



Dream Wheels

By Richard Wagamese

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Rodeo cowboy Joe Willie Wolfchild, riding an explosive bull called See Four and moments away from becoming World Champion, suffers a devastating accident. His parents and grandparents use all their native wisdom to ease him out of his subsequent bitter depression, but without success. Meanwhile, in a distant city, a troubled young kid named Aiden plans a holdup that goes wrong and lands himself in jail. When he emerges, a sympathetic police officer arranges a job at a ranch, where his mother Claire will accompany him in an attempt to restore their relationship. It is the Wolfchild ranch.

Supported by the ferocious strength and native spirituality of the Wolfchild women, Joe Willie and Aiden fight through painful transformations, and their physical and mental rehabilitations are mirrored in the age-worn chrome of an ancient pickup truck they restore together. As the two men first clash and then come together in a friendship that helps each overcome the challenge of reentering a world that's forever changed, Claire's eyes are opened to a life she has never hoped for and opens her heart to a love she still can't convince herself she deserves. Written with lyric intensity and a great respect for native teachings, *Dream Wheels* announces the presence of a major new literary talent, sure to take his rightful place alongside writers like Cormac McCarthy and Jim Harrison as a gifted chronicler of the modern West.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Wagamese (*Keeper N' Me*) threads Native Canadian lore and spirituality into his generous and sentimental Western. Rodeo bull rider Joe Willie Wolfchild, eight seconds away from becoming the #1 ranked "All-Round Cowboy," suffers a career-ending accident that leads him to retreat to the family ranch, where his parents, grandparents and physiotherapist try to coax him back onto his feet. Meanwhile, 15-year-old Aiden Hartley, a disaffected city kid jailed for his role in a botched armed robbery, and his abused mother, Claire, are shepherded by a sympathetic cop (who happens to be a friend of the Wolfchilds) to the Wolfchild ranch, where they can mend their fractured relationship and get Aiden on a better track. Claire takes to the country life and to the Wolfchilds, who represent the stability she's always wanted. Aiden, not one for the "yippee cay-yay" stuff, locks horns with Joe Willie until the similarities in their warrior spirits bring them together. Aiden helps Joe Willie restore a '34 Ford pickup, and Joe Willie teaches Aiden to ride bulls. From there, the narrative grows predictably uplifting, and Wagamese's tendency to carry on (and on) about the romance of cowboy life wears thin. But the novel remains a worthy testament to the healing power of family and tradition. (*Sept.*)

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From [Booklist](#)

Ojibwa author Wagamese mixes cowboy lore and Native American mysticism in this affecting novel about the healing effects of family. In pursuit of a world-champion title, Joe Willie Wolfchild suffers a horrific, career-ending accident while riding a temperamental bull named C-4. His supportive family, longtime rodeo people, whisk him back to their ranch to recuperate but worry about his emotional health. Meanwhile, urban street-kid Aiden, sick and tired of his mother Claire's long string of abusive boyfriends, plans a robbery only to land in jail. Upon his release, a concerned parole officer finds a place for Aiden and his mom at the Wolfchild ranch. Claire takes to the stable family and wide-open vistas immediately, but Aiden and Joe Willie circle each other warily until they find common ground. Far from the laconic stereotype, Wagamese's chatty cowboys endlessly parse the western lifestyle and its macho code of conduct, but his soaring descriptions of the desert landscape, action-packed rodeo scenes, and reverence for hearth and home will strike a chord with readers. *Joanne Wilkinson*

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Review

"Richard Wagamese is a born storyteller, and *Dream Wheels* is his finest book yet. Cover to cover, a ripping read."---Louise Erdrich, author of *The Painted Drum*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jodie Long:

What do you think about book? It is just for students because they are still students or the item for all people in the world, what the best subject for that? Simply you can be answered for that question above. Every person has various personality and hobby for every other. Don't to be pressured someone or something that they don't would like do that. You must know how great along with important the book *Dream Wheels*. All type of book could you see on many sources. You can look for the internet options or other social media.

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Margaret Walker:

People live in this new moment of lifestyle always try to and must have the extra time or they will get great deal of stress from both day to day life and work. So , when we ask do people have time, we will say absolutely indeed. People is human not a robot. Then we question again, what kind of activity do you possess when the spare time coming to a person of course your answer will certainly unlimited right. Then do you ever try this one, reading books. It can be your alternative inside spending your spare time, typically the book you have read is actually Dream Wheels.

Frank Moore:

Playing with family in a very park, coming to see the sea world or hanging out with friends is thing that usually you might have done when you have spare time, after that why you don't try point that really opposite from that. Just one activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already been ride on and with addition of information. Even you love Dream Wheels, you are able to enjoy both. It is fine combination right, you still wish to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh come on its mind hangout fellas. What? Still don't understand it, oh come on its known as reading friends.

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