American literature – Leslie Marmon Silko

- Native American author
- Activist – feminism and native American rights
- Laguna Pueblo – Albuquerque – New Mexico
- Born 1948
- Ethnic origin – ¼ Laguna pueblo – 1/3 Chicano ¼ Anglo American
- Not a full member of tribe and didn’t attend travel meetings etc
- She learned about the traditions and stories through her aunts taught her (full Laguna aunts) she wrote them down and re-presented them as written texts.
- Emerge from an older tradition, oral tradition of storytelling
- Passed down from generations via oral methods
- Unconventional style and approach to storytelling, explanation, flow of narrative is interrupted. This making them easier to understand
- Politics of writing in English comes up a lot with post colonial writers which come from Native American backgrounds. They are writing their peoples stories in their colonizers. English replaced their native tongue.
- She preserves some of their languages in the names of the people and tribes
- English established a common ground; she believes stories are for relating experience and translating another’s origin to someone else.
- Language us not the point, what is important is what the speaker is trying to say, not the language in which they are trying to say it.
- Relating to Anglo Americans, what it is like to be a native American
- Writing to explain

1977 Ceremony
1991 Almanac of the Dead