

**Book Club Kit Discussion Guide**  
**The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian**  
**By Sherman Alexie**

**Author:**

Sherman J. Alexie, Jr., was born in October 1966. A Spokane/Coeur d'Alene Indian, he grew up on the Spokane Indian Reservation in Wellpinit, WA, about 50 miles northwest of Spokane, WA. Alexie has published 18 books to date. Alexie is an award-winning and prolific author and occasional comedian. Much of his writing draws on his experiences as a modern Native American. Sherman's best known works include *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven*, *Smoke Signals*, and *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*. He lives in Seattle, Washington.

**Summary:**

In his first book for young adults, bestselling author Sherman Alexie tells the story of Junior, a budding cartoonist growing up on the Spokane Indian Reservation. Determined to take his future into his own hands, Junior leaves his troubled school on the rez to attend an all-white farm town high school where the only other Indian is the school mascot. Heartbreaking, funny, and beautifully written, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, which is based on the author's own experiences, coupled with poignant drawings by acclaimed artist Ellen Forney, that reflect the character's art, chronicles the contemporary adolescence of one Native American boy as he attempts to break away from the life he was destined to live.

**Questions:**

Readers guide with discussion questions may be found at the following link:

[http://www.hachettebookgroup.com/\\_b2c/media/assets/titles/ff413c5c-5919-4d79-b8fc-5e995ae91c4e/TRG\\_9780316013697.pdf](http://www.hachettebookgroup.com/_b2c/media/assets/titles/ff413c5c-5919-4d79-b8fc-5e995ae91c4e/TRG_9780316013697.pdf)