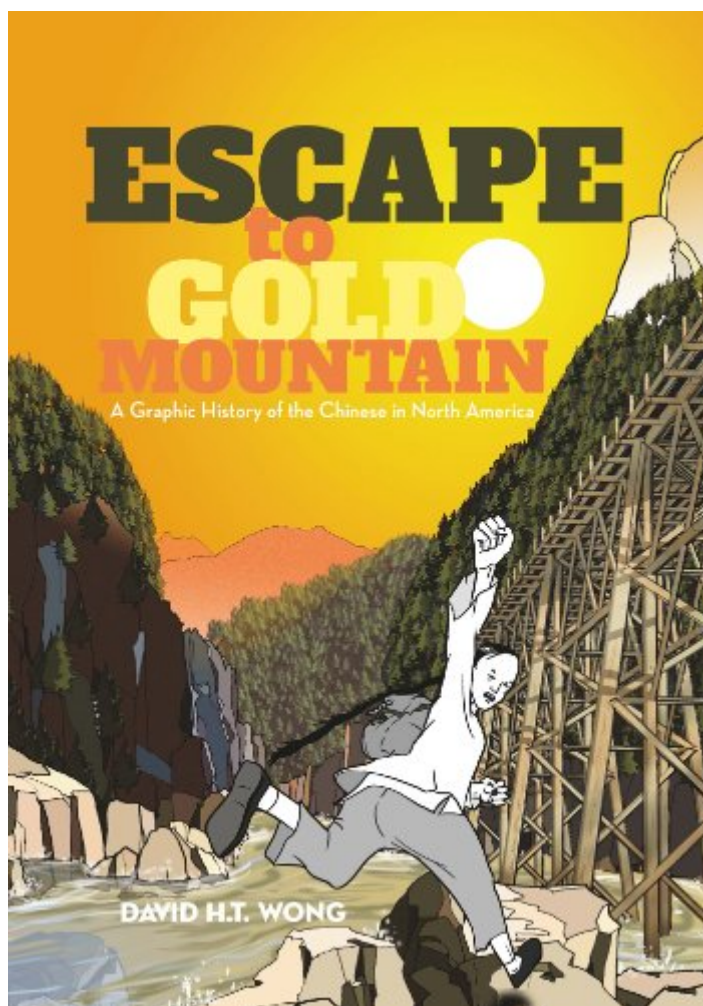


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Escape To Gold Mountain: A Graphic History Of The Chinese In North America



Synopsis

This is a vivid graphic history of the Chinese experience in North America over the last 150 years, beginning with the immigration of Chinese to "Gold Mountain" (the Chinese colloquialism for North America) in the 1800s that resulted in decades of discrimination, subjugation, and separation from loved ones. Based on historical documents and interviews with elders, the book is also the epic story of the Wong family as they traverse these challenges with hope and determination, creating an immigrant's legacy in their new home of North America. David H.T. Wong is an architect and historian.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

David Wong does an excellent job in presenting a complex and controversial history of Chinese immigration in both the US and Canada. A rollicking good story. All immigrants face adversity -- both economic hardship and racial prejudice, but the history of Chinese in North America is particularly vivid. Wong's decision to present their story as a graphic novel is effective. His history illustrates

how a once-despised group overcame exceptional challenges to achieve success in their new home land. He manages to avoid platitudes pity and anger in showing the role of racism affected the Chinese. I thought I knew this history but I learned many fascinating details I hadn't realized by reading Wong's book.

This fascinating and graphic account of the experiences of Chinese immigrants to the United States and Canada is a must-read to understand the history of our area and the discrimination and problems faced by the Chinese who settled here. Their perseverance and fortitude is awe-inspiring. This is an important book in the history of immigration to the United States and Canada.

This turned out to be very interesting although I didn't realize that it was a graphic novel or that it was largely about Canada. Nevertheless, it was an interesting read and being a graphic novel, I was able to interest my eleven-year old grandson in this. His part Chinese background led him to be interested in this story.

Everything was perfect and also and I like how neat was the packaging.

Sad in many ways but very interesting

This book contains some strong language for a school setting. I wanted to use it to help educate the students about the Chinese experience, but it was too sassy and sarcastic. The history is accurate, but it is hard to cover up the anger that this author has. There have been mistakes in our history to say the least. The best thing is to tell the story, but use language that is workable with middle school students. I won't use it with students.

Escape to Gold Mountain : A Graphic History of the Chinese in North America by David H.T. Wong is a graphic novel telling the story of the Chinese immigration to the United States and Canada. Mr. Wong is an Asian Canadian activist and an architect in Vancouver. The graphic novel is laden with dishonor and misery as is the history of Chinese immigration to North America. The Chinese encountered lynchings, subjugation racial, cultural and legal discrimination from both countries. I do remember learning in school (but mainly on my own) about Chinese railroad workers in the United States. I did

not realize how badly they were treated after they finished work and that the same thing happened in Canada. The graphic novel shows very clearly how badly these workers were mistreated as well as their ancestors who stuck around either unable or unwilling to go back to China. This graphic novel is an excellent introduction to the complex issue of Chinese immigration and is told from the Chinese point of view. The graphic novel covers the individual head tax (up to \$500, a price of a house) to enter America as well as the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act that basically eliminated Chinese immigration as well as other legislation, lynchings and atrocities. The story follows the Wong family through the generations and how strong family bonds helped survive economic hardships, discrimination and rough times all around. The author used his personal resources, interviews as well as family stories to tell his tale. The artwork is simple but effective enough to convey the information presented and move the story along. This is an introduction to the complex issue of immigration in general and Chinese immigration in particular. While I don't feel I know the issue I certainly have much more knowledge about it than when I started and am encouraged to do some more research on the subject

Chinese realism -- A must read for all Chinese. This epic graphic comic book describes just how difficult it was for the Chinese men in the beginning during the Gold Rush days- A real eye opener as to what they were faced with when dealing with racism, hate, killings, cheating, and murder as they struggled just to assimilate in North America. Escape to Gold Mountain is a book I highly recommend. This is an excellent way to introduce young readers to what it once was like. David Wong did a terrific job with his comic book version and this makes reading so much more interesting.

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