

I Can Make This Promise

By Christine Day

Summary: All her life, Edie has known that her mom was adopted by a white couple. So, no matter how curious she might be about her Native American heritage, Edie is sure her family doesn't have any answers. Until the day when she and her friends discover a box hidden in the attic—a box full of letters signed "Love, Edith," and photos of a woman who looks just like her. Suddenly, Edie has a flurry of new questions about this woman who shares her name. Could she belong to the Native family that Edie never knew about? But if her mom and dad have kept this secret from her all her life, how can she trust them to tell her the truth now?

Publisher's recommended age(s): 8 - 12

Teaching Resources/Ideas:

<https://www.bychristineday.com/resources>

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/book-reviews/i-can-make-this-promise>

About the Author:

Christine Day (Upper Skagit) grew up in Seattle, nestled between the sea, the mountains, and the pages of her favorite books. Her debut novel, *I Can Make This Promise*, was a best book of the year from Kirkus, School Library Journal, NPR, and the Chicago Public Library, as well as a Charlotte Huck Award Honor Book, and an American Indian Youth Literature Award Honor Book. Her second novel, *The Sea in Winter*, was an Indie Kids' Next List selection, a Junior Library Guild selection, and the recipient of three starred reviews. She also wrote the forthcoming *She Persisted: Maria Tallchief*, an early reader biography in a new series inspired by Chelsea Clinton's bestselling picture book. Christine lives in the Pacific Northwest with her family.

<https://cynthialeitichsmith.com/2019/12/native-voices-christine-day-on-i-can-make-this-promise/>

ALA honor author Christine Day (*I CAN MAKE THIS PROMISE*) discusses how important keeping literature curriculum updated to reflect the diverse and contemporary world.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZkymHq2MT8k>

