

### **The Survival of the Story/The Story AS Survival in Joseph Bruchac's Trilogy**

This paper analyzes Joseph Bruchac's post-apocalyptic trilogy that begins with *Killer of Enemies*, looking at storytelling traditions in the Chiricahua society and how the narrator Lozen uses those stories to aid in her survival while at the same time ensuring the survival of oral tradition and her Chiricahua roots. Through cultural hero stories of the actual historic Lozen and coyote trickster stories, among others, Bruchac demonstrates how even with the changes to the natural world order in this futuristic world, what remains constant is the connection the Chiricahua have with the land and with their stories – the survival of both is intertwined and symbiotic.