

Randy Woodley-Writer

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Bio

Randy Woodley writes with creativity and a deep passion oriented towards justice, Indigenous empowerment, earth care and spirituality. His diverse background and experiences have uniquely equipped him to bring about positive change in his communities for over three decades.

Randy is an award-winning author and a tribally recognized Keetoowah Cherokee descendant. He weaves Indigenous wisdom, ecological sustainability, and spirituality in his writings. Randy is respected by Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities worldwide and has been featured in *The New York Times*, *Politifact*, *Time Magazine*, and *The Huffington Post* among other national venues.

With his wife *Edith Woodley*, Randy began *Sho-Kee Cultural Consultants* in 2022 to bring more cultural integrity to the entertainment business. (<https://www.sho-kee.com/>) The Woodley's are unwavering about their influence in the world through their contributions, especially as they empower Indigenous people. Demonstrating their commitment to making a positive impact in the entertainment industry *Sho-Kee* is recognized as an innovative platform helping people showcase Indigenous arts, culture, and entertainment.

Edith Woodley is a member of the Eastern Band of Shoshone Indians, and of Choctaw, Crow, Paiute, Pi'ikanni, Umatilla, and Mohawk descent. Edith showcases her Indigenous cultures through traditional beadwork, seed-keeping, and storytelling, advocating for Indigenous rights and cultural preservation. Edith is co-founder and co-leader of a semi-annual mentor-ship called "Decolonizing with Badass Indigenous Grandmas." The Woodley's have four children and six grandchildren.

Education

Randy Woodley:

- B.A. Communications - Rockmont College
- Master of Divinity - Palmer Seminary
- PhD Intercultural Studies - Asbury, E. Stanley Jones School
- Retired with Tenure and Emeritus, Distinguished Professor of Faith and Culture, and Director of Intercultural and Indigenous Studies - George Fox University

Edith Woodley:

- A.S. Bacone Indian College

Craft Development

- ⇒ Mentored by Sabrina Parra: Professional script consultant, founder and CEO of *The Scriptster*. Former Vice President at *Di Novi Pictures*.
- ⇒ Scriptwriting with Rex McGee: Hollywood story analyst for *United Artists*, *Embassy Pictures*, and *The Ladd Company*, *Warner Bros*.

- ⇒ Scriptwriting workshops with Jeff Arch: Writer, *Humanitas prize winner*, nominated for an *Academy Award*, a *Golden Globe*, a *Writers Guild award*, and a *BAFTA Award*.
- ⇒ Scriptwriting workshops with David Paul Kirkpatrick: Founder of *Story Summit*, Former production chief of *Walt Disney Studios*, former president of *Paramount Pictures*.

Current Feature Screenplay Projects (Randy):

FAR WEST Logline: A 15-year-old Shoshone girl challenges her off-reservation high school's dismissal of Native American history, igniting both community conflict and healing while discovering her own connection to forgotten Indigenous heroes from the Far West.

More: This justice-focused, coming-of-age tale features a young Native American female protagonist, weaving historical and contemporary issues in the American West. In 1811, Iroquois/Métis voyageurs from Toronto unknowingly will make an impact upon the settling of the American West. Tashina Fast Horse, aided by an elder, rediscovers this history, connecting to a pivotal family. Confronting violent racism for an inclusive education, Tashina embodies resilience, family and community unity, and activism, championing her heritage and fighting discrimination across generations.

COWBOY ROY Logline: In 1969, an emotionally stunted West Texas Cowboy's destiny is to ride the range into the sunset, but he unexpectedly finds love. He loses his job to a corporate buyout and receives a life-altering diagnosis, finding himself on a journey running from love and into Native Americans who help him face his terrible past and possibly a new future.

More: Roy loves being a cowboy. The year is 1969, for this coming of age at 60 story of a rugged cowboy from the vast plains of West Texas. Roy is taken by surprise as he encounters love for the first time in his life. Stripped of his livelihood and later confronted with a transformative medical condition, he forsakes his only two loves and sets off on a quest that brings him into contact with diverse individuals, including Native Americans, who guide him in confronting his burdensome history and illuminating the possibility of a fresh beginning.

WAITING ON THIS DREAM Logline: Kalani and Kris were always meant to be together but "the other woman" keeps coming between them. After being struck by tragedy and fame, they struggle to keep their family together, but can the couple's love bear the pain of jealousy and unfaithfulness?

More: Calling themselves the "Three Musketeers," childhood friends Kalani, Donnie, and Cherlyn's lives are traced from small-town Michigan, through decades of diverging paths. When Cherlyn sabotages Kalani's relationship with Donnie during high school, their lives split dramatically—Kalani becomes a celebrated Hawaiian potter, Donnie's music career ends in a tragic accident, and Cherlyn rises to country music fame. Thirty years later, Donnie's daughter secretly enters his old song in a contest, catapulting him to unexpected stardom just as Cherlyn's career is fading. An emotional reunion in Hawaii forces all three to confront decades of betrayal, ambition, and unresolved feelings that have defined their intertwined lives.

TV Pilot Project:

ROSE CITY Logline: When a young homeless Native American man discovers girls held captive in Rose City's historic Shanghai Tunnels, he joins forces with a rookie cop, a social worker with a missing sister, and a brilliant young librarian to expose a century-old human trafficking network protected by corrupt police officers.

More: "Rose City" is a compelling pilot script for a crime drama series that skillfully interweaves historical atrocities with present-day corruption. Beginning with a visceral flashback to the infamous Shanghai Tunnels of 1890s Portland, the script establishes a pattern of exploitation

that continues into the modern era. The narrative follows Caleb Stone, a Native American former addict trying to stay clean, as he accidentally discovers a human trafficking operation in the tunnels beneath the city. His path intersects with rookie cop Steven Halsey, social worker Shayla Norris who lost her sister years ago, and research librarian Wendy Lin whose family history is tied to the tunnels. Together, they form an unlikely alliance to expose the network of corrupt police and criminals who have operated this system for generations.

Accolades: *Far West*

- Award Winner Seattle Indie Film Festival
- Finalist: 2023 *Los Angeles International Screenplay Awards*
- Finalist: 2023 *Santa Barbara International Screenplay Awards*
- Winner: *Cannes World Film Festival* (Best Social Justice Screenplay)
- Semi-finalist: 2023 *Los Angeles International Screenplay Awards-Diversity Initiative*
- Second Rounder 2024 *Austin Film Festival*

Accolades: *Cowboy Roy*

- Winner: *Cannes World Film Festival* (Best Romance Screenplay)
- Selected *Culver City Film Festival*

Other Achievements

- *Oregon Ecumenist of the Year Award for 2021* for their inter-faith work, the first time given to a couple.
- Both served on the Greater Portland Oregon Indigenous Climate Advisory Board
- Both recognized as elders by the NAYA Portland Elders Group.
- Randy awarded an Eagle feather headdress by elders Dave Soney (Ojibway) and Vincent Yellow Old Woman (*Siksika*) in 2011.
- Randy is the author of a dozen books and over 25 chapters. His book, *Becoming Rooted: One Hundred Days of Reconnecting with Sacred Earth* (2022), is critically acclaimed, and *Indigenous Theology and the Western Worldview* (2022) was voted one of the ten most important books for the Book of the Year Award by the Academy of Parish Clergy.
- Randy was voted Graduate Scholar and Researcher of the Year at his educational institution in 2022 and served for four years on the Oregon Dept. of Education, Native American/Alaska Native Advisory Board.
- Co-founders of Eloheh Indigenous Center for Earth Justice and Eloheh Farm & Seeds, a non-profit organization fostering equity and justice between Indigenous peoples, the land, and wider society.
- Randy and Edith recently co-authored a book released in the fall of 2024, *Journey to Eloheh: How Indigenous Values Lead Us to Harmony and Well-Being*.