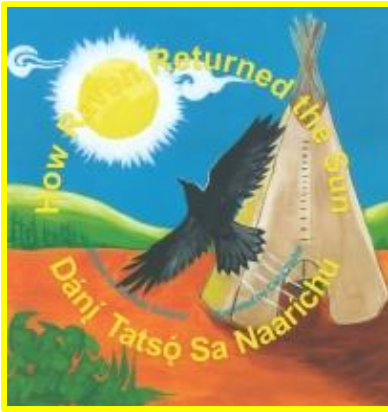


# SPOTLIGHT



If there was something good that came out of the recent ridiculous and offensive calls for a “cultural appropriation prize,” it’s that there has since been an increased spotlight on the many, many great indigenous writers across the country.

Add Yellowknife’s Christal Doherty to that ever-growing list.

Accolades for Doherty aside, *How Raven Returned the Sun* was truly a team effort. First told to her by storyteller Dora Blondin, Doherty wrote the legend in her own words, worked with Jane Modeste on a North Slavey translation, and Carla Taylor took on the illustrations.

Their efforts came together beautifully. The text is simple and short: perfect for younger readers, and highlighted words in the English text match words in the North Slavey text for a thoughtful approach to encouraging bilingual language development. Taylor’s illustrations are warm and magical; wonderfully complementing this story of a resourceful and helpful raven.

Kudos to all those involved in the creation and the YK1 Education District for commissioning this book in an effort to add to the body of literature written in traditional languages. We need more of this, not cultural appropriation.

Christal Doherty and Carla Taylor will both be participating in this year’s NorthWords Writers Festival from June 1<sup>st</sup> to June 4<sup>th</sup>.

John Mutford

Library Manager