

## April Raintree Chapter 11

**\*\* SPOILER ALERT\*\* read the chapter first!**

The sexual assault scene is a graphic portrayal of violence against women. Violence against Aboriginal women, in particular, continues to be a pervasive issue. Stolen Sisters: Discrimination and Violence Against Indigenous Women tells the stories of nine Aboriginal women (including Helen Betty Osborne) who have been raped and murdered. The website states:

“...young Indigenous women are five times more likely than other women of the same age to die as the result of violence... Indigenous women have long struggled to draw attention to violence within their own families and communities. Canadian police and public officials have also long been aware of a pattern of racist violence against Indigenous women in Canadian cities – but have done little to prevent it.”

Here is an important question for you to answer **thoughtfully** and **respectfully**, IN COMPLETE SENTENCES:

- 1) Some people argue that the sexual assault scene should be cut from the novel, especially for young readers. Others argue that the scene is necessary to the overall vision of the text. Explain each side (why it needs to be there, and why some think it should be cut.) What position do you agree with and why?