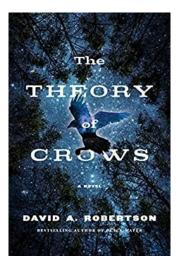


## The Theory of Crows

## David A. Robertson

## **Discussion Questions**

- 1. What has led to the strain in Matthew and Holly and Matthew and Claire's relationship? What do you think brought Matthew to this point?
- 2. Consider the format of the book. Did you like how the chapters were interspersed with letters? Why were the letters there?
- 3. Discuss the symbolism of the crows.
- 4. What did you think about the novel's portrayal of grief?
- 5. Was there a character you wish we'd gotten to learn more about? Which character did you find most interesting? Least?
- 6. Discuss how the novel portrays mental health. How are Matthew and Holly's experiences different? Similar?
- 7. What did you think of the events in the canoe in chapters 20-21? Were you surprised by what happened?
- 8. Discuss the black bear that appears towards the end of the book. Do you agree with Matthew about the bear?
- 9. How does visiting the trapline change things for Matthew and Holly, both as father and daughter and individually?
- 10. Were you satisfied with the ending? What do you think happens next?





This book may be available for download as an eBook and an eAudiobook. For more information, please visit lpl.overdrive.com or call 519-661-4600.

## **About the Author**

David A. Robertson (he/ him/his) was the 2021 recipient of the Writers' Union of Canada Freedom to Read Award as well as the Globe and Mail Children's Storyteller of the Year. He is the author of numerous books for young readers including When We Were Alone, which won the 2017 Governor General's Literary Award and the McNally Robinson Best Book for Young People Award. The Barren Grounds, Book 1 of the middle-grade The Misewa Saga series, received a starred review from Kirkus, was a Kirkus and Quill & Quire best middle-grade book of 2020, was a USBBY and Texas Lone Star selection, was shortlisted for the Ontario Library Association's Silver Birch Award, and was a finalist for the 2020 Governor General's Literary Award. His memoir, Black Water: Family, Legacy, and Blood Memory, was a Globe and Mail and Quill & Quire book of the year in 2020, and won the Alexander Kennedy Isbister Award for Non-Fiction as well as the Carol Shields Winnipeg Book Award at the 2020 Manitoba Book Awards. On The Trapline, illustrated by Julie Flett, won David's second Governor General's Literary Award, won the TD Canadian Children's Literature Award, and was named one of the best picture books of 2021 by the CCBC, The Horn Book, New York Public Library, Quill & Quire, and American Indians in Children's Literature. Dave is the writer and host of the podcast Kíwew (Key-Way-Oh), winner of the 2021 RTDNA Praire Region Award for Best Podcast. His first adult fiction novel, The Theory of Crows, was published in 2022 and is a national bestseller. He is a member of Norway House Cree Nation and currently lives in Winnipeg.

Via the author's website (https://www.darobertson.ca/)

