



Joy Harjo

Joy Harjo was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma, in 1951 and is a member of the Mvskoke Nation. She frequently includes Native American mythology, symbolism, and beliefs in her poetry. Her work is largely autobiographical and inspired by her love of nature. In 1975 she published her first volume of poetry, *The Last Song*.

Her writing emphasizes the unique worldview of Native American people and blends everyday experiences with Native American spirituality. She has said that she writes poetry for herself; however, her work has inspired many people from all over the world and has earned her many awards.

She is an award-winning musician and has produced five albums with her band, Poetic Justice. She also writes nonfiction and children's literature, including *The Good Luck Cat* and *For a Girl Becoming*. She currently lives and works in Oklahoma.