

# The Birch Bark of Simon Pokagon: Mint Editions Native Stories Indigenous Voices

The Birch Bark of Simon Pokagon: Mint Editions Native Stories Indigenous Voices is a collection of stories, poems, and essays by the Potawatomi author Simon Pokagon. The book was first published in 1894 and has been reissued several times since then. Pokagon's writing is often characterized by its use of Native American oral tradition and its focus on the experiences of Native Americans in the face of white settlement and assimilation.



## The Birch Bark Books of Simon Pokagon (Mint Editions – Native Stories, Indigenous Voices) by Gail Morin

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 1469 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 71 pages



## Simon Pokagon: A Native American Author

Simon Pokagon was born in 1830 in Bertrand, Michigan. He was the son of a Potawatomi chief and a white woman. Pokagon was raised in the traditional Potawatomi way of life, but he also received a formal education at a mission school. As a young man, Pokagon worked as a teacher, a farmer, and a government interpreter. He also became involved in politics,

serving as a delegate to the Michigan state legislature and as a member of the Potawatomi Tribal Council.

In the 1870s, Pokagon began to write and publish his work. His first book, *The Red Man's Greeting*, was a collection of poems and essays that celebrated Native American culture and history. Pokagon went on to publish several other books, including *The Birch Bark*, *O-gi-maw-kwe Mit-i-gwa-ki* (Queen of the Woods), and *The Trail of the Potawatomi*.

### **The Birch Bark**

*The Birch Bark* is Pokagon's most famous work. The book is a collection of stories, poems, and essays that explore the experiences of Native Americans in the face of white settlement and assimilation. Pokagon's writing is often characterized by its use of Native American oral tradition and its focus on the importance of preserving Native American culture and identity.

One of the most famous stories in *The Birch Bark* is "The Pine Tree." The story tells the tale of a young Potawatomi man who is forced to leave his home and family to work in the white man's world. The man eventually returns to his home, but he is no longer the same person. He has been changed by his experiences in the white world, and he is no longer able to fully connect with his own people.

"The Pine Tree" is a powerful story that explores the impact of assimilation on Native American communities. Pokagon's writing is both beautiful and heartbreaking, and it offers a unique perspective on the experiences of Native Americans in the United States.

## **Mint Editions Native Stories Indigenous Voices**

Mint Editions Native Stories Indigenous Voices is a series of books that publishes contemporary Native American literature. The series was founded in 1997 by the late Jim Northrup, a Potawatomi author and activist. Northrup's goal was to create a space for Native American writers to share their stories and perspectives with the world.

The Mint Editions Native Stories Indigenous Voices series has published a wide range of Native American literature, including fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and drama. The series has published works by some of the most acclaimed Native American writers of our time, including Louise Erdrich, Sherman Alexie, Joy Harjo, and Leslie Marmon Silko.

The Birch Bark of Simon Pokagon is one of the most important works of Native American literature ever written. Pokagon's writing is both beautiful and heartbreaking, and it offers a unique perspective on the experiences of Native Americans in the United States. Mint Editions Native Stories Indigenous Voices is proud to republish this classic work for a new generation of readers.

The Birch Bark of Simon Pokagon: Mint Editions Native Stories Indigenous Voices is a must-read for anyone interested in Native American literature or history. Pokagon's writing is both beautiful and heartbreaking, and it offers a unique perspective on the experiences of Native Americans in the face of white settlement and assimilation. Mint Editions Native Stories Indigenous Voices is proud to republish this classic work for a new generation of readers.

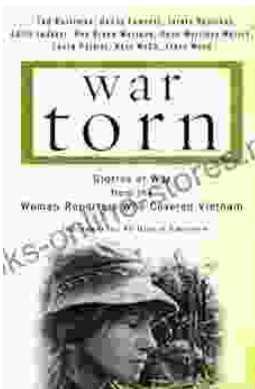
**Image Alt Text:** A photograph of Simon Pokagon, a Potawatomi author, wearing a traditional Native American headdress and holding a book.



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