



EDGE

a documentary directed by Michelle Tomlinson

It's estimated that every two weeks, the world loses an indigenous language. Why does that matter? Without language, cultures and traditions can't be passed on. Without the wisdom of the past, we won't have much of a future to look forward to. This documentary aims to educate and inspire people of all backgrounds as to the importance of preserving the language and traditions of indigenous cultures, as well as to show the connection between knowing who you are and where you came from and the future of the earth as a whole.

Centuries of genocide have all but wiped out most indigenous cultures from the face of the earth. Those that have survived hang on by the thread of a spider's web. To give you an idea of the crisis, there are currently 12 elders still living in the San Ildefonso Pueblo of New Mexico who were taught the Tewa language as their first language and thus know the most pure version of it. If their knowledge and wisdom isn't preserved, the Pueblo will suffer an unimaginable loss as they pass away. Stories, histories, wisdom...all of it will be scattered to the winds, never to be retrieved.

This has a ripple effect that can be felt in large and small ways around the world. Native communities suffer from extraordinarily high rates of addiction and suicide as they grapple to belong in a world that doesn't see them as human. Even within some Native communities themselves there are factions who advocate letting their ways die, even at the expense of their spirits.

It's not too late to reverse the destruction, but we're on the edge and time is running out.

Principal photography started April 2018. Tax deductible donations are welcome to help us finish the film. [CLICK HERE](#) to donate through our fiscal sponsor, the New Mexico Spotlight Foundation, and be sure to mention EDGE.

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Directed by Michelle Tomlinson

Produced by Michelle Tomlinson, Lori Bowen, and James R. Mountain

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