

## New to the Library:

### **From the Ashes: My Story of Being Metis, Homeless, and Finding My Way. By Jesse Thistle. 2019.**



In this extraordinary and inspiring debut memoir, Jesse Thistle, once a high school dropout and now a rising Indigenous scholar, chronicles his life on the streets and how he overcame trauma and addiction to discover the truth about who he is. *From the Ashes* is a remarkable memoir about hope and resilience, and a revelatory look into the life of a Métis-Cree man who refused to give up.

### **Unsettling Spirit: a Journey into Decolonization. By Denise Nadeau. 2020.**



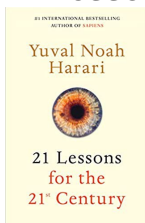
What does it mean to be a white settler on land taken from peoples who have lived there since time immemorial? In the context of reconciliation and Indigenous resurgence, *Unsettling Spirit* provides a personal perspective on decolonization, informed by Indigenous traditions and lifeways, and the need to examine one's complicity with colonial structures. Applying autoethnography grounded in Indigenous and feminist methodologies, Denise Nadeau weaves together stories and reflections on how to live with integrity on stolen and occupied land. The author chronicles her early and brief experience of "Native mission" in the late 1980s and early 1990s in northern Canada and Chiapas, Mexico, and the gradual recognition that she had internalized colonialist concepts of the "good Christian" and the Great White Helper. Drawing on somatic psychotherapy, Nadeau addresses contemporary manifestations of helping and the politics of trauma. She uncovers her ancestors' settler background and the responsibilities that come with facing this history. Caught between two traditions – born and raised Catholic but challenged by Indigenous ways of life – the author traces her engagement with Indigenous values and how relationships inform her ongoing journey. A foreword by Cree-Métis author Deanna Reder places the work in a broader context of Indigenous scholarship. Incorporating insights from Indigenous ethical and legal frameworks, *Unsettling Spirit* offers an accessible reflection on possibilities for settler decolonization as well as for decolonizing Christian and interfaith practice.

## **Holocaust to Resistance: My Journey. By Suzanne Berliner Weiss. 2019.**



*Holocaust to Resistance, My Journey* is a powerful, awe-inspiring memoir from author and activist Suzanne Berliner Weiss. Born to Jewish parents in Paris in 1941, Suzanne was hidden from the Nazis on a farm in rural France. Alone after the war, she lived in progressive-run orphanages, where she gained a belief in peace and brotherhood. Adoption by a New York family led to a tumultuous youth haunted by domestic conflict, fear of nuclear war and anti-communist repression, consignment to a detention home and magical steps toward relinking with her origins in Europe. At age seventeen, Suzanne became a lifelong social activist, engaged in student radicalization, the Cuban Revolution, and movements for Black Power, women's liberation, peace in Vietnam and freedom for Palestine. Now nearing eighty, Suzanne tells how the ties of friendship, solidarity and resistance that saved her as a child speak to the needs of our planet today.

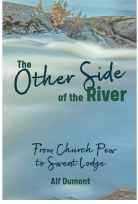
## **21 Lessons for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. By Yuval Noah Harari. 2019.**



*21 Lessons for the 21st Century* answers the overarching question: What is happening in the world today, what is the deeper meaning of these events, and how can we individually steer our way through them? The questions include what the rise of Trump signifies, whether or not God is back, and whether nationalism can help solve problems like global warming. Few writers of non-fiction have captured the imagination of millions of people in quite the astonishing way Yuval Noah Harari has managed, and in such a short space of time. His unique ability to look at where we have come from and where we are going has gained him fans from every corner of the globe. There is an immediacy to this new book which makes it essential reading for anyone interested in the world today and how to navigate its turbulent waters.

**And New at the United Church of Canada Bookstore:**

**The Other Side of the River: From Church Pew to Sweat Lodge.**  
**By Alf Dumont. United Church of Canada, 2020**



Alf Dumont walks between the two worlds of Indigenous and settler, traditional spirituality and Christianity. He shares stories of building bridges between these worlds. Dumont challenges the church to re-examine the theology behind its past decision around residential schools, so that it might live out the words of its apologies. He challenges the country to re-examine its responsibilities and relationships with Indigenous people. Through stories, humour, poetry, and insight.