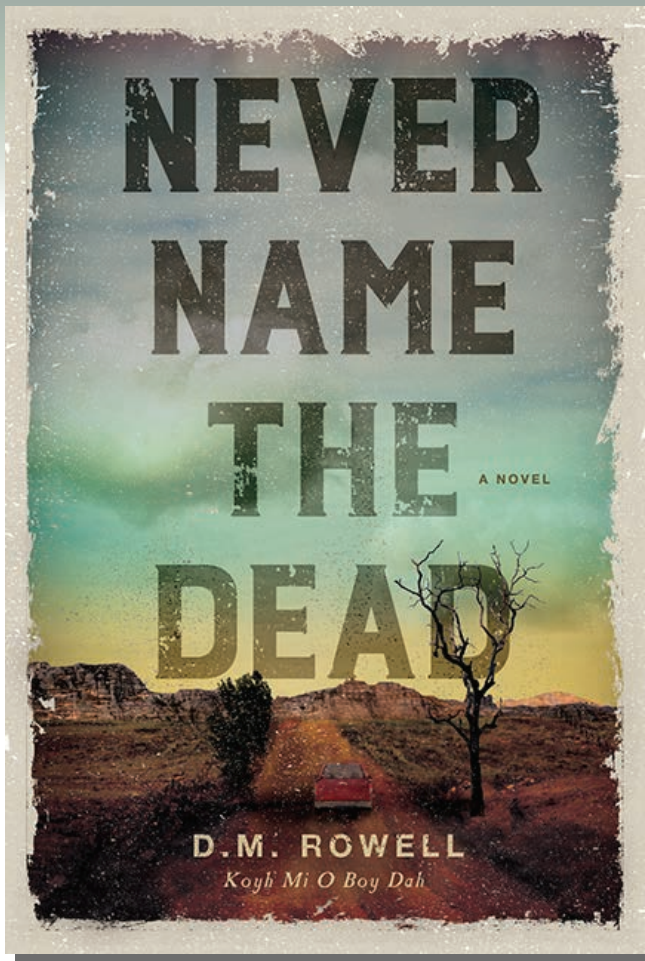


# NEVER NAME THE DEAD

## Info Sheet



**Book Title:**

**Never Name the Dead**

**Publisher:**

Crooked Lane Books

**Series Title:**

Mud Murder Mystery

**Publication Date:**

November 8, 2022

**Author:**

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**Distributed By:**

Penguin Random House

ISBN: 9781639101276

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**Key Words:**

Traditional Mystery

Native American Mystery

Strong female sleuth

Silicon Valley

Kiowa Tribe

LGBTQ+

Own Voices

Contemporary

**Press Kit:**

dmrowell.com/news

## Advance Praise for *Never Name the Dead*

### CrimeReads Most Anticipated Crime Books of 2022

"Rowell's *Never Name the Dead* is an impressive debut ... Rowell brings notes of poetry to the dark tale of corruption."— **CrimeReads**

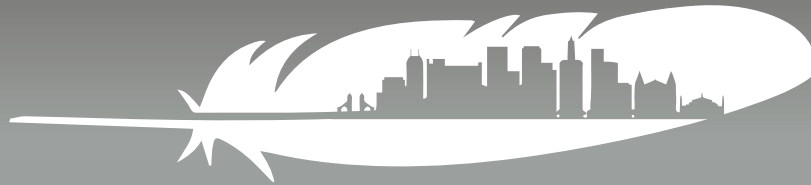
"Oil frackers and regalia looters meet their match in Mae "Mud" Sawpole, a Silicon Valley exec and former college softball slugger who returns to her Kiowa homeland in Oklahoma to settle the score."

—**Kris Lackey**, author of the Maytubby-Bond series

See More : [www.dmrowell.com/praise](http://www.dmrowell.com/praise)



# Mud Mystery Series



It Takes a Blend of Silicon Valley Ingenuity and Native American Spirituality to Solve Theft and Murder in Kiowa Country

## Story Snapshot

Kiowa mix-blood Mae, a Silicon Valley professional is summoned back to the Kiowa, Comanche, Apache Reservation of her childhood by her traditional Plains Indian Grandfather. Once in Kiowa Country, she is thrown into an unexpected spiritual quest as she faces childhood foes, judgmental tribe members, illegal fracking and a charging buffao to find who is guilty of theft and murder.

## Story Description

Kiowa mix-blood Mae, a Silicon Valley professional is summoned back to the Kiowa, Comanche, Apache Reservation of her childhood by her traditional Plains Indian Grandfather. Once in Kiowa Country, she is thrown into an unexpected spiritual quest as she faces childhood foes, judgmental tribe members, illegal fracking and a charging buffao to find who is guilty of theft and murder.

No one called her Mud in Silicon Valley. There, she was Mae, a high-powered professional who had left her Kiowa roots behind a decade ago. But a cryptic voice message from her grandfather, James Sawpole telling her to come home sounds so wrong that she catches the next plane to Oklahoma. She never expected to be plunged into a web of theft, betrayal, and murder.

Mud discovers a tribe in disarray. Fracking is damaging their ancestral lands, Kiowa families are being forced to sell off their artifacts, and frackers have threatened to kill her grandfather over his water rights. When Mud and her cousin Denny discover her grandfather missing, accused of stealing the valuable Jefferson Peace medal from the tribe museum—and stumble across a body in his work room—Mud has no choice but to search for answers.





## **D. M. Rowell** *Koyh Mi O Boy Dah*

Like her protagonist Mud, D. M. Rowell comes from a long line of Kiowa Storytellers within a culture that treasures oral traditions. She's an award-winning and nominated producer/writer on several documentaries, including *Vanishing Link: My Spiritual Return to the Kiowa Way*, seen on PBS and winner of TrailDance 2007 Best Oklahoma Documentary.

As a child, Rowell was heavily influenced by her traditional Kiowa Grandfather, C. E. Rowell. He was an artist, master storyteller, recognized Tribal Elder and one of the last readers of the Sai-guats, winter count deerskin calendars that chronicled a hundred years of Kiowa history. Her Grandfather's stories, memories, and art instilled a deep respect and love for her Kiowa culture and traditions within Rowell.

After a three-decade career spinning stories for Silicon Valley startups and corporations with a few escapes creating independent documentaries, Rowell started a new chapter writing a mystery series that features a Silicon Valley professional Kiowa woman and her Plains Indian tribe. The first in the series is *Never Name the Dead*, Crooked Lane Books, November 8, 2022.

Rowell enjoys life in California with her partner of thirty-eight years, their son and a bossy, feral gray cat.

**For more information about D.M Rowell and her Kiowa roots:**

[www.dmrowell.com](http://www.dmrowell.com)

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