The "Wind River" series by Margaret Coel



The Eagle Catcher [1995]

A murder mystery set on an Indian reservation in Wyoming. When the tribal chairman is found murdered before an important powwow, alcoholic Father John O'Malley and an Indian attorney looking for her roots search for the

killer and uncover the fraud-infested world of Indian oil and land deals.



The Ghost Walker [1996]

Father John O'Malley comes across the corpse lying in a ditch beside the highway. When he returns with the police, it is gone. The Arapahos of the Wind River Reservation speak of Ghost

Walkers—tormented souls caught between the earth and the spirit world, who are capable of anything. Then, within days, a young man disappears from the Reservation without a trace. A young woman is found brutally murdered. And as Father John and Arapaho lawyer Vicky Holden investigate these crimes, someone—or something—begins following them. Together, Vicky and Father John must draw upon ancient Arapaho traditions to stop a killer, explain the inexplicable, and put a ghost to rest.



The Dream Stalker [1997]

Father John O'Malley and Arapaho lawyer Vicky Holden join forces to search for a killer who stalks his victims, driven by his own nightmarish dreams.



The Story Teller [1998]

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act allows Indian tribes to recover sacred artifacts held in museums. Anxious to bring home their treasures, the Arapahos have

asked Vicky Holden to handle everything. And to Vicky, it seems to be a routine case. Until the Arapaho storyteller confides that something is missing from the list: a rare and beautiful ledger book, a one-of-a-kind pictorial record and the only eye-witness

account of Arapaho history on the plains. The book is worth millions to dealers who razor out pages and sell them one by one. But when the museum says they never even had the book, Vicky suspects foul play. Then she learns that an Arapaho student mysteriously died while researching the ledger. Vicky and Father John must begin a deadly search for the sacred treasure and the killer.



The Lost Bird [1999]

Father O'Malley and Arapaho lawyer Vicky Holden must uncover a baby-selling scheme at a clinic forty years ago.



The Spirit Woman [2000]

According to legend, Sacajawea—the Native American woman who helped guide the Lewis and Clark expedition through the American wilderness—is buried on the Wind River Reservation.

Now, a college professor—and longtime friend of Arapaho attorney Vicky Holden—has disappeared while seeking the truth behind the legend. Vicky and Father John O'Malley soon discover that her missing friend is linked to another female historian who also vanished on the reservation—while researching Sacajawea twenty years ago. The answer to the mystery of the missing scholars may lie in the pages of Sacajawea's hidden memoirs—and with a culprit who will do anything to ensure they're never found...



The Thunder Keeper [2001]

The apparent suicide of a young Arapaho on sacred ground shocks the populace of the Wind River Reservation. But strange events following the death lead Vicky Holden and Father John

O'Malley to suspect foul play.



The Shadow Dancer [2002]

With the disappearance of a young man and his old friend Vicky Holden accused of murder, Father John O'Malley must prove his hunch that both events are connected to a dangerous sect

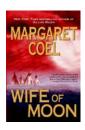
leader known as Orlando-who has resurrected the old Shadow Dance religion.



Killing Raven [2003]

Opening the Great Plains Casino was a controversial issue on the reservation: On the one hand, it provided much-needed job opportunities; on the other, some people saw it

as a departure from traditional tribal life and an added threat in the form of opportunities to indulge dangerous gambling addictions. Both sides had valid points, and Arapaho attorney Vicky Holden had mixed feelings about accepting the contract work the casino had recently thrown her way. Life is always a gamble, but when a body is found in a shallow grave on the reservation, it becomes clear that someone is raising the stakes. The first step has to be finding out why this man was killed, but the cops aren't having much luck with that. Despite help from Father John O'Malley, they're even having trouble finding the teenage girl who reported discovering the body. To add to the confusion, a white activist calling himself Captain Jack Monroe has set himself up as a self-appointed savior of the Indian People, recruiting "Rangers" to cause trouble for the casino and put an end to its evil influence.



Wife of Moon [2004]

An atrocity from the past has resurfaced with a vengeance. Two murders-a century apart-are linked to photographs taken of the Arapahos on the reservation in 1907, currently on display at

St. Francis' Mission. As they begin their investigation, Father John O'Malley and Vicky Holden unearth secrets best left buried.



Eye of the Wolf [2005]

"This is for the Indian priest."

The cryptic message was clearly meant for Father O'Malley. The unemotional voice on the answering machine, speaking of revenge against old enemies, wanted O'Malley to visit

the site of the Bates Battle. In 1874, Shoshone warriors led Captain Alfred Bates' cavalry to Arapaho tribal grounds, and nearly everyone living there was massacred. As a nation, the Arapaho were finished, but their people survived. Now, someone has left three dead Shoshones on the old battlefield, positioned to mimic the bodies of those Arapaho killed in the historic slaughter.

Vicky Holden's latest client, Frankie Montana, has become the number one suspect in their deaths. Despite his less than sterling background, Vicky doesn't believe he's capable of murder. Someone is trying to stir up a war between the Arapaho and Shoshone people—and tear open the painful wounds of the past once more...



The Drowning Man [2006]

Arapaho attorney Vicky Holden and Father John O'Malley find themselves immersed in the dark underbelly of the illegal market for Indian relics. The Arapahos call it "The Drowning Man"-an

ancient petroglyph depicting the haunting image of a human figure struggling under water. A priceless artifact to the tribe, the sacred object is worth a quarter of a million dollars to the thieves who took it. After receiving the ransom demand, Father John is determined to uncover the identity of the culprits and recover the petroglyph. The theft is nearly identical to an unsolved seven-year-old case involving another stolen petroglyph-and manslaughter. Vicky joins Father John to piece together the events of the past seven years. But their quest will put them in the path of a relentless killer who will stop at nothing to remain unknown.



The Girl With Braided Hair [2007]

In 1973, Liz Plenty Horses was accused of betraying the militant American Indian Movement, known as AIM, to the FBI after the death of one of their members. She went into

hiding with her baby daughter, never to be seen again. Now, a skeleton with a bullet hole in the back of the skull has been discovered at the bottom of a ravine on the Wind River Reservation. The body was that of a woman who was murdered sometime in 1973. With the police reluctant to investigate, Arapaho attorney Vicky Holden and Father John O'Malley must unravel the truth-even if it incites the malice of a long-dormant killer.

The Silent Spirit [2009]



In 1923, Arapahos from the Wind River Reservation were recruited to appear as extras in the silent film *The Covered Wagon*. But Charlie Wallowingbull never returned home,

leaving people to believe he abandoned his wife and unborn son. Kiki Wallowingbull, Charlie's great-grandson, went to Hollywood determined to uncover the truth behind his great-grandfather's disappearance. But Kiki has been murdered - his frozen body discovered by Father John, and his supposed killer confessing to Vicky that it was self-defense. Together, they must find the connection between two deaths separated by nearly a century.

MARGARET COEL THE SPIDER'S WEB

The Spider's Web [2010]

When Arapaho Ned Windsong is shot to death, his fiancée Marcy is the only witness. Even though she identifies two Arapaho troublemakers, Ned's family clings to the belief

that Marcy herself was responsible. Convinced of Marcy's innocence, Vicki agrees to represent the outsider- and finds herself at odds with her own people. She also finds herself at odds with Father John, because the mission priest has glimpsed something in the beautiful girl that shakes him to his core. And when the men Marcy has accused of murdering her fiancé are found dead in an abandoned barn, Vicky and Father John realize they are caught in a web of lies and deceit woven by a master.

Buffalo Bill's Dead Now [2012]

[scheduled for publication in September 2012]

This handout created for the

Just Desserts mystery fiction discussion group

Lincoln City Libraries

Lincoln, NE – SDC/2-2012