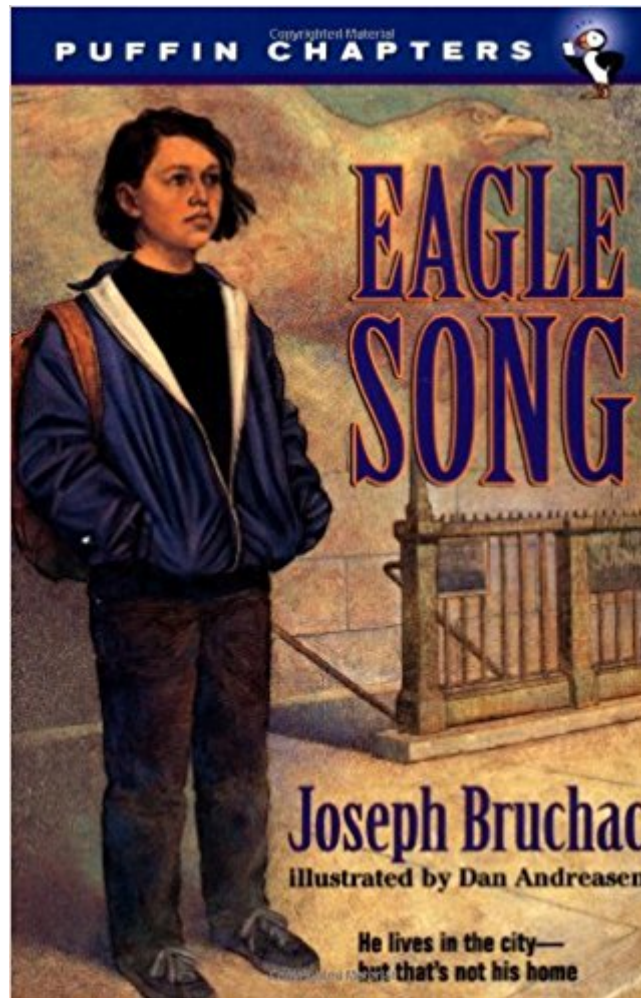




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# Eagle Song (Puffin Chapters)



## Synopsis

A contemporary middle grade story about confronting bullying and prejudice— Danny Bigtree's family has moved to Brooklyn, New York, and he just can't seem to fit in at school. He's homesick for the Mohawk reservation, and the kids in his class tease him about being an Indian— the thing that makes Danny most proud. Can he find the courage to stand up for himself? — "A worthy, well-written novella." — Kirkus Reviews — "This appealing portrayal of a strong family offers an unromanticized view of Native American culture, and a history lesson about the Iroquois Confederacy; it also gives a subtle lesson in the meaning of daily courage." — Publishers Weekly — "With so many Native American stories set in the misty past, it's great to read a children's book about an Iroquois boy who lives in the city now. Bruchac weaves together the traditional and the realistic as Danny's ironworker father tells stories of his people's history and heroes, stories that give Danny courage to confront his schoolyard enemies and make friends with them." — Booklist

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 680L (What's this?)

Series: Puffin Chapters

Paperback: 80 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books; 1 edition (March 1, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0141301694

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Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.2 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 0.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 14 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #38,059 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #29 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Native North & South Americans #30

in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Moving #72

in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > United States

Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 5

## Customer Reviews

It's a shock for fourth-grader Danny Bigtree to move to Brooklyn from his Mohawk Nation

reservation: suddenly he has no friends, and his classmates taunt him, asking him where his war pony is and telling him to go home to his teepee. After his charismatic father makes a class visit to talk about Iroquois culture, his peers begin to warm up to him. Bruchac, author of numerous books with Native American themes, weaves into the story the legend of the great peacemaker Aionwahta, who united five warring Indian nations into the Iroquois Confederacy and turned an enemy into an ally. Can Danny be, like Aionwahta, an agent of peace, and find a way to transform the school bully into a friend? This appealing portrayal of a strong family offers an unromanticized view of Native American culture, and a history lesson about the Iroquois Confederacy; it also gives a subtle lesson in the meaning of daily courage. Illustrations not seen by PW. Ages 7-9. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Grade 3-4? Danny Bigtree, lonely for the Mohawk reservation he left two months ago and alienated from his fourth-grade classmates in his Brooklyn school, yearns for acceptance. When his father returns to their city apartment from his construction job, Danny opens up about his persecution at school. By sharing the Iroquois legend of Aionwahta (Hiawatha), Richard Bigtree guides his son toward traditional sources of strength and peacemaking. The man visits the classroom where he shares the same tale, eliciting positive responses. Then Danny's schoolyard nemesis throws a basketball right at his face, bloodying his nose and lips, and Danny wonders if this act was intentional. Then his father is injured in a high-steel accident. Peaceful resolution comes on the schoolyard, and reassuring signs from his recuperating dad round out the narrative. Stock characters carry the didactic story. The father "elder" figure becomes one-dimensional: all noble, wise, and patient. This story lacks dialogue and character development and has far too much exposition. There is a heaviness to the teachings. Murky, dark, black-and-white prints have no child appeal. Craig Kee Strete's *The World in Grandfather's Hands* (Clarion, 1995) deals with an angry, modern Indian boy in urban America through far more complex characters. ?Jacqueline Elsner, Athens Regional Library, GA Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Vital to any great read, no matter what the age, is to engage the reader in the fantasy the writer is attempting to convey. Joseph Bruchac has succeeded in this endeavor by being a reader himself and engaging in the spiritual lives of the Native Americans. Throughout my years of reading instruction I have always previewed books before suggesting them to my so-call non-readers. This one worked. Find more Native American fun at the college level in: *Hear the Calliope: A sentimental*

journey on the Earth RideLegacy: Let the games begin (Volume 2)Reason Void of Reason:  
Spirituality Honeymoon Style (Volume 3)BREATHE: Noumenon (Volume 4)

The book is in very good shape. I haven't had time to re read it as yet. I bought it for a gift.

This book was all over the place, very hard to follow. Many subjects that were not fully explained and could have had a great impact, gangs, bullying, etc.

Danny, an American Indian, has moved to the city. The kids at his school all ignore him or, the ones who do give him any attention, tease and bully him. One day he asked his father for advice about his schoolmates. His father tells him a story about Aionwahta, the hero/peacemaker between all the tribes. He made everything peaceful and turned an enemy into a brother. He grew a pine tree and put an eagle on top of the pine to make sure the peace will never be destroyed again. Danny wants to be just like Aionwahta. Can he turn his enemy into a brother, or at least a friend? This is a story of courage and overcoming obstacles, with the help of his family. Danny uses his courage to try to fix himself and his surroundings. I really enjoyed this book because it was written so "smoothly." You felt like you were watching this story go by through a hidden window.

A perfect book for boys becoming men in a bullying world..Luckily for Daniel, he has his ancestors, his father and mother, and the ancient Indian ways to lift his spirits. Joseph Bruchac has written a story that is a good way to spend your time; whether old or young or in between, that will help you reconnect to spiritual wisdom. Suzanne

If you are looking for a great book to discuss how we treat and respect minorities especially Native American, you should get this book. It is a moving story that involves bullying which is great to talk about too. The resolution is very positive and peaceful and overall it is not too much for children. The interest level is appropriate for 8 to twelve year olds, but the reading level is more like fourth grade. The author, as a Native American himself, gently adds details about the culture of Native Americans in the New York area in modern times. I want to get this for my school library and book room.

When Danny whanted attetion he had his dad come and tell the story his dad told him. After his dad came Trione (his worst emeny)wanted him to play basketball with Danny he hit him in the face but

Trione did not mean too. Danny figured he did not mean to do it and thats why he told the teacher that he sliped and fell and hit his face on the ground. I found that when Danny had that dream of the eagle gettintg knocked out of the tree queer because his dad fell of the building saving a mans life. It could be better becuse the chapters were short and alot of words I did not know.

books for students. great book

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