



Lost innocence

Brandon Mitchell

Tara Audibert

The Healthy Aboriginal Network

Non-profit promotion of health, literacy & wellness

Just innocence

Brandon Mitchell

WRITER AND LETTERER

Tara Audibert

ILLUSTRATOR AND FOCUS GROUP ANIMATIC

Sean Muir

EDITOR

Erin McConomy

COPY EDITOR

Healthy Aboriginal Network

PUBLISHER

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"I WANT TO GET RID OF THE
INDIAN PROBLEM."

"OUR OBJECTIVE IS TO
CONTINUE UNTIL THERE IS
NOT A SINGLE INDIAN IN
CANADA THAT HAS NOT
BEEN ABSORBED INTO THE
BODY POLITIC, AND THERE
IS NO INDIAN QUESTION,
AND NO INDIAN
DEPARTMENT."

- MINISTER OF INDIAN
AFFAIRS HON. DUNCAN
CAMPBELL SCOTT, 1920.





CANADA WAS IN ITS INFANCY; THERE WAS A NATIONAL CRY ON UNITY AMONG ITS SETTLERS. THERE WAS NO LONGER THE NEED FOR THEM TO RELY ON FIRST NATIONS FOR KNOWLEDGE OF THE UNTAMED LANDS. INDUSTRY NOW DOMINATED THE CULTURE LIKE IT HAD IN SO MANY REGIONS OF THE GLOBE.




THERE WAS NO ROOM IN A NEW CANADA FOR OLD WAYS.






THE INDIAN ACT WOULD BE THE
GOVERNMENT'S SOLUTION TO THE
'INDIAN PROBLEM'.



THEY BROUGHT
THE ACT BEFORE A
PARLIAMENTARY VOTE.



IT WAS THEN
WRITTEN INTO LAW.



THE ACT DEFINED A PEOPLE; IT
ALSO PROVIDED A MEANS FOR
SWIFT ASSIMILATION.

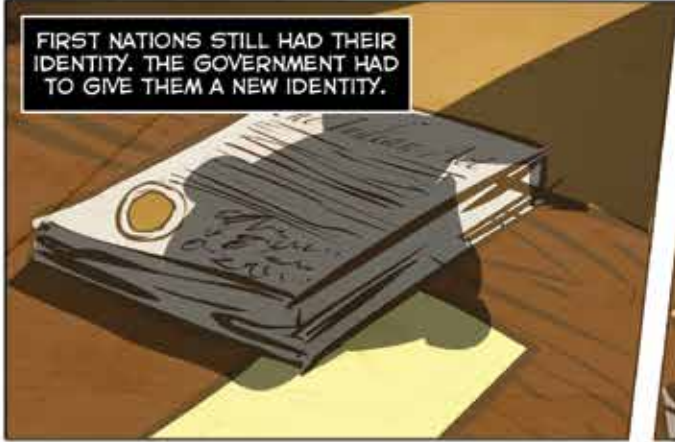


LABOURERS
WANTED

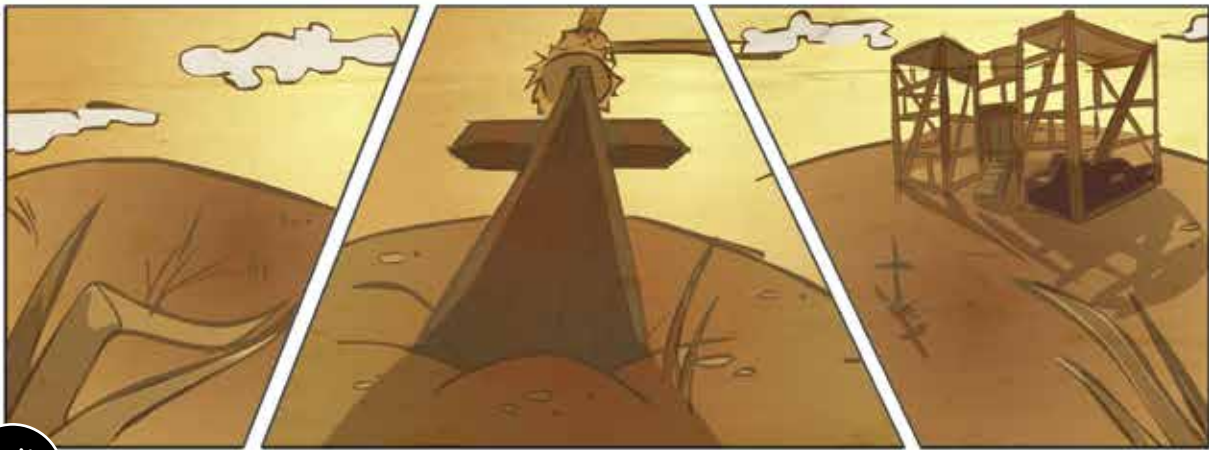
THE GOVERNMENT WAS NOT SATISFIED WITH THE MINIMAL PROGRESS MADE BY THE ACT. THE CULTURE AND LANGUAGE WOULD PERSEVERE.



FIRST NATIONS STILL HAD THEIR IDENTITY. THE GOVERNMENT HAD TO GIVE THEM A NEW IDENTITY.

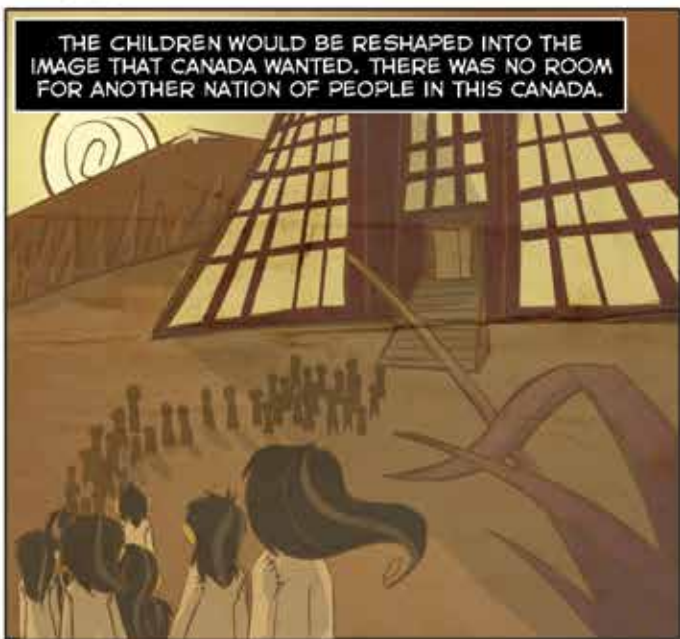


IF YOUTH ARE THE FUTURE, THEN THE GOVERNMENT HAD CONTROL OVER THE KIND OF FUTURE FIRST NATIONS WOULD HAVE.

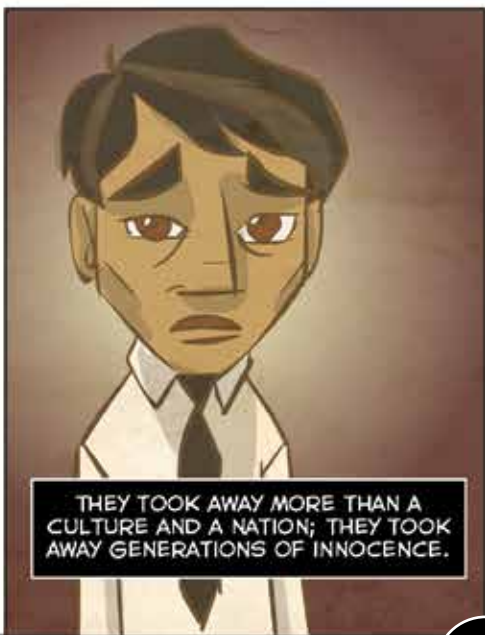




THEY WERE PROMISED A BETTER LIFE. WHAT PARENT DOESN'T WANT THE BEST FOR THEIR CHILD? WHO DOESN'T WANT THEIR CHILD TO SUCCEED IN THIS BRAVE NEW WORLD?



THE CHILDREN WOULD BE RESHAPED INTO THE IMAGE THAT CANADA WANTED. THERE WAS NO ROOM FOR ANOTHER NATION OF PEOPLE IN THIS CANADA.



THEY TOOK AWAY MORE THAN A CULTURE AND A NATION; THEY TOOK AWAY GENERATIONS OF INNOCENCE.



THE LAND CAN BE AN UNFORGIVING PLACE IF YOU DO NOT RESPECT IT.







I KNEW YOU'D FIND ME.

SURE YOU DID! I'M GETTING BETTER AT FIGURING YOU OUT.



SOON YOU'LL BE READING MY SIGNS!





UMQUI?



RUUUUAAAHH!
GOTCHA!!



AHHH, YOU! YOU
GOT ME ALL WET,
YOU DUMMY.



YOU'RE GONNA GET IT FOR THAT ONE!

JUST BE CAREF... MALTALESS!



ARE YOU OKAY? LET ME TAKE A LOOK AT IT.

OH, IT'S JUST ON THE SURFACE. YOUR BIG BROTHER WILL FIX YOU UP. YOU'LL BE OKAY.



THERE YOU GO, GOOD AS NEW. IT'S A GOOD THING YOU'VE GOT ME AROUND.



THANKS...








YOU KNOW, THESE TIMES ARE CHANGING. EVERYTHING IS NOT AS IT USED TO BE. I REMEMBER WHEN WE USED TO BE ABLE TO DANCE AND SHARE OUR STORIES WITH OTHERS.

WHAT'S GOING ON FATHER? WHY IS HE HERE?




IT'S GETTING HARDER FOR US TO SHARE OUR VOICE. I WANT YOU TO LEARN WHAT YOU CAN FROM THESE PEOPLE AND BE ABLE TO SHARE WHAT YOU'VE LEARNED WITH US, SO WE CAN BETTER UNDERSTAND THEM.



THEIR KNOWLEDGE COULD HELP US ALL BETTER THIS PLACE. EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT, AND WE CAN ONLY TEACH YOU SO MUCH. LEARN THEIR WAYS OF THINKING, BUT NEVER FORGET WHAT WE'VE TAUGHT YOU ABOUT THIS LAND. SHE WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU.



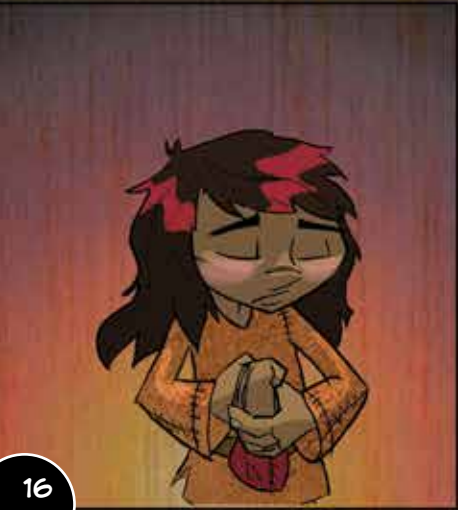
UMQUI!



SON, YOU ARE STRONG IN MIND AND SPIRIT. I'VE HEARD STORIES ABOUT THESE PLACES. THEY WANT YOU TO FORGET WHERE YOU COME FROM. DON'T LET THEM BREAK YOUR SPIRIT. BE PROUD OF WHO YOU ARE AND DO NOT FORGET US. I WANT YOU TO PROTECT YOUR SISTER. DO NOT LET ANY HARM COME TO HER.



THIS WILL HELP PROTECT THE BOTH OF YOU. KEEP IT WITH YOU AT ALL TIMES.





EVER RIDDEN IN A
CAR BEFORE?



BAH, YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW
WHAT I'M SAYING, DO YOU?
DON'T WORRY, THAT
SCHOOL'S GONNA HELP
GET THE RED OUT OF YOU.







WELL, GET THEM REGISTERED RIGHT AWAY. I'LL FILE THE PAPERS FOR ANY OTHERS YOU HAVE, TO GET THE MONEY ROLLING IN.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.



WHAT ABOUT THOSE EXTRA TEACHERS?



SISTER, CAN YOU PLEASE ASSIST ME IN THIS MATTER? THEIR RAGS NEED TO BE THROWN AWAY AND BRING IN SOME FRESH GARMENTS.





I BAPTIZE YOU MARY,
IN THE NAME OF THE
HOLY GHOST.

I BAPTIZE YOU DAVID,
IN THE NAME OF THE
HOLY GHOST.









DON'T LEAVE ME!

BE STRONG, SISTER. DON'T LET THEM BREAK YOUR SPIRIT.




MALTALESS!




WORRY NOT, SISTER. I'LL BRING THIS ONE TO HIS QUARTERS.



NEXT DAY: DAWN



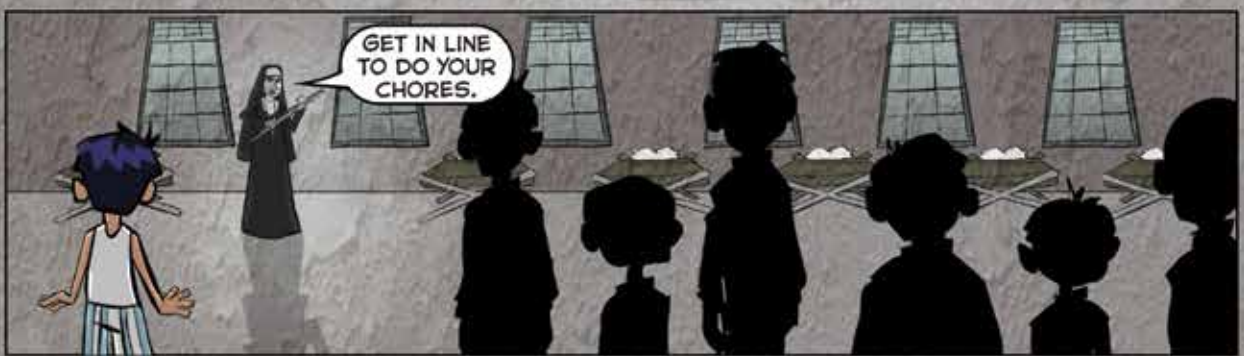
RISE, CHILDREN.
YOU ALL HAVE 20
MINUTES TO
PREPARE BEFORE
YOUR CHORES.



HEY...HEY, NEW KID.
WAKE UP! WANNA
GET US ALL IN
TROUBLE HERE?

HUH? HEY, COME
ON. THE SUN
JUST CAME UP.

TRUST ME; YOU WANT TO GET
OUT OF BED NOW. THIS ONE
HERE, SHE'S REALLY MEAN.
YOU DON'T WANT HER
CATCHING YOU SLEEPIN' IN.



"BLESSED IS HE WHO SERVES THE LORD..."



OFF THE REZ FOR A DAY AND YOU ALREADY FORGET HOW TO GREET A FRIEND? NAME'S MUJIN. WHAT'S YOURS?

UMQUISAWA.



OH YEAH? SO WHAT DID THEY NAME YOU?

UH, I THINK THEY CALLED ME DAVID.




WELL AT LEAST THEY DIDN'T CALL YOU JOSEPH. YOU KNOW HOW MANY ARE NAMED THAT ALREADY? I THINK YOU'RE THE 3RD DAVID, SO CONSIDER YOURSELF LUCKY.




OH YEAH, THEY CALLED ME PETER. IT'S LIKE THEY RAN OUT OF IDEAS FOR NAMES OR SOMETHING.







WHEN DO WE GET TO EAT? I'M SO HUNGRY. HOW DO THEY EXPECT US TO DO ANYTHING ON AN EMPTY STOMACH?




YOU GET USED TO IT. I KNOW, IT'S NOT LIKE HOME.




BY THE WAY, WHERE YOU FROM ANYWAY?



OVER THERE.



OH YEAH? THEN YOU MUST BE CLOSE TO THE GREAT RIVER. GOOD SALMON UP THERE.



THE BEST!




LORD, WE ASK YOU TO BLESS THIS OFFERING YOU HAVE GIVEN US.




WELL, THIS IS NOTHING LIKE THE LOOSGINIGIN, BUT IT COULD BE WORSE. AT LEAST IT'S FRESH TODAY.








SO, WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND ANYWAYS? I KNOW THE FOOD IS BAD, BUT IT DOESN'T MAKE YOU MUTE.




WHERE ARE THE GIRLS?



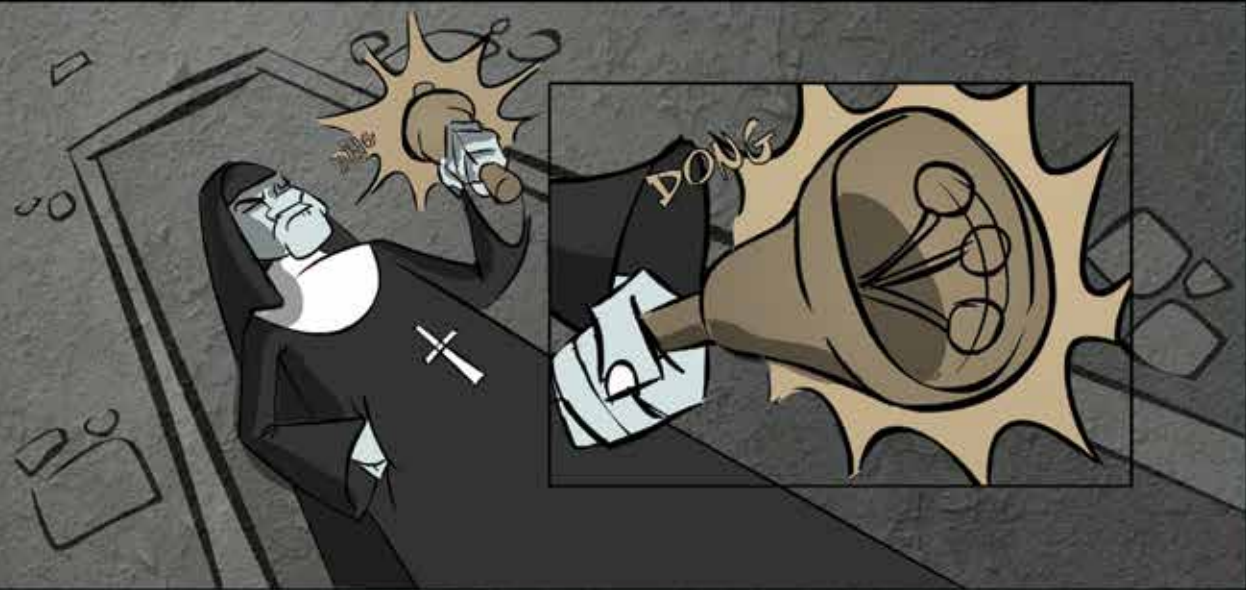
GIRLS, EH? YEAH, THEY DON'T STAY WITH US; NUNS TOLD US IT WASN'T GOD'S WILL OR SOMETHING. ALREADY LOOKING FOR A SWEETIE?



NO... MY SISTER...

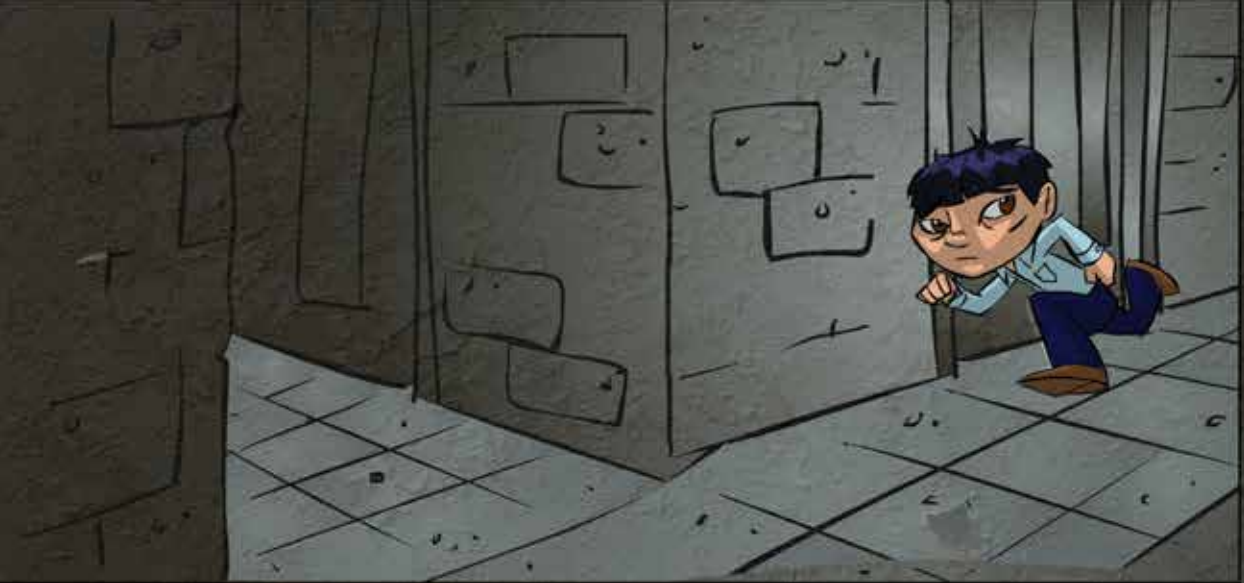


OH, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO TELL YOU. WE BARELY SEE GIRLS AROUND, BUT WE KNOW THEY'RE HERE. WE SEE THEM IN PASSING SOMETIMES.



JUST TELL ME WHERE.







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