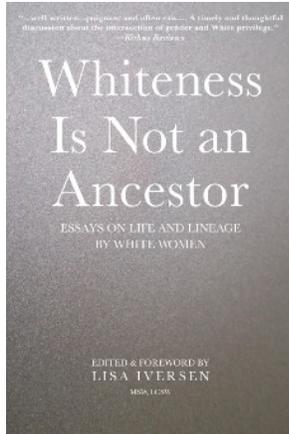


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## Whiteness Is Not an Ancestor: Essays on Life and Lineage by white Women

Edited and Foreword by  
Lisa Iversen, MSW, LCSW

**On Sale October 13, 2020**

Review Copy & Press Kit: [bit.ly/WhitenessIsNotanAncestor--PressKit](https://bit.ly/WhitenessIsNotanAncestor--PressKit)  
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**“A timely and thoughtful discussion about the intersection of gender and White privilege.”**  
—Kirkus Reviews

**Using the lens of inherited trauma and family history, *Whiteness Is Not an Ancestor* offers a hopeful, humanizing path for dismantling whiteness.**

For over two decades, family constellations facilitator and therapist Lisa Iversen has been working with groups, including descendants of ancestors who have perpetrated harm or been victimized in circumstances of injustice. In this collection of essays, she brings together twelve white women who explore the role of whiteness in collective movements of immigration, colonialism, slavery, and war. Through genealogical research, family documents, and deep reflection, these writers from the US, Canada, and the UK disentangle themes of innocence, grief, race, privilege, and belonging in their families and ancestries.

*Whiteness Is Not an Ancestor* will appeal to those ready to engage with the difficult truths of history, those interested in healing collective trauma and dismantling racism, therapists and family counselors, and all concerned about the fate of democratic nations sourced in whiteness. Each essay includes sources and resources for more information.

Essays written by Sonya Lea, Karin Konstantynowicz, Anne Hayden, Summer Starr, Kate Regan, June BlueSpruce, Sabine Olsen, Carole Harmon, Christina Greené, Sharon Halfnight, Una Suseli O'Connell, and Pam Emerson.



LISA IVERSEN, MSW, LCSW, lives in the Pacific Northwest where she directs the Center for Ancestral Blueprints. She is the author of the book *Ancestral Blueprints: Revealing Invisible Truths in America's Soul*. Visit [lisaiversen.com](http://lisaiversen.com).

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## **Launch Event**

Tuesday, October 13, 6:00 PM-7:00 PM PDT

### **Online Book Talk**

Join editor Lisa Iversen and essayists Sonya Lea and Una O'Connell in conversation

Moderated by Gretchen Schmelzer, PhD, author of *Journey Through Trauma*

Sponsored by [Elliott Bay Book Company](#)

[RSVP on Eventbrite](#)

### **Advance Praise for *Whiteness Is Not an Ancestor***

"A daring and willing look into identity and the structure of whiteness in family, communities, and history."

—**Lidia Yuknavitch, bestselling author of *Verge* and *The Chronology of Water***

"These essays demonstrate how to search your heart and soul for the truths within your family and history...so that you and others might heal and the larger community can work toward justice."

—**Gretchen Schmelzer, PhD, Author of *Journey Through Trauma***

"The essays that this group of soulful women have written ... provide a glimmer of possibility that we can re-humanize ourselves."

—**Katrina Browne, producer/director, *Traces of the Trade: A Story from the Deep North***

"To look into the mirror of history without looking away from the face of the perpetrator takes tremendous courage... A rare and necessary document."

—**Daan van Kampenhout, author of *The Tears of the Ancestors: Victims and Perpetrators in the Tribal Soul***

"[These writers] bear witness to the ways ... they have benefited from the systemic racism that plagues our society. Their reckonings, full of pain, love, and new awareness ... point the way toward a better future for us all."

—**Priscilla Long, author of *Fire and Stone: Where Do We Come From? What Are We? Where Are We Going?***

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