**SIGNIFICANT CHARACTERS FROM *THERE THERE***

**Tony Loneman** is isolated because his face reflects fetal alcohol syndrome and perhaps because he is big, strong and has a fierce temper. He refers to the fetal alcohol as “the drome.” He adores his grandmother, Maxine, who takes care of him. He sells drugs and gives her money. His mom is in jail and they speak on the phone.

**Dene Oxendene** applied for a grant to pay Indian story-tellers that he interviews in order to produce a documentary about Natives. He uses the professional camera given to him by his uncle, Lucas, who died of lung cancer. He also got the idea of the documentary from Lucas. They were going to work on this project together, but then Lucas died.

**Opal Victoria Bear Shield** s is twelve when Orange first introduces her. Opal’s mom, Vicky, take her and her older half-sister, Jackie, to Alcatraz to live when the Indians took over that island. Later, she raises Jamie’s three sons when she commits suicide. Jacquie Red Feather, Jamie’s mom, didn’t take responsibility for raising her grandsons.

**Jacquie Red Feather** gets raped by a Harvey while at Alcatraz in the early 1970s. She gets pregnant and gives her baby up for adoption. She is named Crystal but calls herself Blue, the translation of her Indian name given to her by her boyfriend’s dad.

**Edwin Black** is an isolated, frustrated, confused, seriously obese, highly educated (MA) half-Native young man, who lives with his mom, Karen. He spends most of his time on the internet. He works at an Indian center in Oakland and meets his half-sister, Blue, but they don’t know they are related.

**Calvin Johnson** is a native man on the powwow committee at the local Indian Center in Oakland. Calvin lives with his sister, Maggie, and Maggie’s daughter, Sonny.

**Orvil Red Feather** is fourteen, Native, and the oldest of Jamie’s sons. He learns Indian dance from the internet and secretly borrows Opal’s old Indian attire.

**Octavio Gomez** is a tough Oakland drug dealer, who loves his family. He lost his father, who protected Octavio with his body, when people his brother and son stole from sought revenge. He lost his mom and brother in a car accident, in which his uncle Sixto was driving while drunk.

**Blue** is the biological daughter of Jacquie Red Feather and Harvey. Blue was adopted at birth by a white couple and raised in an affluent neighborhood in Oakland. Blue only knew the name and the tribe (Cheyenne) of her bio mom and nothing of her bio dad.

**Harvey** is first seen as a wild teen, living with his father on Alcatraz. He rapes Jacquie. He meets her later at an AA convention and they travel back to Oakland together. Harvey is the powwow MC and Edwin’s biological father.

**Bill Davis** is dating Karen, Edwin’s mother. Bill is a Native man, who works at the Oakland Coliseum. He tries to like Edwin but sees him frittering away his opportunities. Nonetheless, he is devoted to Karen and to Edwin’s well-being.

**Daniel Gonzales** is Octavio’s cousin. He is a tech guru and made guns out of plastic with a 3D printer. He sells the guns to Octavio, who intends to rob the powwow with Charles, Carlos, and Calvin.

**Thomas Frank** is a janitor at the Indian Center in Oakland. He gets fired for killing a bat but probably mostly for drinking at work. He loves drumming and joins a drum circle at the center. Despite being fired, he accepts an invitation to perform at Oakland powwow.

**LESS SIGNIFICANT CHARACTERS:**

**Ronald takes** Opal and Jacquie in when Vicky dies. He might be a real uncle. When he tries to rape Jacquie, Opal hits him with a bat and the girls run away.

**Lucas** isDene’s uncle and Opal’s long-lost boyfriend. Lucas is a heavy-drinking boom mic operator in Los Angeles, who dreams of making movies. He invited Dene to help him make a documentary of Indian stories but dies before they can start this project. He gives his camera to Dene.

**Rob** is a smug white guy, who thinks he’s cool. He competes against Dene for an arts grant.

**Vicky** is Jacquie and Opal’s mother. She is a heavy drinker and lives a haphazard life. Vicky brings her daughters to Alcatraz in the early 1970s.

**Rocky** meets and befriends Opal on Alcatraz island. He is Harvey’s younger brother.

**Karen** is Edwin’s mother and Bill Davis’s girlfriend. She has trouble motivating her son to make good choices.

**Maggie and Sonny** are Calvin’s sister and niece. He lives with them.

**Charles** is Calvin’s brother. He works under Octavio’s direction as a drug dealer.

**Carlos** is Charles’s friend. They are together so much that they are sometimes referred to as Charlos. Carlos is also a drug dealer.

**Jamie** is Jacquie Red Feather’s deceased daughter, an addict who committed suicide when her three sons were still quite young. This was many years ago already when we first learn about her. Jamie’s sons are **Orvil**, **Lony**, and **Loother**.

**Manny Gonzales** is Octavio’s cousin and Daniel’s brother. He dies young in a violent drug-related incident.

**Josefina** is Octavio’s grandmother. She is a half-Native woman, who believes in “medicine” and ritual.

**Sixto** is Octavio’s uncle. He is responsible for the deaths of Octavio’s mother and brother when all three of them are in a car accident. He was driving drunk at the time. He’s also responsible for Octavio’s father’s death in that he and Octavio’s brother stole some pot plants from drug dealers, who blasted their house with gunfire in retaliation. Octavio’s dad protected his son’s body with his own and was killed.

**Paul** is Blue’s abusive husband in Oklahoma.

**Geraldine** is a good friend to Blue. She gives her a ride to the bus station in Oklahoma City, so Blue can get away from Paul.

**Hector** is Geraldine’s brother and one of Paul’s friends.

**Bobby Big Medicine** is the kind leader of a Native drumming group in Oakland.

**Maxine is** Tony’s loving grandmother, who is old and sickly.

**Norma** is Dene’s mother and Lucas’ sister.