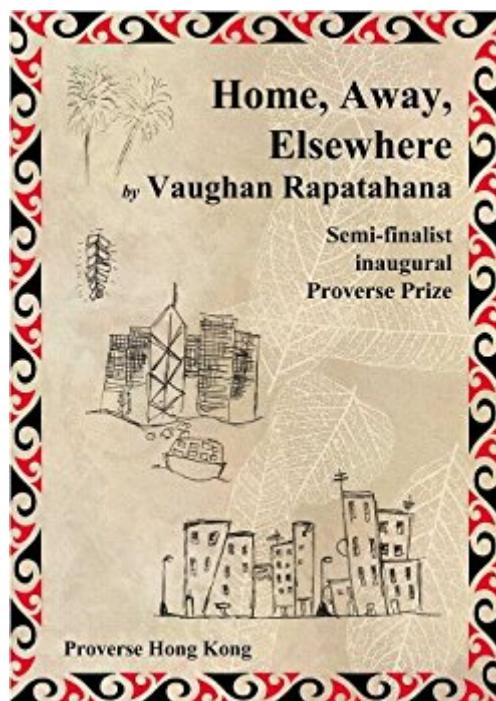


The book was found

Home, Away, Elsewhere



Synopsis

HOME, AWAY, ELSEWHERE is a poetry collection in three parts. Home is events, situations, descriptions, and attitudes about Hong Kong, which is now Vaughan's home. Away contains poems about events, situations, descriptions, and attitudes about Aotearoa-New Zealand, in particular from a (marginalised) Maori perspective, and also about all the other places where Vaughan has lived and visited, including: The Republic of Nauru, Brunei Darussalam, The People's Republic of China, Australia, The United Arab Emirates (UAE), The Philippines. Elsewhere is emotions (the entire gamut), relationships (marriages, family, friends), deaths (parents, children), reflections â " some wry â " and is not specifically tied to physical locations.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I met Vaughan Rapatahana in Al Ain, UAE as part of a team of western experts hired to stop the rapid descent of Emirati male children into a null and void future due to their inability to negotiate anything outside ordering a cup of coffee at the Mall Stars Bucks. Vaughan was the first one of us to discern that our employers had lied and we were simply the next set of pawns in a long list of ill-conceived visionary notions to siphon yet more money from the crown by a collection of thieves and charlatans which controlled the administration of Emirati Education, K through college. Vaughan

astutely got out while the getting was good while the rest of us learned another one of life's lessons. Later, we reconnected and kept in touch. Home, Away and Elsewhere, a semi-finalist of Inaugural Proverse Prize is a surprising lucid organic account that can be seen as a timeline or framework of a human experience in contemporary times. When reading the book, it struck me as familiar as my personal thoughts and experiences. It made me see, Vaughan and I, despite being different nationalities and generations, tended to think about our own mortality as a progress of human thought and spirit in an atrophic macrocosm--a trend mill we call the human condition. It is my belief this book of verse is as important to the body of contemporary English poetry as T.S. Eliot's The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock. Vaughan, the angry bard that he is, may be even clueless to his own accomplishment with this work. Like T.S. Eliot's masterpiece, Home, Away and Elsewhere chronicles the author's journey (as the title suggest) into three realms of the psyche and intellect to arrive at a destination that makes sense of his life and experience.

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