



Sherman Alexie

Sherman Alexie is a Native American author who was born on October 7, 1966, on the Spokane Indian Reservation in Washington state. Alexie and his family were very poor and faced many obstacles. In addition, Alexie was born with a medical condition that led doctors to believe that he would not live past his first birthday. Against all odds he excelled in school, academically and as a basketball star, and eventually became class president despite the prejudice he faced from peers.

His writing career began in college. He was largely influenced by other Native American writers, such as Joseph Bruchac. Alexie uses exaggeration, humor, and emotion to shed light on the many difficulties faced by Native American communities in the United States. His most well-known books include *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven* and *The Absolutely True Story of a Part-Time Indian*. Alexie currently lives and writes in Washington.