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## **K. J. (Jim) Everett: Narratives of a Tasmanian Aboriginal Childhood**

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### **Abstract**

This research aims to foster an awareness of childhood experiences by Tasmanian Aboriginal writer, K.J. (Jim) Everett in his narratives: *Waterdogs* and *Untitled*. Jim Everett is a Tasmanian Aborigine whose long and distinguished line of ancestors includes Lemana Bungana, Chief of the Ben Lomond Tribe. Jim was born on Flinders Island in 1942. He held the position of Tasmania's Aboriginal Liaison Officer in the Government of Tasmania for more than twenty years. He has been instrumental in the development of many initiatives regarding Tasmanian Aboriginal people. Before becoming a public servant, Jim worked in various occupations, including licensed rigger, regular army linesman, licensed commercial fishing vessel skipper, licensed engine driver and radio operator. As well, he is a film-maker, actor, poet, playwright, documentary writer, parent and grandfather. The researchers are most grateful to Jim for generously providing access to his documents, particularly for these two unpublished narratives he wrote for his sons.

**Keywords:** *Tasmanian Aboriginality, childhood, family, school, environment*

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