



# Genocidal Love

*Life After Residential School*

BY BEVANN FOX

- A bold, moving story of an Indigenous woman battling to reclaim her voice after the trauma of residential school and ongoing colonial power structures across government.
- Written by an award-winning local leader and Indigenous woman, recognized with a YWCA Women of Distinction Award.
- Continues the essential, nationwide conversation about healing and reconciliation.
- Blends fiction and biography into a unique form that explores the complex truth of emotions and perspectives over time.

GENOCIDAL LOVE  
 Life After Residential School  
 Bevann Fox  
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**G***enocidal Love* delves into the long-term effects of childhood trauma on those who attended residential school and demonstrates the power of story to help in recovery and healing. Presenting herself as “Myrtle,” Bevann Fox recounts her early childhood filled with love and warmth on the First Nation reservation with her grandparents. At the age of seven she was sent to residential school, and her horrific experiences of abuse there left her without a voice, timid and nervous, never sure, never trusting, and always searching.

This is the story of Myrtle battling to recover her voice.

This is the story of her courage and resilience throughout the arduous process required to make a claim for compensation for the abuse she experienced at residential school—a process that turned out to be yet another trauma at the hands of the colonial power.

This is the story of one woman finally standing up to the painful truth of her past and moving beyond it for the sake of her children and grandchildren. In recounting her tumultuous life, Fox weaves truth and fiction together as a means of bringing clarity to the complex emotions and situations she faced as she walked her path toward healing.

**BEVANN FOX** is a member of Pasqua First Nation and lives in Regina. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Regina, where she is currently in a graduate program. A recipient of the YWCA Women of Distinction Award— Cultural and Heritage, Bevann is the founder, co-host, and community producer of Access TV’s “The Four.” Bevann lives in Regina.

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## Advance Praise for *Genocidal Love*

“A riveting and courageous reflection of the author’s abusive experience at residential school, *Genocidal Love* is unique in its detailed account of the often re-traumatizing effects of the legal and bureaucratic barriers of compensation programs predating the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.”

—**Jesse Rae Archibald-Barber, editor of *kisiskâciwan* and co-editor of *Performing Turtle Island***

“This is a gem of a book...Indian women need to read this, and so do settlers/newcomers. Bevann Fox offers a unique contribution to the body of Indian residential school literature. I can not think of another recent text that ruminates on the effects of residential schools on romantic partnerships from a woman’s perspective.”

—**Michelle Coupal, Canada Research Chair in Truth, Reconciliation, and Indigenous Literatures**

“Intimate and unflinching, *Genocidal Love* lays bare how residential school violence lingers in the body, eating away at lives and communities. Yet, in her vividly resilient portrayal of Myrtle, Bevann Fox tears beauty from the jaws of genocide, daring to claim love beyond settler imaginings—love that nurtures decolonial futures and makes possible a more just world. This book is an act of defiant generosity.”

—**Sam McKegey, author of *Magic Weapons* and *Masculindians***

“*Genocidal Love* by Bevann Fox is a riveting, often difficult, brave, important book about an outspoken little girl living in a boisterous, loving family on reserve, who is sent to residential school where she is abused, humiliated, and left unable to articulate the damage done to her. As an adult she examines the long-lasting genocidal effects that linger and resonate in her life, even as she searches for a way to unlearn the lessons of self-hatred taught to her. This book reveals the trauma in calling the State and Church to account and the pain a generation of residential school survivors experienced when bringing the truth of abuse to light. It also celebrates the possibilities of healing.”

—**Deanna Reder, Chair, Department of Indigenous Studies, Simon Fraser University**

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