

A Reading of Eekwol's "Apprentice to the Mystery" as an Expression of
Cree Youth's Cultural Role and Responsibility
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Cultural survival continues to be a critical concern for Indigenous peoples. An examination of the work by Cree Hip Hop artist Eekwol supports optimism that, not only does the struggle remain strong in youth's consciousness, but also that youth are actively engaged in the effort by performing their cultural role and responsibility in their stage of life. The rhetorical analysis of the tracks "Too Sick" and "Apprentro" interprets the poet's critical social commentary to be grounded in Cree values and experience. Contemporary innovation and adaptation, when they operate from an Indigenous cultural foundation as Eekwol's example illustrates, can be seen to invigorate cultural vitality.

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