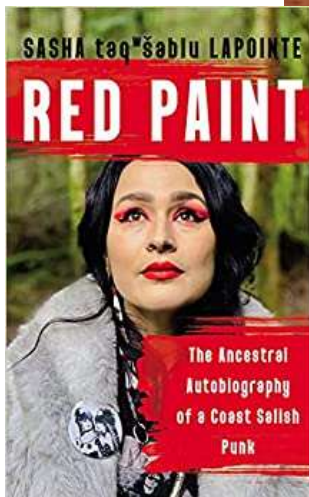


The Orcas Island Library is honored to welcome author, poet, and artist [Sasha LaPointe](#) on Thursday, May 5th at 6pm on the South Lawn and by zoom meeting. [Register to attend online](#). Darvill's will be on hand to sell her book, *Red Paint*.

Sasha is from the Upper Skagit and Nooksack Indian Tribe. Native to the Pacific Northwest, she draws inspiration from her coastal heritage as well as her life in the city. She writes with a focus on trauma and resilience, ranging topics from PTSD, sexual violence, the work her great grandmother did for the Lushootseed language revitalization, to loud basement punk shows and what it means to grow up mixed heritage. With strange obsessions revolving around Twin Peaks, the Seattle music scene, and Coast Salish Salmon Ceremonies, Sasha explores her own truth of indigenous identity in the Coast Salish territory. Her memoir **Red Paint: The Ancestral Autobiography of a Coast Salish Punk** was published by Counterpoint Press on March 8, 2022 and is [available at the library](#) Her collection of poetry, **Rose Quartz** will be published by Milkweed in Spring, 2023.



*"Red Paint is an ode to healing and to healers, told by someone who intimately knows both."*  
—Melissa Febos

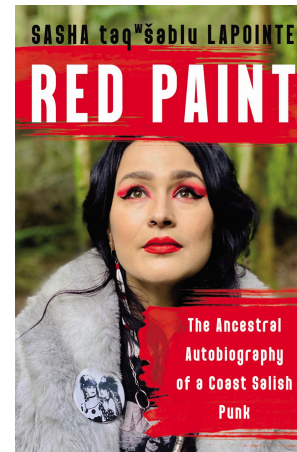


**RED PAINT***An Ancestral Autobiography*By **SASHA taq<sup>w</sup>šəblu LaPOINTE**On sale from Counterpoint **MARCH 8, 2022****9781640094147**

US \$25.00 / \$33.00 CAN | 240 pages | ebook \$13.99

MEMOIR | Hardcover | 5.0 x 8.0

Distributed to the trade by Penguin Random House

**Publicity contact:** Selihah White, Publicist, selihah.white@counterpointpress.com

---

**"Red Paint is a miraculous book. With each potent sentence, she shows us what access to power looks like. She shows us how to become whole." —Elissa Washuta, author of *White Magic***

**"Steeped in punk music and poetry, *Red Paint* is an ode to Indigenous inheritance, and to the work and wisdom necessary to recover from the legacies of trauma." —Melissa Febos, author of *Girlhood***

---

Sasha taq<sup>w</sup>šəblu LaPointe has always longed for a sense of home. When she was a child, her family moved around frequently, often staying in barely habitable church attics and trailers, dangerous places for young Sasha.

With little more to guide her than a passion for the thriving punk scene of the Pacific Northwest and a desire to live up to the responsibility of being the namesake of her beloved great-grandmother—a linguist who helped preserve her Indigenous language of Lushootseed—Sasha throws herself headlong into the world, determined to build a better future for herself and her people.

Set against a backdrop of the breathtaking beauty of Coast Salish ancestral land and imbued with the universal spirit of punk, *Red Paint* is ultimately a story of the ways we learn to find our true selves while fighting for our right to claim a place of our own.

Examining what it means to be vulnerable in love and in art, Sasha offers up an unblinking reckoning with personal traumas amplified by the collective historical traumas of colonialism and genocide that continue to haunt native peoples. *Red Paint* is an intersectional autobiography of lineage, resilience, and, above all, the ability to heal.

---



**Sasha taq<sup>w</sup>šəblu LaPointe** is a Coast Salish author from the Nooksack and Upper Skagit Indian tribes. She received a double MFA in Creative Nonfiction and Poetry from the Institute of American Indian Arts. She lives in Tacoma, Washington.

**ADVANCE PRAISE FOR *RED PAINT***

**A *Nylon* Most Anticipated Book of the Year**  
**An *Electric Literature* Most Anticipated Title of the Year**  
**A *BookPage* Most Anticipated Nonfiction Book of the Year**  
***The Millions*, A Most Anticipated Book of the Year**  
**A *Ms.* Most Anticipated Book of the Year**  
**A *Nylon* Must-Read Book of the Month**  
**A *Time* Best New Book of the Month**  
**A *Bustle* Most Anticipated Book of the Month**

“[A] stirring debut . . . LaPointe writes in lucid vignettes that alternate between past and present as she reflects on her ancestors, Salish medicine workers who 'faced violence, disease, and genocide' . . . LaPointe's fresh and urgent perspective on Indigenous culture is enthralling.”

**— *Publishers Weekly***

“Throughout [*Red Paint*], the author deftly navigates multiple timelines, weaving in and out of family history, personal narrative, and a host of other tangential topics . . . Although the author does not shy away from heartache and sorrow, readers are welcomed on what is ultimately a healing journey that will stick in their memories. An engaging, poetic, educative examination of the search for home and personal and cultural identity.”

**— *Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)**

“Set against a backdrop of the breathtaking beauty of Coast Salish ancestral land and imbued with the universal spirit of punk, *Red Paint* is ultimately a story of the ways we learn to find our true selves while fighting for our right to claim a place of our own. Examining what it means to be vulnerable in love and in art, Sasha offers up an unblinking reckoning with persona traumas amplified by the collective personal traumas of colonialism and genocide that continue to haunt native peoples. *Red Paint* is an intersectional autobiography of lineage, resilience, and, above all, the ability to heal.”

**— *Shelf Unbound***

“Absorbing . . . a worthy tribute to Coast Salish women.”

**— *Time***

“[A] poetically punk debut memoir about ancestry, loss, colonialism, rebuilding, power, hope and healing.”

**— *Karla Strand, Ms.***

“The Pacific-Northwest native's story is one of survival . . . LaPointe reckons with a fraught past by weaving together memoir and poetry to create something that feels raw and unfiltered.”

**— *Shannon Carlin, Bust***