Macmillan to Publish Second Book by Angeline Boulley

WARRIOR GIRL UNEARTHED, a companion to FIREKEEPER’S DAUGHTER will go on-sale in May 2023

New York, NY (August 4, 2022)

Henry Holt Books for Young Readers will publish the second novel from Angeline Boulley, author of the #1 New York Times Bestseller Firekeeper’s Daughter. Warrior Girl Unearthed, which will be published in May 2023, is both a fast-paced thriller and a deep dive into current issues and injustices the Native community continues to face.

Set in the same community as Firekeeper’s Daughter, and featuring many of the same characters, Warrior Girl Unearthed is the story of an Ojibwe teen who discovers a plot to profit off robbed Indigenous graves. With the help of a ragtag group of friends, she takes matters into her own hands to protect her community, and bring her ancestors home where they belong, while staring down challenges including generational grudges, bureaucratic subterfuge, unnerving stories of missing women, family secrets, and painful realities about the legacy of colonialism. A thrilling heist gives way to a complex and compelling mystery, effortlessly exploring themes of identity, family, and reclamation in a Native community.

“I revel in telling stories about Ojibwe teenagers -- strong in their culture and language -- who love their communities,” said Boulley. “Young people protecting and caring for their elders and ancestors are an inspiration to me and, I hope, to readers everywhere.”

"So many of us have been deprived of our ancestry, our histories, and our legacies; or had them reshaped and coopted to suit a narrative of oppression,” said Jess Harold, Editor at Henry Holt Books for Young Readers. “I know the reclamation of these stories is meaningful to so many diasporas and Indigenous communities, and it's the honor of a lifetime to have been trusted with such a revolutionary novel.”

Firekeeper’s Daughter was one of the most celebrated novels of 2021, both in the Young Adult category and fiction at large, amassing numerous accolades including the Michael L. Printz Medal for Excellence in Young Adult Literature, a Reese’s Book Club selection, the Mystery Writers of America’s Edgar Award, a Walter Dean Myers Award, a William C. Morris Award, an American Indian Youth Literature Honor, and 30 weeks on the New York Times Bestseller list. It will soon be adapted at Netflix for TV with President Barack Obama and Michelle Obama's production company, Higher Ground. Less than two years after publication, there are a half million copies in print across formats, and Firekeeper’s Daughter has been translated into 20 languages worldwide.

The cover for Warrior Girl Unearthed was illustrated by Michaela Goade, winner of the 2021 Caldecott medal for We Are Water Protectors.

“I am so excited to have my story brought to life by illustrator Michaela Goade, an Indigenous woman and Caldecott medalist,” said Boulley.

This deal was negotiated with Faye Bender of the Book Group and Jonathan Yaged during his time as President of Macmillan Children’s Publishing Group, as part of a two-book deal sold at auction (with Firekeeper’s Daughter) for North American rights in a seven-figure deal. Jess Harold will edit.

NOTE TO THE PRESS:
Angeline Boulley, an enrolled member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, is a storyteller who writes about her Ojibwe community in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. She is a former Director of the Office of Indian Education at the U.S. Department of Education. Angeline lives in southwest Michigan, but her home will always be on Sugar Island. Firekeeper's Daughter is her debut novel.

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