngest child of his friend and neighbor, Peter Ravich, Dusty was best friends with Landreaux's five-year-old son, LaRose. The two families have always been close, sharing food, clothing, and rides into town; their children played together despite going to different schools; and Landreaux's wife, Emmaline, is half sister to Dusty's mother, Nola. Horrified at what he's done, the recovered alcoholic turns to an Ojibwe tribe tradition—the sweat lodge—for guidance, and finds a way forward. Following an ancient means of retribution, he and Emmaline will give LaRose to the grieving Peter and Nola. “Our son will be your son now,” they tell them. LaRose is quickly absorbed into his new family. Plagued by thoughts of suicide, Nola dotes on him, keeping her darkness at bay. His fierce, rebellious new “sister,” Maggie, welcomes him as a coconspirator who can ease her volatile mother's terrifying moods. Gradually he's allowed shared visits with his birth family, whose sorrow mirrors the Raviches' own. As the years pass, LaRose becomes the linchpin linking the Irons and the Raviches, and eventually their mutual pain begins to heal. But when a vengeful man with a long-standing grudge against Landreaux begins raising trouble, hurling accusations of a cover-up the day Dusty died, he threatens the tenuous peace that has kept these two fragile families whole. Inspiring and affecting, *LaRose* is a powerful exploration of loss, justice, and the reparation of the human heart, and an unforgettable, dazzling tour de force from one of America's most distinguished literary masters.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: *The Beet Queen* Louise Erdrich, 1998-04 Orphaned fourteen-year-old Carl and his eleven-year-old sister, Mary, travel to Argus, North Dakota, to live with their mother's sister, in this tale of abandonment, sexual obsession, jealousy and unstinting love.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: *Future Home of the Living God* Louise Erdrich, 2017-11-14 A New York Times Notable Book Louise Erdrich, the New York Times bestselling, National Book

Award-winning author of *LaRose* and *The Round House*, paints a startling portrait of a young woman fighting for her life and her unborn child against oppressive forces that manifest in the wake of a cataclysmic event. The world as we know it is ending. Evolution has reversed itself, affecting every living creature on earth. Science cannot stop the world from running backwards, as woman after woman gives birth to infants that appear to be primitive species of humans. Twenty-six-year-old Cedar Hawk Songmaker, adopted daughter of a pair of big-hearted, open-minded Minneapolis liberals, is as disturbed and uncertain as the rest of America around her. But for Cedar, this change is profound and deeply personal. She is four months pregnant. Though she wants to tell the adoptive parents who raised her from infancy, Cedar first feels compelled to find her birth mother, Mary Potts, an Ojibwe living on the reservation, to understand both her and her baby's origins. As Cedar goes back to her own biological beginnings, society around her begins to disintegrate, fueled by a swelling panic about the end of humanity. There are rumors of martial law, of Congress confining pregnant women. Of a registry, and rewards for those who turn these wanted women in. Flickering through the chaos are signs of increasing repression: a shaken Cedar witnesses a family wrenched apart when police violently drag a mother from her husband and child in a parking lot. The streets of her neighborhood have been renamed with Bible verses. A stranger answers the phone when she calls her adoptive parents, who have vanished without a trace. It will take all Cedar has to avoid the prying eyes of potential informants and keep her baby safe. A chilling dystopian novel both provocative and prescient, *Future Home of the Living God* is a startlingly original work from one of our most acclaimed writers: a moving meditation on female agency, self-determination, biology, and natural rights that speaks to the troubling changes of our time.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: *The Antelope Wife* Louise Erdrich, 2012-08-28 "A fiercely imagined tale of love and loss, a story that manages to transform tragedy into comic redemption, sorrow into heroic survival." —New York Times "[A] beguiling family saga....A captivating jigsaw puzzle of longing and loss whose pieces form an unforgettable image of contemporary Native American life." —People A New York Times bestselling author, a Pulitzer Prize finalist, and winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award, Louise Erdrich is an acclaimed chronicler of life and love, mystery and magic within the Native American community. A hauntingly beautiful story of a mysterious woman who enters the lives of two families and changes them forever, Erdrich's classic novel, *The Antelope Wife*, has enthralled readers for more than a decade with its powerful themes of fate and ancestry, tragedy and salvation. Now the acclaimed author of *Shadow Tag* and *The Plague of Doves* has radically revised this already masterful work, adding a new richness to the characters and story while bringing its major themes into sharper focus, as it ingeniously illuminates the effect of history on families and cultures, Ojibwe and white.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: Short Story for Students 20 Ira Mark Milne, Jennifer Greve, Timothy Sisler, 2004-09 Each entry contains author biography, plot summary, characters, themes, style, historical context, critical overview, criticism, sources and further reading.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: Shadow Tag Louise Erdrich, 2011-02-01 When Irene America discovers that her artist husband, Gil, has been reading her diary, she begins a secret Blue Notebook, stashed securely in a safe-deposit box. There she records the truth about her life and marriage, while turning her Red Diary—hidden where Gil will find it—into a manipulative charade. As Irene and Gil fight to keep up appearances for their three children, their home becomes a place of increasing violence and secrecy. And Irene drifts into alcoholism, moving ever closer to the ultimate destruction of a relationship filled with shadowy need and strange ironies. Alternating between Irene's twin journals and an unflinching third-person narrative, Louise Erdrich's *Shadow Tag* fearlessly explores the complex nature of love, the fluid boundaries of identity, and the anatomy of one family's struggle for survival and redemption.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: Understanding Louise Erdrich Seema Kurup, 2015-12-30 In *Understanding Louise Erdrich*, Seema Kurup offers a comprehensive analysis of this critically acclaimed Native American novelist whose work stands as a testament to the struggle of the Ojibwe people to survive colonization and contemporary reservation life. Kurup traces in Erdrich's oeuvre

the theme of colonization, both historical and cultural, and its lasting effects, starting with the various novels of the Love Medicine epic, the National Book Award-winning *The Round House*, *The Birchbark House* series of children's literature, the memoirs *The Blue Jays Dance* and *Books and Island in Ojibwe Country*, and selected poetry. Kurup elucidates Erdrich's historical context, thematic concerns, and literary strategies through close readings, offering an introductory approach to Erdrich and revealing several entry points for further investigation. Kurup asserts that Erdrich's writing has emerged not out of a postcolonial identity but from the ongoing condition of colonization faced by Native Americans in the United States, which is manifested in the very real and contemporary struggle for sovereignty and basic civil rights. Exploring the ways in which Erdrich moves effortlessly from trickster humor to searing pathos and from the personal to the political, Kurup takes up the complex issues of cultural identity, assimilation, and community in Erdrich's writing. Kurup shows that Erdrich offers readers poignant and complex portraits of Native American lives in vibrant, three-dimensional, and poetic prose while simultaneously bearing witness to the abiding strength and grace of the Ojibwe people and their presence and participation in the history of the United States.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: *Mother* Claudia O'Keefe, 1996-05 Mary Higgins Clark, Amy Tan, Joyce Carol Oates and Maya Angelou are among the gifted writers who share their personal reflections on mother in this exceptional collection of fiction, essays and poetry. From a woman's choice to become a mother to the inner workings of a mother's relationship with her children, the full cycle of motherhood is brought to life in these touching works.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: *Dialogism or Interconnectedness in the Work of Louise Erdrich* Marta J. Lysik, 2017-05-11 This study portrays how Louise Erdrich's writing extends Bakhtin's concepts of dialogism and the novel through an investigation of a selection of her works, as well as her practices of writing, co-writing, re-writing, and reading novels. Erdrich's hallmark dialogic literary style and practice encompasses writing a series of books; re-cycling protagonists, narrators, events, themes and settings; re-writing previously published novels; employing heteroglossia and polyglossia; co-authoring texts, blogging about books; translating different epistemologies for different audiences; and spotlighting families as the main thematic concern in dialogue with her own parenting experiences as depicted in her memoirs. She writes a growing series of novels, compost pile-like, capitalizing on former novels, as well as adding new elements and new stories in the process. Thus, a dialogic intra-textual microcosm emerges. Erdrich suffuses her writing with an incessant quality of changing and becoming. Her novels resist closure, while protagonists return and demand attention, and the author answers dialogically by penning new tales. Erdrich's writing can be accessed because it concerns shared human experiences and relationships, both their ambivalence and their beauty. Erdrich includes instead of alienating, sympathizes instead of judging, which makes her an internationally acclaimed author, with her work crossing topographies, epistemologies, and identities.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: *Cultural Haunting* Kathleen Brogan, 1998 In this text, Kathleen Brogan makes the case that the recent preoccupation with ghosts stems not from a lingering interest in Gothic themes, but instead from a whole new genre in American literature that she calls 'the story of cultural haunting'.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: *The Cambridge Companion to Native American Literature* Joy Porter, Kenneth M. Roemer, 2005-07-21 Invisible, marginal, expected - these words trace the path of recognition for American Indian literature written in English since the late eighteenth century. This Companion chronicles and celebrates that trajectory by defining relevant institutional, historical, cultural, and gender contexts, by outlining the variety of genres written since the 1770s, and also by focusing on significant authors who established a place for Native literature in literary canons in the 1970s (Momaday, Silko, Welch, Ortiz, Vizenor), achieved international recognition in the 1980s (Erdrich), and performance-celebrity status in the 1990s (Harjo and Alexie). In addition to the seventeen chapters written by respected experts - Native and non-Native; American, British and European scholars - the Companion includes bio-bibliographies of forty authors, maps, suggestions

for further reading, and a timeline which details major works of Native American literature and mainstream American literature, as well as significant social, cultural and historical events. An essential overview of this powerful literature.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: Listening to the Land Lee Schweninger, 2010-01-25 For better or worse, representations abound of Native Americans as a people with an innate and special connection to the earth. This study looks at the challenges faced by Native American writers who confront stereotypical representations as they assert their own ethical relationship with the earth. Lee Schweninger considers a range of genres (memoirs, novels, stories, essays) by Native writers from various parts of the United States. Contextualizing these works within the origins, evolution, and perpetuation of the “green” labels imposed on American Indians, Schweninger shows how writers often find themselves denying some land ethic stereotypes while seeming to embrace others. Taken together, the time periods covered in *Listening to the Land* span more than a hundred years, from Luther Standing Bear’s description of his late-nineteenth-century life on the prairie to Linda Hogan’s account of a 1999 Makah hunt of a gray whale. Two-thirds of the writers Schweninger considers, however, are well-known voices from the second half of the twentieth century, including N. Scott Momaday, Louise Erdrich, Vine Deloria Jr., Gerald Vizenor, and Louis Owens. Few ecocritical studies have focused on indigenous environmental attitudes, in comparison to related work done by historians and anthropologists. *Listening to the Land* will narrow this gap in the scholarship; moreover, it will add individual Native American perspectives to an understanding of what, to these writers, is a genuine Native American philosophy regarding the land.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: *The Round House* Louise Erdrich, 2012-10-02 Winner of the National Book Award • Washington Post Best Book of the Year • A New York Times Notable Book From one of the most revered novelists of our time, an exquisitely told story of a boy on the cusp of manhood who seeks justice and understanding in the wake of a terrible crime that upends and forever transforms his family. One Sunday in the spring of 1988, a woman living on a reservation in North Dakota is attacked. The details of the crime are slow to surface because Geraldine Coutts is traumatized and reluctant to relive or reveal what happened, either to the police or to her husband, Bazil, and thirteen-year-old son, Joe. In one day, Joe’s life is irrevocably transformed. He tries to heal his mother, but she will not leave her bed and slips into an abyss of solitude. Increasingly alone, Joe finds himself thrust prematurely into an adult world for which he is ill prepared. While his father, a tribal judge, endeavors to wrest justice from a situation that defies his efforts, Joe becomes frustrated with the official investigation and sets out with his trusted friends, Cappy, Zack, and Angus, to get some answers of his own. Their quest takes them first to the Round House, a sacred space and place of worship for the Ojibwe. And this is only the beginning. *The Round House* is a page-turning masterpiece—at once a powerful coming-of-age story, a mystery, and a tender, moving novel of family, history, and culture.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: *Stag’s Leap* Sharon Olds, 2012 A poignant sequence of poems traces the evolution of a divorce while exploring themes of love, sex, sorrow, memory and freedom as reflected by everyday familiarities and the poignancy of former lovers parting, in a collection by the National Book Critics Circle Award-winning author of *The Dead and the Living*.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: *The Game of Silence* Louise Erdrich, 2009-03-17 Winner of the Scott O’Dell Award for Historical Fiction, *The Game of Silence* is the second novel in the critically acclaimed Birchbark House series by New York Times bestselling author Louise Erdrich. Her name is Omakayas, or Little Frog, because her first step was a hop, and she lives on an island in Lake Superior. One day in 1850, Omakayas’s island is visited by a group of mysterious people. From them, she learns that the chimookomanag, or white people, want Omakayas and her people to leave their island and move farther west. That day, Omakayas realizes that something so valuable, so important that she never knew she had it in the first place, could be in danger: Her way of life. Her home. The Birchbark House Series is the story of one Ojibwe family’s journey through one hundred years in America. The New York Times Book Review raved about *The Game of Silence*: “Erdrich has created a world, fictional but real: absorbing, funny, serious and convincingly human.”

tracks louise erdrich pdf: *The Novels of Louise Erdrich* Connie A. Jacobs, 2001 From the tribe's struggle to survive (Tracks), to the Depression (The Beet Queen), to the mid-twentieth century (Love Medicine), to contemporary times (The Bingo Palace, Tales of Burning Love, and The Antelope Wife), Erdrich sympathetically, compassionately, and realistically renders a portrait of people striving to survive governmental bureaucracy, Catholic Church intrusion, and climatic severity.--BOOK JACKET.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: *The Red Convertible* Louise Erdrich, 2021-11-16 "Culled from 30 years as one of America's most distinctive fictional voices . . . 36 affecting and inventive stories that dance around the Faulknerian world she's created. . . . Within these stories there exist Erdrich's poetic sentences and humane sensibility—and always another surprise on the next page." — Boston Globe A collection of breathtaking power and originality by one of the most innovative and exciting writers of our day In Louise Erdrich's fictional world, the mystical can emerge from the everyday, the comic can turn suddenly tragic, and violence and splendor inhabit a single emotional landscape. The fantastic twists and leaps of her imagination are made all the more meaningful by the deeper truth of human feeling that underlies them. These thirty-six short works selected by the author herself—including five previously unpublished stories—are ordered chronologically as well as by theme and voice, each tale spellbinding in its boldness and beauty. The Red Convertible is a stunning literary achievement, the collected brilliance of a fearless and inventive writer.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: *The Extraordinary Education of Nicholas Benedict* Trenton Lee Stewart, 2014-01-02 When nine-year-old Nicholas Benedict is sent to a new orphanage, he encounters vicious bullies, selfish adults, strange circumstances - and a mind-bending mystery. Luckily, he has one very important thing in his favour: he's a genius.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: Black Elk Speaks John G. Neihardt, 2014-03-01 Black Elk Speaks, the story of the Oglala Lakota visionary and healer Nicholas Black Elk (1863-1950) and his people during momentous twilight years of the nineteenth century, offers readers much more than a precious glimpse of a vanished time. Black Elk's searing visions of the unity of humanity and Earth, conveyed by John G. Neihardt, have made this book a classic that crosses multiple genres. Whether appreciated as the poignant tale of a Lakota life, as a history of a Native nation, or as an enduring spiritual testament, Black Elk Speaks is unforgettable. Black Elk met the distinguished poet, writer, and critic John G. Neihardt in 1930 on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota and asked Neihardt to share his story with the world. Neihardt understood and conveyed Black Elk's experiences in this powerful and inspirational message for all humankind. This complete edition features a new introduction by historian Philip J. Deloria and annotations of Black Elk's story by renowned Lakota scholar Raymond J. DeMallie. Three essays by John G. Neihardt provide background on this landmark work along with pieces by Vine Deloria Jr., Raymond J. DeMallie, Alexis Petri, and Lori Utecht. Maps, original illustrations by Standing Bear, and a set of appendixes rounds out the edition.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: *Different Class* Joanne Harris, 2017-01-03 Originally published: Great Britain: Doubleday, 2016.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: The Queerness of Native American Literature Lisa Tatonetti, 2014 With a new and more inclusive perspective for the growing field of queer Native studies, Lisa Tatonetti provides a genealogy of queer Native writing after Stonewall. Looking across a broad range of literature, Tatonetti offers the first overview and guide to queer Native literature from its rise in the 1970s to the present day. In *The Queerness of Native American Literature*, Tatonetti recovers ties between two simultaneous renaissances of the late twentieth century: queer literature and Native American literature. She foregrounds how Indigeneity intervenes within and against dominant interpret.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: *Decolonizing Methodologies* Linda Tuhiwai Smith, 2016-03-15 'A landmark in the process of decolonizing imperial Western knowledge.' Walter Mignolo, Duke University To the colonized, the term 'research' is conflated with European colonialism; the ways in which academic research has been implicated in the throes of imperialism remains a painful

memory. This essential volume explores intersections of imperialism and research - specifically, the ways in which imperialism is embedded in disciplines of knowledge and tradition as 'regimes of truth.' Concepts such as 'discovery' and 'claiming' are discussed and an argument presented that the decolonization of research methods will help to reclaim control over indigenous ways of knowing and being. Now in its eagerly awaited second edition, this bestselling book has been substantially revised, with new case-studies and examples and important additions on new indigenous literature, the role of research in indigenous struggles for social justice, which brings this essential volume urgently up-to-date.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: *The Routledge Introduction to Native American Literature* Drew Lopenzina, 2020-07-22 This Introduction makes available for both student, instructor, and aficionado a refined set of tools for decolonizing our approaches prior to entering the unfamiliar landscape of Native American literatures. This book will introduce indigenous perspectives and traditions as articulated by indigenous authors whose voices have been a vital, if often overlooked, component of the American dialogue for more than 400 years. Paramount to this consideration of Native-centered reading is the understanding that literature was not something bestowed upon Native peoples by the settler culture, either through benevolent interventions or violent programs of forced assimilation. Native literature precedes colonization, and Native stories and traditions have their roots in both the precolonized and the decolonizing worlds. As this far-reaching survey of Native literary contributions will demonstrate, almost without fail, when indigenous writers elected to enter into the world of western letters, they did so with the intention of maintaining indigenous culture and community. Writing was and always remains a strategy for survival.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: Close Range Annie Proulx, 2007-12-01 From the Pulitzer Prize-winning and bestselling author of *The Shipping News* and *Accordion Crimes* comes one of the most celebrated short story collections of our time. Annie Proulx's masterful language and fierce love of Wyoming are evident in this collection of stories about loneliness, quick violence, and wrong kinds of love. In *The Mud Below*, a rodeo rider's obsession marks the deepening fissures between his family life and self-imposed isolation. In *The Half-Skinned Steer*, an elderly fool drives west to the ranch he grew up on for his brother's funeral, and dies a mile from home. In *Brokeback Mountain*, the difficult affair between two cowboys survives everything but the world's violent intolerance. These are stories of desperation, hard times, and unlikely elation, set in a landscape both brutal and magnificent. Enlivened by folk tales, flights of fancy, and details of ranch and rural work, they juxtapose Wyoming's traditional character and attitudes—confrontation of tough problems, prejudice, persistence in the face of difficulty—with the more benign values of the new west. Stories in *Close Range* have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic Monthly*, *Harper's*, and *GQ*. They have been selected for the O. Henry Stories 1998 and *The Best American Short Stories of the Century* and have won the National Magazine Award for Fiction. This is work by an author writing at the peak of her craft.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: *The Crown of Columbus* Louise Erdrich, Michael Dorris, 1999-03-03 In their only fully collaborative literary work, Michael Dorris and Louise Erdrich have written a gripping novel of history, suspense, recovery, and new beginnings. *The Crown of Columbus* chronicles the adventures of a pair of mismatched lovers--Vivian Twostar, a divorced, pregnant anthropologist, and Roger Williams, a consummate academic, epic poet, and bewildered father of Vivian's baby--on their quest for the truth about Christopher Columbus and themselves. When Vivian uncovers what is presumed to be the most diary of Christopher Columbus, she and Roger are drawn into a journey from icy New Hampshire to the idyllic Caribbean in search of the greatest treasure of Europe. Lured by the wild promise of redeeming the past, they are plunged into a harrowing race against time and death that threatens--and finally changes--their lives. A rollicking tale of adventure, *The Crown of Columbus* is also contemporary love story and a tender examination of parenthood and passion.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: *The Sentence* Louise Erdrich, 2021-11-09 Dazzling. . . . A hard-won love letter to readers and to booksellers, as well as a compelling story about how we cope with pain

and fear, injustice and illness. One good way is to press a beloved book into another's hands. Read *The Sentence* and then do just that.—USA Today, Four Stars In this New York Times bestselling novel, Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award-winning author Louise Erdrich creates a wickedly funny ghost story, a tale of passion, of a complex marriage, and of a woman's relentless errors. Louise Erdrich's latest novel, *The Sentence*, asks what we owe to the living, the dead, to the reader and to the book. A small independent bookstore in Minneapolis is haunted from November 2019 to November 2020 by the store's most annoying customer. Flora dies on All Souls' Day, but she simply won't leave the store. Toookie, who has landed a job selling books after years of incarceration that she survived by reading with murderous attention, must solve the mystery of this haunting while at the same time trying to understand all that occurs in Minneapolis during a year of grief, astonishment, isolation, and furious reckoning. *The Sentence* begins on All Souls' Day 2019 and ends on All Souls' Day 2020. Its mystery and proliferating ghost stories during this one year propel a narrative as rich, emotional, and profound as anything Louise Erdrich has written.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: *The Blue Jay's Dance* Louise Erdrich, 1996-03 A novelist writes of her experiences during a 12 month period through pregnancy, new motherhood, and return to writing.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: *Last Standing Woman* Winona LaDuke, 2023-05-25 Born at the turn of the 21st century, *The Storyteller*, also known as Ishkwegaabawiikwe (Last Standing Woman), carries her people's past within her memories. The White Earth Anishinaabe people have lived on the same land for over a thousand years. Among the towering white pines and rolling hills, the people of each generation are born, live out their lives, and are buried. The arrival of European missionaries changes the community forever. Government policies begin to rob the people of their land, piece by piece. Missionaries and Indian agents work to outlaw ceremonies the Anishinaabeg have practised for centuries. Grave-robbing anthropologists dig up ancestors and whisk them away to museums as artifacts. Logging operations destroy traditional sources of food, pushing the White Earth people to the brink of starvation. Battling addiction, violence, and corruption, each member of White Earth must find their own path of resistance as they struggle to reclaim stewardship of their land, bring their ancestors home, and stay connected to their culture and to each other. In this highly anticipated 25th anniversary edition of her debut novel, Winona LaDuke weaves a nonlinear narrative of struggle and triumph, resistance and resilience, spanning seven generations from the 1800s to the early 2000s.

tracks louise erdrich pdf: *The Porcupine Year* Louise Erdrich, 2010-09-14 Omakayas was a dreamer who did not yet know her limits. When Omakayas is twelve winters old, she and her family set off on a harrowing journey in search of a new home. Pushed to the brink of survival, Omakayas continues to learn from the land and the spirits around her, and she discovers that no matter where she is, or how she is living, she has the one thing she needs to carry her through.

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