

Foreword Review

COMICS & GRAPHIC NOVELS

This Place: 150 Years Retold

Kateri Akiwenzie-Damm Sonny Assu **Brandon Mitchell Rachel Qitsualik-Tinsley** Sean Qitsualik-Tinsley David A. Robertson Niigaanwewidam James Sinclair Jen Storm **Richard Van Camp** Katherena Vermette **Chelsea Vowel** Tara Audibert, Illustrator **Kyle Charles, Illustrator GMB Chomichuk, Illustrator** Natasha Donovan, Illustrator Scott B. Henderson, Illustrator **Andrew Lodwick, Illustrator** Scott A. Ford, Illustrator Donovan Yaciuk, Illustrator Ryan Howe, Illustrator Alicia Elliott, Contributor HighWater Press (Apr 30, 2019) Softcover \$36.00 (296pp) 978-1-55379-758-6

Thoughtful, inspiring, and moving, This Place: 150 Years Retold collects ten tales about the Indigenous communities of Canada and their troubled relationship with the country's non-Indigenous inhabitants.

The talented writers and artists of *This Place* tell stories of protest and uprising against Canada's government, including incidents seldom discussed outside of Indigenous communities. Some protests succeeded and some failed, but This Place does more than just share historical accounts. It demonstrates how protests are intricately woven into native history and culture, which spans all the landmass of Canada.

These stories are engaging—not just as testaments to the power of grassroots political movements, but as tributes to the individuals who led them, many braving tremendous dangers and hardships to do so. Though they are always inspired by facts, fictional stories of a cannibalizing spirit, spirits and talismans, and even time travel provide variety and surprises. The story "Nimkii" might be the collection's most memorable, with its fictionalized account of the Sixties Scoop, in which Indigenous children were taken wholesale and placed into adoption or foster care with the full support of the Canadian government.

Each story is prefaced with a brief background explanation by its author, along with a timeline listing important events within the book's 150-year time frame. These, along with a selected bibliography for further reference, make *This* Place

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valuable as a learning tool. But first and foremost, it's a collection of exciting, entertaining, beautifully drawn stories; as Alicia Elliott states in her foreword, "Every Indigenous person's story is, in a way, a tale of overcoming apocalypse."

PETER DABBENE (May/June 2019)

Disclosure: This article is not an endorsement, but a review. The publisher of this book provided free copies of the book to have their book reviewed by a professional reviewer. No fee was paid by the publisher for this review. Foreword Reviews only recommends books that we love. Foreword Magazine, Inc. is disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255.

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