



HIGHWATER
PRESS



**Rights
Catalogue**
2020-2021

THIS PLACE 150 YEARS RETOLD

Comics & Graphic Novels

Historical Fiction

7 x 10 in. • 296 pages

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: German

Themes: Indigenous history, social equity, racism and stereotypes, colonialism

Best Graphic
Novel 2019
School Library
Journal



**Winner of the Mary Scorer Award for
Best Book by a Manitoba Publisher**

Nominated for the Doug Wright Award for Best Book

Among USBBY's 2020 Outstanding International Books list

FEATURING STORIES BY Kateri Akiwenzie-Damm, Sonny Assu, Brandon Mitchell, Rachel and Sean Qitsualik-Tinsley, David A. Robertson, Niigaanwewidam James Sinclair, Jen Storm, Richard Van Camp, Katherena Vermette, and Chelsea Vowel

ILLUSTRATED BY Tara Audibert, Kyle Charles, GMB Chomichuk, Natasha Donovan, Scott B. Henderson, Ryan Howe, Andrew Lodwick, and Jen Storm

COLOUR BY Scott A. Ford and Donovan Yaciuk

Explore the past 150 years in what is now Canada through the eyes of Indigenous creators in this groundbreaking graphic novel anthology. Beautifully illustrated, these stories are a wild ride through Indigenous wonderworks, psychic battles, and time travel. See how Indigenous peoples have survived a post-apocalyptic world since European Contact.

This is one of the 200 exceptional projects funded through the Canada Council for the Arts' New Chapter initiative. With this \$35M initiative, the Council supports the creation and sharing of the arts in communities across Canada./Ce projet est l'un des 200 projets exceptionnels soutenus par l'initiative Nouveau chapitre du Conseil des arts du Canada. Avec cette initiative 35 M\$, le Conseil des arts appuie la création et le partage des arts au cœur de nos vies et dans l'ensemble du Canada.

Canada Council Conseil des arts
for the Arts du Canada

New
Chapter
2017 and Beyond

Nouveau
Chapitre
2017 et au-delà



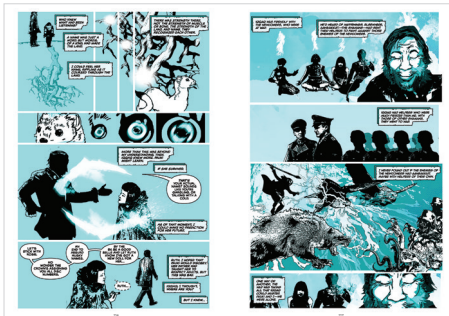
... [A] breathtaking
comics anthology...
powerful
storytelling and
memorable
illustrations....

—The Globe
and Mail



... the anthology's
theme and
authentically told
stories make it a
stand-out.

—Publishers
Weekly



... visually
gorgeous. Each
story is powerfully
conveyed...A great
read for any age.

—Quill & Quire,
★ review

SURVIVING THE CITY SERIES

by Tasha Spillett

illustrated by Natasha Donovan

Comics & Graphic Novels/Fiction

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Saami Language Norway

Themes: womanhood, friendship, colonialism, social justice, Two-Spirit

SURVIVING THE CITY • Vol. 1

6.5 x 10 in • 56 pages

FROM THE ROOTS UP • Vol. 2

6.5 in x 10 • 64 pages

Vol. 3 (Fall 2021)

ACCOLADES FOR THE SERIES

*Shortlisted for the Forest of Reading 2020
Red Maple Fiction award*

In the Margins Top Fiction Novel for 2020

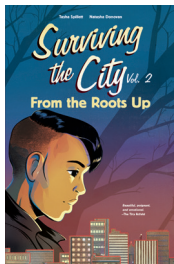
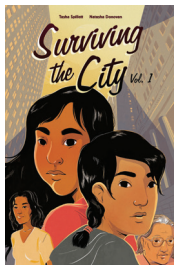
Nominated for YALSA's Great Graphic Novels for Teens list

An AIYLA Young Adult Honor Book

Miikwan and Dez are best friends. Together, the teens navigate the challenges of growing up Indigenous in an urban landscape. The *Surviving the City* three-volume series follows these young women as they struggle with love, loss, belonging, identity, and sexuality.

Tasha Spillett draws her strength from both her Nehiyaw and Trinidadian bloodlines. Tasha is currently working on her PhD in Education and is a Vanier Canada Award recipient.

Natasha Donovan is an award-winning freelance artist and illustrator from Vancouver, British Columbia. Natasha is a member of the Métis Nation of British Columbia.



[A] haunting graphic novel... debut author Spillett and Donovan... present a story of girls growing up with the historical legacy of Canada's treatment of Indigenous people, particularly women and girls.

—Publishers Weekly



Tasha Spillett tells the story through the girls' dialogue and text messages—allowing readers to be continually immersed in their world. Métis artist Natasha Donovan's full-colour illustrations stand out.

—Quill & Quire

A GIRL CALLED ECHO SERIES

by Katherena Vermette

illustrated by Scott B. Henderson

colour by Donovan Yaciuk

Comics & Graphic Novels/Historical Fiction

6.5 x 10 in. • 48 pages

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: French World

Themes: poverty, foster care, self-discovery, colonialism, identity, coming of age

ACCOLADES FOR THE SERIES

PEMMICAN WARS ▶ Vol. 1

RED RIVER RESISTANCE ▶ Vol. 2

NORTHWEST RESISTANCE ▶ Vol. 3

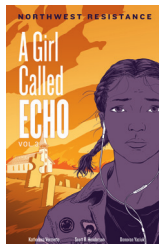
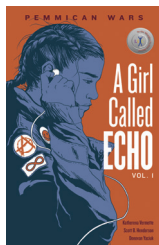
ROAD ALLOWANCE ERA ▶ Vol. 4 (April 2021)

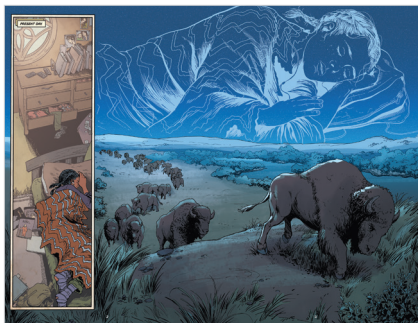
*Among Recommended Fiction book list
—In The Margins*

*Among CBC Books Best Canadian
Comics of 2018*

*Selected for CCBC's Best Books for Kids
& Teens list*

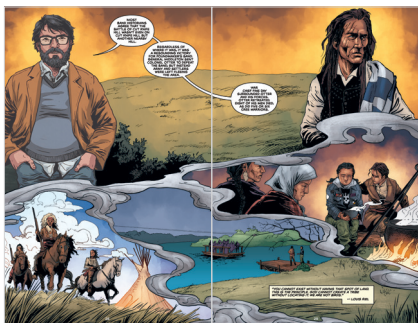
Written by Governor General's Award-winning author Katherena Vermette, *A Girl Called Echo* is a graphic-novel series that examines Métis history through the eyes of Echo, a teenager navigating a new high school, isolation in her foster home, and a strained relationship with her mother. Through the power of time travel, she experiences many of the important events that would shape her people.





...feelings of alienation, of loneliness, of not belonging, either at home or at school, are experienced by both genders and those teens—male or female—who eat their lunch alone and wander the halls without friends will understand Echo's plight and are offered a new perspective with this book.

—CM Association



Compelling...realistic art...perfect pacing... Teens are likely to strongly identify with Echo and look forward to more of her adventures.

—Booklist



Among Noteworthy Graphic Novel Sequels: Spring 2019
—Publishers Weekly

STAND LIKE A CEDAR

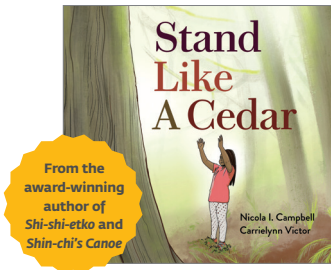
by Nicola I. Campbell

illustrated by Carrielynn Victor

Juvenile fiction • 9 x 9 in. • 36 pages

Themes: family, sustainability, culture,
connecting to nature

Coming Feb 2021



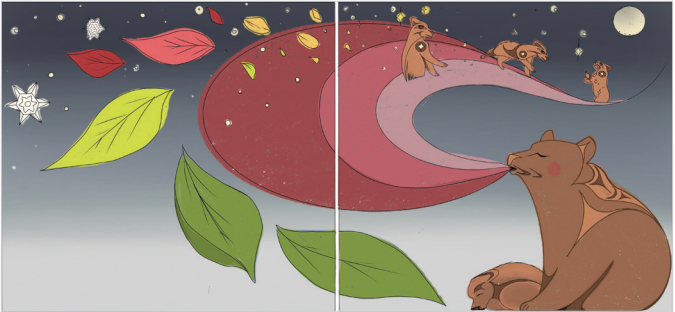
When you go for a walk in nature, who do you see? What do you hear?

Award-winning author Nicola I. Campbell shows what it means “to stand like a cedar” on this journey of discovery through the wilderness. Learn the names of animals in the Nl̓e7kepmxcín or Halq'emeylem languages as well as the teachings they have for us. Experience a celebration of sustainability and connection to the land through lyrical storytelling and Carrielynn Victor's breath taking art in this illustrated children's book.

Discover new sights and sounds with every read.

Nicola I. Campbell is Nl̓eᎁkepmx, Syilx, and Métis, from British Columbia. Her stories weave cultural and land-based teachings that focus on respect, endurance, healing, and reciprocity. Nicola's book *Shin-chi's Canoe* won the 2009 TD Canadian Children's Literature Award and the 2008 Governor General's Literary Award for illustration.

Carrielynn Victor is fueled by the passion to tell stories through her art. Carrielynn was born and raised in S'olh Temexw and nurtured by many parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles. Along with a thriving art practice, Carrielynn maintains a communal role as a plant practitioner that includes protection and preservation of lands, networking and trade, and harvest and preparation methods.



WHEN WE WERE ALONE

by David A. Robertson

illustrated by Julie Flett

Juvenile Fiction • 7.5 x 8.5 in. • 24 pages

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Japanese, French,
German, Spanish Language USA,
Philippines, Mexico

Themes: grandparent, relationship,
love and hope, empowerment



**Winner Governor General's Literary Award, Children's Illustrated
Among Horn Book's Fanfare list of best picture books of the
year (2017)**

When We Were Alone is a powerful story that explores a tragic part of Canada's past. Through simple dialogue and beautiful illustrations, a young girl learns about her grandmother's experiences growing up in a residential school.

David A. Robertson is a Governor General award-winning writer of over 25 titles including books for children, young adults, and adults. He is a member of Norway House Cree Nation.

Julie Flett is an award-winning Cree-Métis author and illustrator. She has received many awards including the 2017 Governor General's Award for Children's Literature and the 2016 American Indian Library Association Award for Best Picture Book.

A quiet story...of love and resistance....

—The Horn Book Magazine, ★review



Today I helped my kókom in her flower garden. She always wears colourful clothes. It's like she dresses in rainbows. When she bent down to prune some of the flowers, I couldn't even see her because she blended in with them. She was like a chameleon.
"Nókom, why do you wear so many colours?" I asked.
Nókom said, "Well, Nóisim..."



After our gardening work was done, I sat with my kókom in the backyard. Her brother came over and sat with us. He comes over all the time. We drank tea and ate bannock. The tea was hot and sweet, and the bannock was moist and warm and melted in my mouth. My kókom and my uncle talked and laughed like children.
"Nókom, why do you and Nókomis always spend time together?" I asked.
Nókom said, "Well, Nóisim..."



An empowering and important story.

—Booklist, ★review

MOTHERS OF XSAN

by Hetxw'ms Gyetxw (Brett D. Huson)
illustrated by Natasha Donovan

Juvenile Nonfiction, Illustrated
6.5 x 10 in. • 32 pages
Rights Held: World
Themes: nature, seasons, life cycles, family,
ecosystems, sustainability

Follow each mother as she teaches her young
to survive on their own. Science comes alive!

THE SOCKEYE MOTHER

THE GRIZZLY MOTHER

THE EAGLE MOTHER

THE FROG MOTHER • (2021)

THE WOLF MOTHER • (2021)

ACCOLADES FOR THE SERIES

*Winner of The Science Writers and
Communicators of Canada award*

*Shortlisted for the Norma Fleck Award
for Canadian Children's Non-Fiction*

*Among USBBY's Outstanding International
Books list*

A top selection.

—School Library Journal

*Writing in lyrical prose...Huson eloquently
conveys the fragile interconnectedness of
the natural world and the moral imperative
to protect it.*

—Publishers Weekly, ★review



TIME TO GROW

After a couple of years of schooling in the deeper parts of the nursing lake, this sockeye has become a smolt. Its little silvery body begins taking the shape of its blue-backed future self. The smolt is outgrowing the lake. This signals Lasa ya'a (the Spring Salmon's Returning Moon), so the little sockeye begins its treacherous journey down the Skeena.

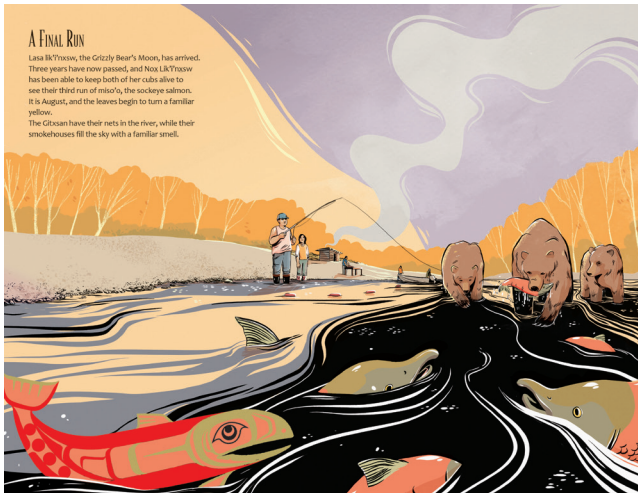


A smolt is a young fish that is undergoing the changes needed to go from living in fresh water to living in salt water.

A FINAL RUN

Lasa Ik'Yaxw, the Grizzly Bear's Moon, has arrived. Three years have now passed, and Nox Lik'Yaxw has been able to keep both of her cubs alive to see their third run of miso'u, the sockeye salmon. It is August, and the leaves begin to turn a familiar yellow.

The Gixsan have their nets in the river, while their smokehouses fill the sky with a familiar smell.



SIHA TOOSKIN KNOWS SERIES

by Charlene Bearhead and
Wilson Bearhead

illustrated by Chloe Bluebird Mustooch

Juvenile Fiction

5.5 x 8 in. • 24 to 40 pages

Rights Held: World

Themes: family, culture, heritage

The Siha Tooskin Knows series uses vivid narratives and dazzling illustrations in contemporary settings to share stories about an 11-year-old Nakota boy.

Books in the series:

Siha Tooskin Knows the Best Medicine

Siha Tooskin Knows the Catcher of Dreams

Siha Tooskin Knows the Gifts of His People

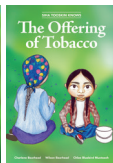
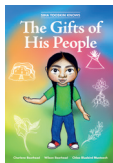
Siha Tooskin Knows the Love of the Dance

Siha Tooskin Knows the Nature of Life

Siha Tooskin Knows the Offering of Tobacco

Siha Tooskin Knows the Sacred Eagle Feather

Siha Tooskin Knows the Strength of His Hair



Charlene Bearhead is an educator and Indigenous education advocate who began writing stories to teach her own children as she raised them.

Wilson Bearhead, a Nakota Elder and dynamic storyteller, is the recent recipient of the Canadian Teachers' Federation Indigenous Elder Award.

Chloe Bluebird Mustooch is from the Alexis Nakoda Sioux Nation and is a recent graduate of the Emily Carr University of Art & Design.



a Steak-Up. There are also what we call straight traditional dances where men dance their own style as warriors or hunters."

"There's also men's Fancy Bustle," chimed in Paul. "That one is so awesome. The men are really fast and athletic. They are really bright and colourful and they spin and pivot and some even do cartwheels!!!"

"Wow," responded Jeff in amazement. He knew what a bustle was because he had watched Paul's dad working on a bustle for one of his nephews. Jeff remembered being in awe of how intricate the work was as Paul's dad had carefully placed each feather and tacked it in place. It all seemed so delicate, and he couldn't believe that a dancer could do all of that with a bustle tied to his back. Jeff was even more impressed when Paul told him that the men's Fancy dancers wore two bustles!

Uncle Lenard explained, "The men's Fancy Dance actually comes from Oklahoma, but men all over Turtle Island have adopted the dance."

"Sure, I saw them in the Grand Entry," Jeff responded with a bright smile and a sparkle in his eye. "I can't wait to see them dance in their category. It sounds awesome."

"My cousin Bobby might be here and he dances men's Fancy now, I think," Paul told Jeff.

#SihaTooskinKnows..., with its words and illustrations, is a love letter to our family, culture, resilience, and pride.

—@TanyaTalaga, journalist and author

More than an adventure between new friends, this is a colourful, youth-friendly, cultural exchange based on kindness, respect, and willingness to share and to learn.

—Marie Wilson,
Commissioner,
TRC of Canada,
2009-2015



of prayer. They interpreted our acknowledgment of the trees, the water, the four-legged ones, the winged ones, and all the natural world as heathen. Governments that imposed themselves on our

people pushed us off our lands and outlawed our ways. For a long time our ceremonies of honour and generosity were made illegal. It wasn't just our Nation here—it was all across the land. Even

AWÂSIS AND THE WORLD-FAMOUS BANNOCK

by Dallas Hunt

illustrated by Amanda Strong

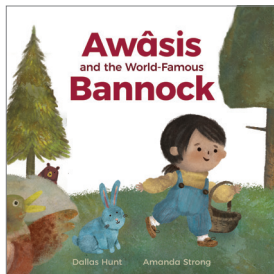
Juvenile Fiction, Illustrated • 9 x 9 in. •

24 pages

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: French North America

Themes: grandparent, friendship,
forest animals, culture, community



Finalist for the 2018 Elizabeth Mrazik-Cleaver Canadian Picture Book Award

Finalist for the High Plains Book Award, Indigenous Writer

During an unfortunate mishap, young Awâsis loses Kôhkum's freshly baked world-famous bannock. Not knowing what to do, Awâsis seeks out a variety of other-than-human relatives willing to help. What adventures are in store for Awâsis?

Dallas Hunt is a teacher, writer, and member of Wapiseewsi (Swan River First Nation) in Treaty 8 territory in Northern Alberta, Canada. Dallas is a proponent of Indigenous language revitalization, teaches at the University of British Columbia, and enjoys reading great books to his nieces and nephews.

Amanda Strong is a Michif filmmaker, media artist, and stop motion director currently based out of the unceded Coast Salish territory also known as Vancouver, British Columbia. She has exhibited work and screened films worldwide, including at the Cannes Film Festival, Toronto International Film Festival, and the Vancouver International Film Festival.

In his debut book, Hunt tells a story that already feels like a childhood classic.

—Kirkus Reviews

Highly Recommended!

—Debbie Reese, AICL

I WILL SEE YOU AGAIN

by Lisa Boivin

Illustrated Memoir

6.5 x 10 in. • 48 pages

Rights Held: World

Themes: grief, family, suicide, love, hope

Presenting “a fresh understanding of death and grief” (Publishers Weekly), this book is a breathtaking journey through art, loss, and love, from interdisciplinary artist and bio-ethicist Lisa Boivin.

When the author learns of the death of her brother overseas, she embarks on a journey to bring him home. Through memories and dreams of all they shared together and through her Dene traditions, she finds comfort and strength. The lyrical art and story leave readers with a universal message of hope and love.



THE RECKONER TRILOGY

by David A. Robertson

Young Adult Fiction • 5.5 x 8.5 in. • 250 pages

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: German

Themes: mystery, supernatural, anxiety, coming of age, bullying

STRANGERS • Book 1

MONSTERS • Book 2

GHOSTS • Book 3

Winner Michael Van Rooy Award for Genre Fiction

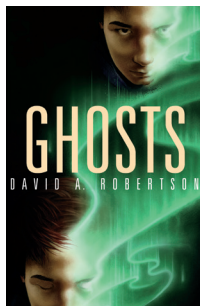
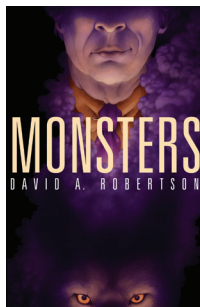
Winner McNally Robinson Book for Young People Award

The Reckoner trilogy, from award-winning author David A. Robertson, follows 17-year-old Cole as he reluctantly returns home to save his ravaged community and face his troubled past in this supernatural mystery. With the help of his friends, Cole encounters unexplained supernatural phenomena, trickster spirits, and ghosts. This series expertly tackles issues faced by youth—bullying, trauma, and clinical anxiety—and will enthrall readers.

This unflinching quality of Robertson's writing leaves one both exhilarated and unsettled. —Quill & Quire

...the tantalizing mystery pulls readers on. —The Horn Book

...a truly original superhero. Recommended. —School Library Connection



BREAKDOWN THE RECKONER RISES SERIES, VOL. 1

by *David A. Robertson*
illustrated by *Scott B. Henderson*
colour by *Donovan Yaciuk*

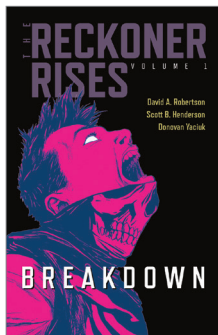
Comics & Graphic Novels/Superhero

6.5 x 10 in.

64 pages

Rights Held: World

Themes: superhero, identity, anxiety,
mental health



David A. Robertson's powerful Indigenous YA trilogy gets a comic-book continuation, a natural format for the adventures of an anxious teen turned tormented superhero.

—Quill & Quire

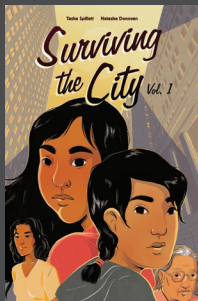


Fortified by help from his friends, reluctant superhero Cole Harper, faces persistent anxiety to continue the fight against evil. The Bloodhound Gang returns in an all-new graphic novel series, *The Reckoner Rises*. Acclaimed writer, David A. Robertson, delivers suspense, adventure, and humour.

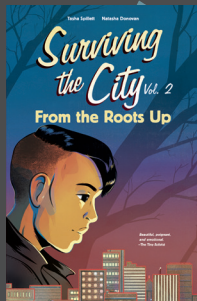
Surviving the City series

by Tasha Spillett

illustrated by Natasha Donovan



SURVIVING THE CITY, VOL. 1



FROM THE ROOTS UP, VOL. 2

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Saami Languages, Norway

HIGHWATER
PRESS



highwaterpress.com

For Inquiries, Contact Directly:

Catherine Gerbasi, Publisher • cgerbasi@highwaterpress.com

100-318 McDermot Avenue • Winnipeg, Manitoba R3A 0A2

Tel: 1-800-667-9673 • Fax: 1-866-734-8477

We acknowledge for their financial support the Government of Canada through the Canada Book Fund, the Manitoba Book Publishing Tax Credit program, and the Manitoba Department of Sport, Culture & Heritage.