

## ***The Sentence* by Louise Erdrich**

Discussion questions from Vox

1. What do you believe we owe the dead?
2. Erdrich makes a cameo in this book! She's the owner of the store where Tookie works, which bears a striking resemblance to Erdrich's real-life bookstore, Birchbark Books. How does her appearance here strike you?
3. We're seeing more pandemic novels, with more to come as time goes on. How do you feel about this one?
4. *The Sentence* veers pretty wildly between emotional tones. Tookie's theft of Budgie's body is very madcap and fun, and then her early days at the bookstore are settled and restrained and slice-of-life-esque. By the time Erdrich gets into the pandemic and the protests over George Floyd's murder, she's writing something close to narrative nonfiction. For me, the shifting tones work because of the lightness of Erdrich's touch. What did you think?
5. We love a book that comes with its own syllabus. Have you read any of the books recommended at the end? What did you think?
6. What would be on your personal ghostbusting playlist?