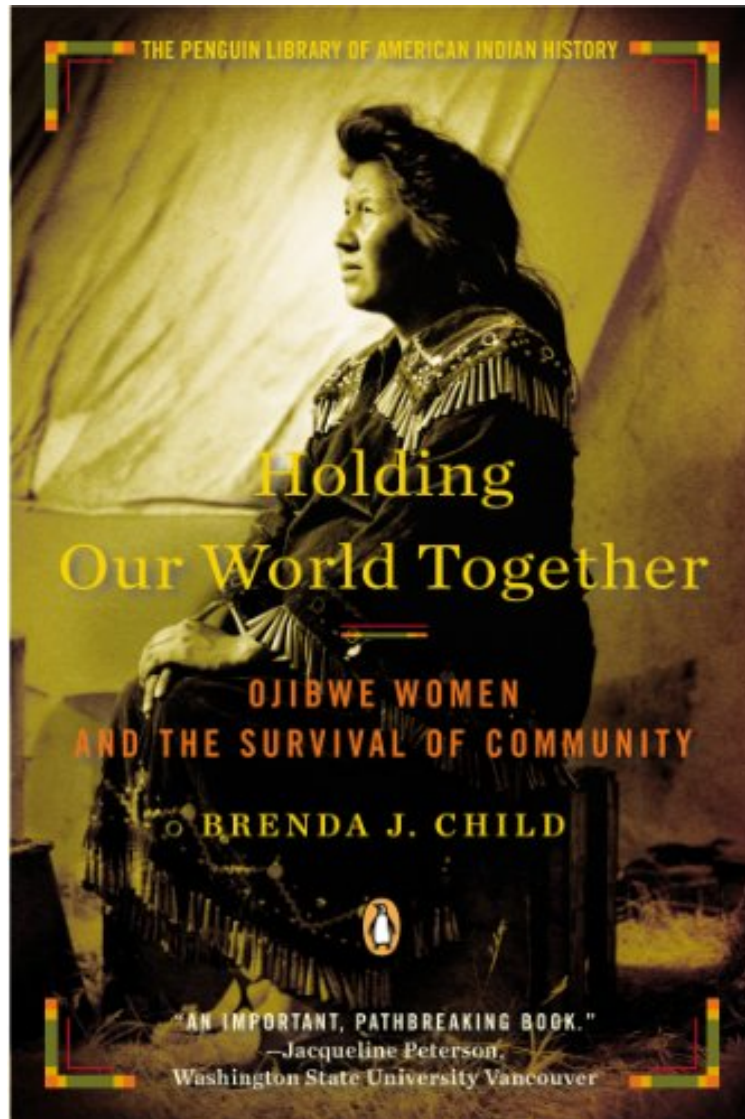


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Holding Our World Together: Ojibwe Women and the Survival of the Community (Penguin's Library of American Indian History)

Brenda J. Child

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Brenda J. Child : Holding Our World Together: Ojibwe Women and the Survival of the Community (Penguin's Library of American Indian History) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Holding Our World Together: Ojibwe Women and the Survival of the Community (Penguin's Library of American Indian History):

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By K Consumer
I first encountered 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
By mooie
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
By Deborah Chromie
My husband raved about it. Very informative.

A groundbreaking exploration of the remarkable women in Native American communities. Too often ignored or underemphasized in favor of their male warrior counterparts, Native American women have played a more central role in guiding their nations than has ever been understood. Many Native communities were, in fact, organized around women's labor, the sanctity of mothers, and the wisdom of female elders. In this well-researched and deeply felt account of the Ojibwe of Lake Superior and the Mississippi River, Brenda J. Child details the ways in which women have shaped Native American life from the days of early trade with Europeans through the reservation era and beyond. The latest volume in the Penguin Library of American Indian History, *Holding Our World Together* 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. Drawing on these stories and others, Child offers a powerful tribute to the many courageous women who sustained Native communities through the darkest challenges of the last 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, a member of the Red Lake Ojibwe Nation, 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 is also on the advisory board for the Penguin Library of American Indian History.