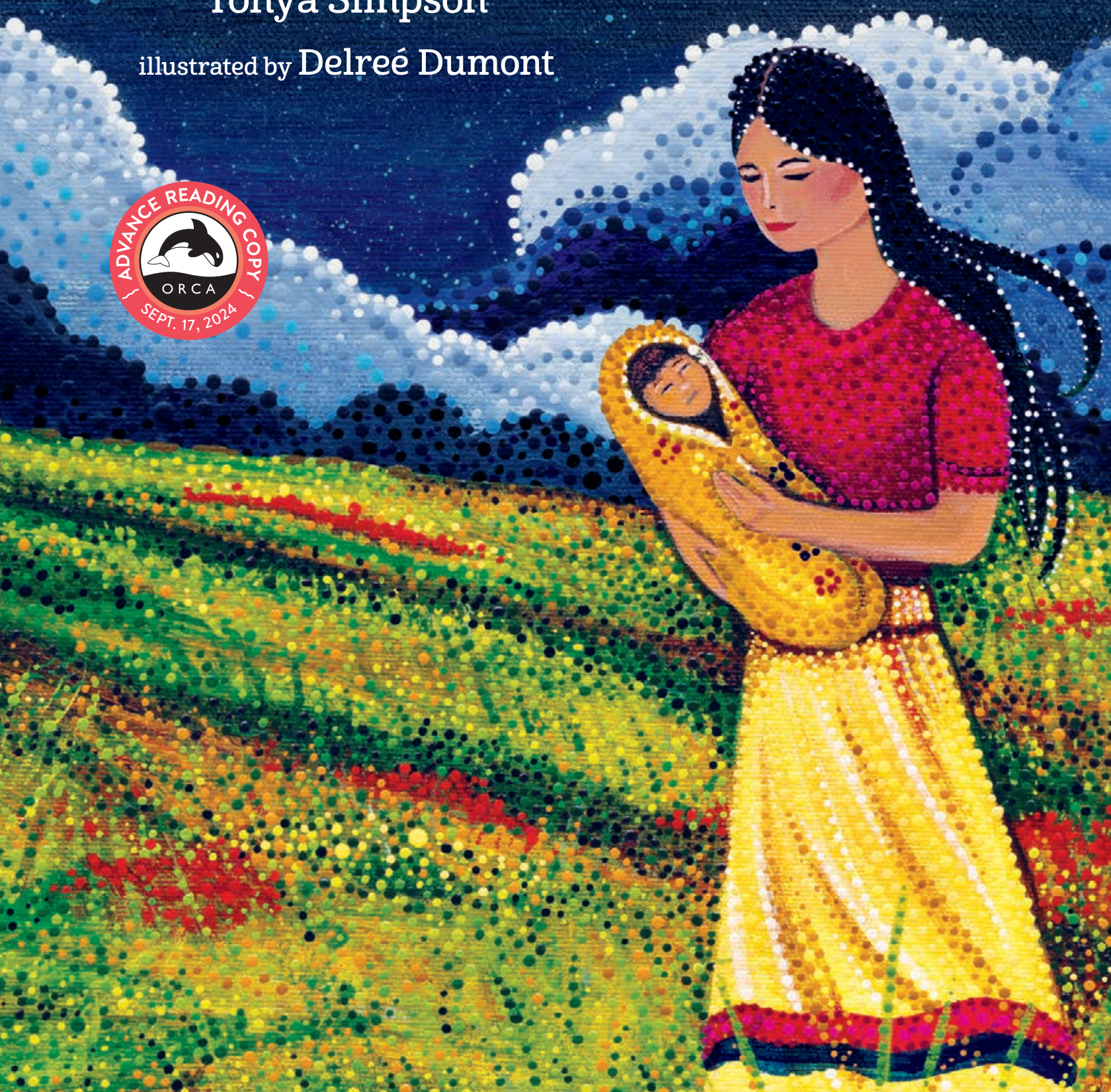
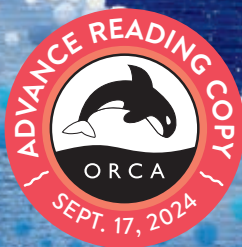


# This Land is a Lullaby

Tonya Simpson

illustrated by Delréé Dumont





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# This Land Is a Lullaby

Author: Tonya Simpson

Illustrator: Delréé Dumont

September 17, 2024

In this gentle picture-book lullaby, the sounds of the land soothe an Indigenous child to sleep on a stormy summer night on the Plains.

## FORMAT

8.75 × 10.75"

32 pages

## Hardcover

9781459836099

\$21.95

## PDF

9781459836105

## EPUB

9781459836112

## KEY SELLING POINTS

- Written as a lullaby for the author's daughter, this book is an exploration of the spiritual relationship between children, ancestors and the land.
- Lyrical language evokes the sights and sounds of a summer storm on a prairie evening and conveys a powerful message of reconciliation and reclamation, as ancestors dance and sing a sacred song to a child, who drifts into a peaceful sleep.
- Author and Indigenous anthropologist Tonya Simpson is Scottish and Cree and a member of Pasqua First Nation. This is her second book, following *Forever Our Home*.
- Artist Delréé Dumont, from Onion Lake Cree Nation, evokes the movement of the land through stunning pointillism illustrations.
- Also available in a dual-language Plains Cree and English edition.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



PHOTO CREDIT: KATHERINE MAYNE CORREIA

**TONYA SIMPSON** is of Scottish and Cree ancestry. She is a member of Pasqua First Nation and was born and raised in central Alberta. Tonya completed the MA program in anthropology at the University of Alberta and now works as a research assistant. Her first picture book, *Forever Our Home*, introduces readers to the animals and plants of the Prairies and the Plains. Tonya lives with her family at Pigeon Lake in Westeros, Alberta.



## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

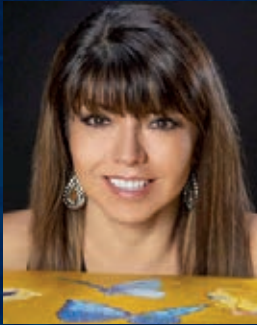


PHOTO COURTESY OF DELRÉE DUMONT

**DELRÉE DUMONT (Wapiski Kihew Esquao / White Eagle Woman)** is a proud member of Onion Lake Cree Nation, Saskatchewan. She paints in the pointillism style, depicting the natural world blended with her teachings and experiences as an Indigenous woman. She also creates smudge fans, dreamcatchers and pine-needle baskets, and she is a traditional powwow dancer. Delrée lives and works at her home studio near Revelstoke, British Columbia.

## REVIEWS/ENDORSEMENTS

★ “This solemn and serene volume should be considered a first purchase. Essential for most collections.”  
—*School Library Journal*, starred review for *Forever Our Home*

## PROMOTIONAL PLANS INCLUDE

- Print and online advertising campaigns
- Promotion at national and regional school, library and trade conferences
- Extensive ARC distribution, including NetGalley and Edelweiss
- Blog and social media promotion
- Outreach in Orca’s enewsletter program, including targeted emails to educators, librarians and booksellers in Canada and the United States

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Worldwide

## AGES

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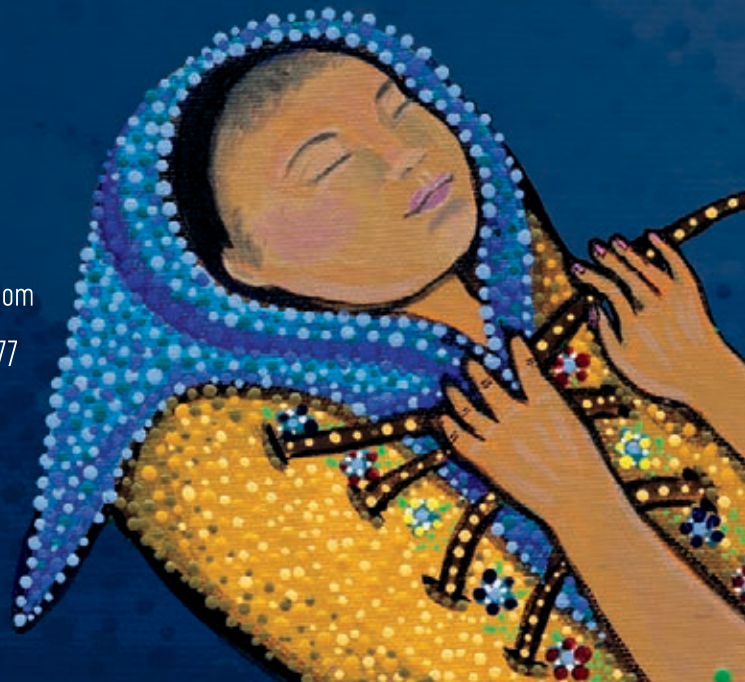
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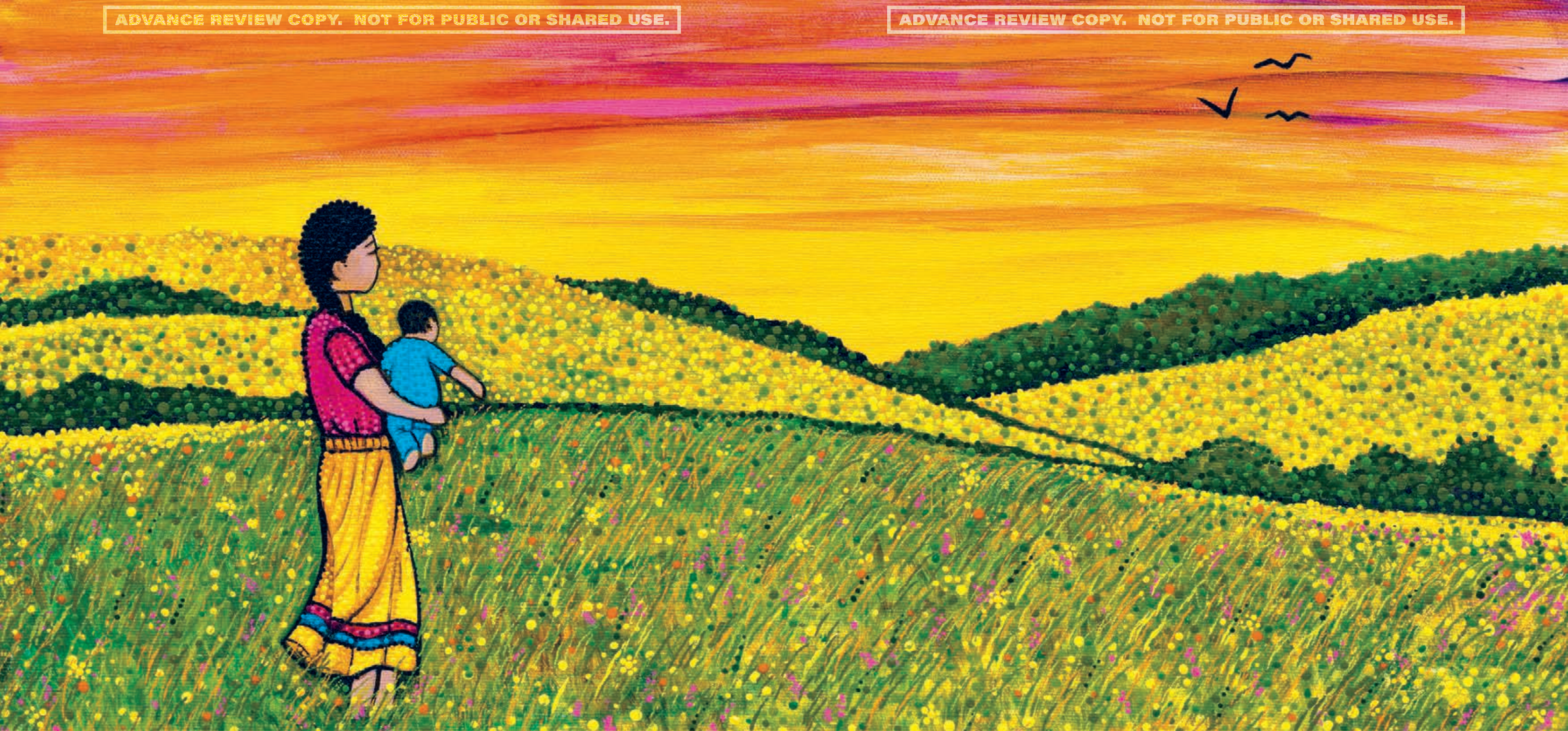
Tonya Simpson

illustrated by Delréé Dumont



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This land is a lullaby your heart already knows.  
You carry the song from a lifetime ago.

It flows in your blood and echoes in your soul.  
Listen, my baby, to the sweet song of your home.





Grasses swirl and whirl. Rising winds rejoice.

Geese take flight with jubilant voice.





Down by the water, speckled frogs sing.

Drift into a dream on a blue heron's wing.





Fireflies light the Plains in glowing colors,

flitting to the hum of a dragonfly summer.





Just as the last of the day starts to fade...

hoots of owls and coyote howls! A twilight serenade.





Wild horses race mighty clouds soaring by.

Rolling thunder drums across the flickering sky.





Raindrops fall like notes of a soothing song.

The midnight melody flows on and on.

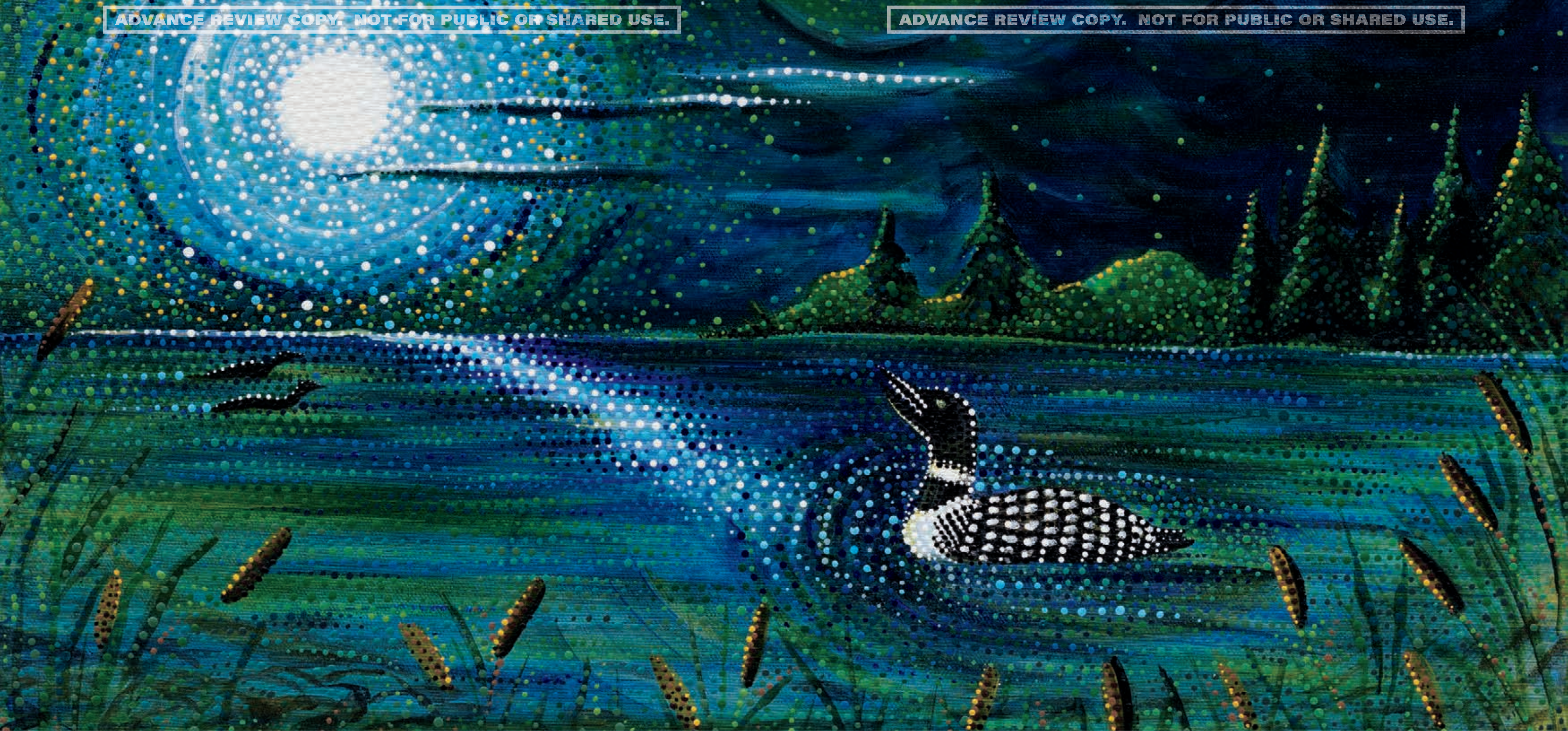




Spirits dance in the indigo night,

cloaked in painted shawls, beaded in starlight.





Now all is quiet, but for the loon

trading holy secrets with Grandmother Moon.





And if you're ever so still, you may hear

the song your ancestors sing just for you, my dear.





As you slip into dreamy slumber,

know, my baby, that you are a sacred wonder.





This land is a lullaby your heart already knows.  
You carry the song from a lifetime ago.

It flows in your blood and echoes in your soul.  
Sleep, my baby, to the sweet song of your home.



For Evelyn Francis, who was born with a song in her heart.

—T.S.

Everything I do is to honour my mother, Rema Florence Dumont.

Always loved, never forgotten.

—D.D.



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**Summary:** In this gentle picture-book lullaby, the sounds of the land soothe an Indigenous child to sleep on a stormy summer night on the Plains.

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Cover and interior artwork by Delréé Dumont  
Design by Dahlia Yuen  
Edited by Debbie Rogosin

Printed and bound in Canada.

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# It flows in your blood and echoes in your soul... Listen, my baby, to the sweet song of your home.

As daylight fades to dusk and slips into darkness, this gentle lullaby celebrates the sounds of the Prairies and the Plains on a stormy summer's night. From the hum of dragonflies to the drumming of thunder, with grasses swirling and the northern lights glimmering, *This Land is a Lullaby* shares a sacred song and dance—a gift from the ancestors that soothes children to sleep and reminds them of their deeply rooted connections to the land.

Featuring striking pointillism artwork, this lush lullaby of the land honors the spiritual connection between Indigenous children, ancestors and their Traditional Territories.

Tonya Simpson is of Scottish and Cree ancestry. She is a member of Pasqua First Nation and was born and raised in central Alberta. Tonya completed the MA program in anthropology at the University of Alberta and now works as a research assistant. Her first picture book, *Forever Our Home*, introduces readers to the animals and plants of the Prairies and the Plains. Tonya lives with her family at Pigeon Lake in Westeros, Alberta.

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This is an advance reading copy of the uncorrected proofs and is not for sale. Changes may be made to the text before publication, so **all quotations for review must be checked against the final bound book.**

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