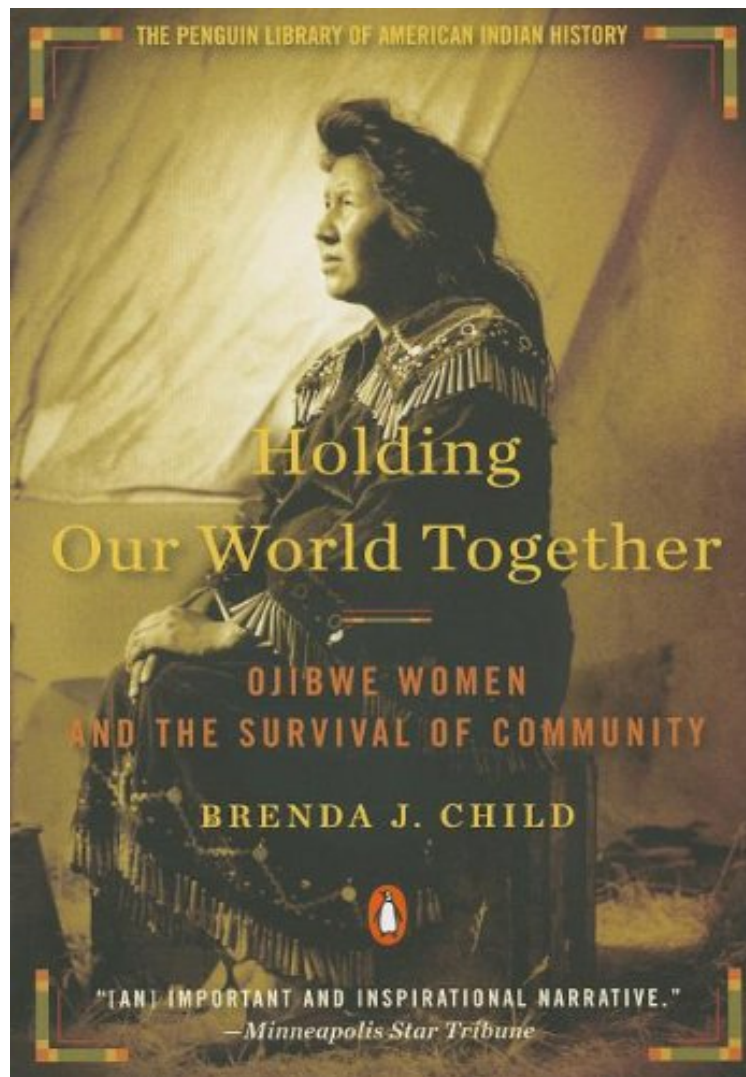


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Holding Our World Together: Ojibwe Women and the Survival of Community (Penguin Library of American Indian History)

Brenda J. Child

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this book while staying with family in the Southwest. But I was raised in Michigan and delighted to read a scholarly account of its native culture. You'll feel good about the read and supporting the author's efforts.³ of 3 people found the following review helpful. Excellent research into the recent past of the Ojibwe women
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The Ojibwe nation is fortunate to have many excellent spokespersons for them who are also teachers and writers. Brenda Child falls into this category and also covers a specific subject (the women of the Ojibwe) with thorough research and a very readable book.² of 2 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars
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My husband raved about it. Very informative.

A groundbreaking exploration of the remarkable women in Native American communities
In this well-researched and deeply felt account, Brenda J. Child, a professor and a member of the Red Lake Ojibwe tribe, gives Native American women their due, detailing the many ways in which they have shaped Native American life. She illuminates the lives of women such as Madeleine Cadotte, who became a powerful mediator between her people and European fur traders, and Gertrude Buckanaga, whose postwar community activism in Minneapolis helped bring many Indian families out of poverty. Moving from the early days of trade with Europeans through the reservation era and beyond, Child offers a powerful tribute to the courageous women who sustained Native American communities through the darkest challenges of the past three centuries.

From Booklist
In this latest volume in the Penguin Library of American Indian History, Child addresses the unique role women have played in the community life of her nation, the Red Lake Ojibwe Nation of northern Minnesota. She begins with a history of Ojibwe culture in the Great Lakes area since the late eighteenth-century, when women served as intermediaries with the European newcomers, especially fur traders. In the reservation era, women were called on to hold things together, as the move to reservations disrupted the politics and resources of the Ojibwe people, forcing them to make difficult decisions as each treaty with the U.S. and Canada was signed. Child addresses the travesty of Indian boarding schools, focusing on the one started near Mount Pleasant, Michigan, in 1893 on sacred Ojibwe burial grounds. She concludes with the post-WWII Ojibwe migration to Minneapolis, where women quickly adopted leadership positions in activist groups. Child offers a penetrating look into how crucial Ojibwe women have been over the last two centuries in holding the Ojibwe Nation together against forces threatening to tear it apart. --Deborah Donovan "Brenda Child's moving portrayal of the often unrecognized but pivotal roles Ojibwe women played in community survival is, in its determination to record truth, itself an act of leadership--of intellectual sovereignty."
Kimberly Blaeser, author of *Apprenticed to Justice* "An important, pathbreaking book, not merely a powerful corrective to books that focus on Indian males, but also a powerful corrective to the scholarship on Indian women largely written by non-Indian women." Jacqueline Peterson, Washington State University-Vancouver "Not only does [Child] describe how and why Ojibwe women were essential to the survival of their culture and community, through her scholarship she demonstrates how this work is being accomplished today." John Borrows, University of Minnesota
About the Author
Brenda J. Child is an associate professor of American studies at the University of Minnesota and the author of *Boarding School Seasons: American Indian Families, 1900-1940*. She lives in Saint Paul, Minnesota.