#12 Literary Criticism Resources
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Summary:
This study guide was written in conjunction with Public Radio broadcasts of interviews with authors, introductory essays read by Lowell Jaeger, and questions from the radio audience. The broadcasts and this guide include the following books about Native people or by Native authors: *The Surrounded* (D’Arcy McNickle); *Plenty-coups* (Linderman); *Fools Crow* (James Welch); and *Winter in the Blood* (James Welch).


**Summary:**

A collection of critical essays about specific works and authors. “Plain Binoculars” (77-107) deals with James Welch’s *Fools Crow.* In his author’s note, he comments: “It is crucial to make a distinction between reading books as culture and seeing books as capable of suggesting culture. It is equally as important to leave aside questions of authenticity and identity (if only for the moment) in order to re-center our interpretive efforts: to un-wed ourselves from looking at Indian fiction in terms of origination and to start thinking of it in terms of destination; that is, interpretation no production. If we can force ourselves to read Native American fiction we will find style, not culture. . . . Then the real question becomes: what traditions and habits of thought have been mobilized and by what means in Native American fiction?”(5)