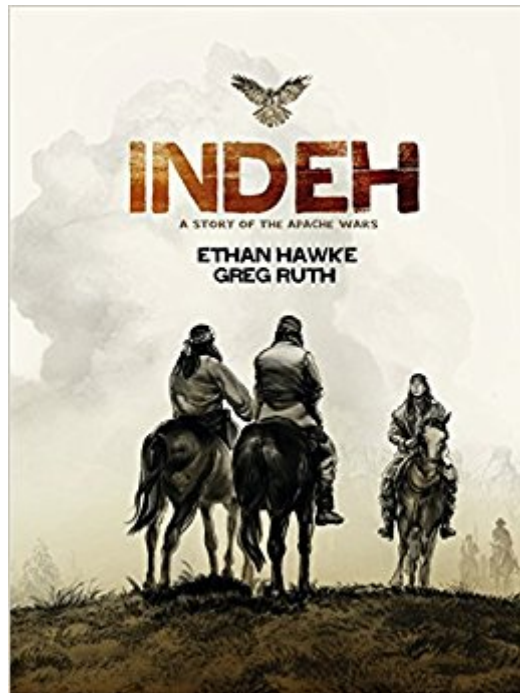




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Indeh: A Story Of The Apache Wars



Synopsis

INSTANT #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER The year is 1872. The place, the Apache nations, a region torn apart by decades of war. The people, like Goyahkla, lose his family and everything he loves. After having a vision, the young Goyahkla approaches the Apache leader Cochise, and the entire Apache nation, to lead an attack against the Mexican village of Azripe. It is this wild display of courage that transforms the young brave Goyahkla into the Native American hero Geronimo. But the war wages on. As they battle their enemies, lose loved ones, and desperately cling on to their land and culture, they would utter, "Indeh," or "the dead." When it looks like lasting peace has been reached, it seems like the war is over. Or is it? INDEH captures the deeply rich narrative of two nations at war-as told through the eyes of Naiches and Geronimo-who then try to find peace and forgiveness. INDEH not only paints a picture of some of the most magnificent characters in the history of our country, but it also reveals the spiritual and emotional cost of the Apache Wars. Based on exhaustive research, INDEH offers a remarkable glimpse into the raw themes of cultural differences, the horrors of war, the search for peace, and, ultimately, retribution. The Apache left an indelible mark on our perceptions about the American West, and INDEH shows us why.

Book Information

Hardcover: 240 pages

Publisher: Grand Central Publishing; First Edition edition (June 7, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1401310990

ISBN-13: 978-1401310998

Product Dimensions: 8 x 1 x 10.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 stars 92 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #184,478 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #144 in Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Graphic Novels > Historical & Biographical Fiction #728 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > Historical > Biographical #1767 in Books > Arts & Photography > Graphic Design

Customer Reviews

Beautiful brushstrokes by Ruth (The Lost Boy) bring the conflict between the Apache and the United States in 1872 to life in a collaboration with actor Hawke that strives to escape Hollywood's western mythos. Most U.S. troops are shown to be horrible people, as when they hang Apache

leader Cochise's family, but Gen. Oliver O. Howard rides in at the end, saving everyone (for the time being) using his Christian faith. Young Geronimo's merciless killings combined with the white savior theme feel like a flawed attempt at balance. Ruth's art, however, is a complete success, using a wash technique to indicate distance and loose line to give flow and movement. Characters of every race are distinctive and the natural backgrounds are breathtaking. Imperfections aside, this respectful approach to America's shameful history is a good start to further a conversation often neglected. (Jun.)

After burying his massacred family, Goyahkla leads an attack on a Mexican village, where he gets a new name "Geronimo. What follows are years of brutal attacks and counterattacks as the Apache fight for their way of life and the U.S. government tries to subdue them. Hawke focuses mostly on the Apache side of the story, telling it through their eyes to balance the years of historical inaccuracies and Hollywood romanticism. However, he pulls no punches in portraying the violence from both sides and highlights the divided opinions as all involved try to figure out next steps. Ruth's haunting and poignant black-and-white watercolors capture the desolate grandeur of the Southwestern landscape as well as the violence, death, grief, and loss of war. This gut punch of a novel is a necessary addition and serves as a good introduction to the realities of Manifest Destiny and the resulting American westward expansion. Some elements may be confusing to those unfamiliar with the history of the Apache Wars, but a bibliography is included for citations and further reading. VERDICT Beautiful and brutal, this is a heartbreaking look at how the West was really "won." —Jennifer Rothschild, Arlington Public Library, Arlington, VA

Indeh is a fictionalized, graphic novel account of the Apache-American battles of the 1870s. Although told primarily from the Apache perspective, time and presence are also given to the non native Americans: from explorers to settlers to US government troops, The Apache faced what would be later recognized as an unstoppable onslaught. But notable is that neither the whites nor the Apache are vilified here - both were pushed and pushed back and performed terrible acts as a result. The introduction by author Hawke notes that this was a labor of love he wished to one day turn into a movie. That falling through, the concept was fleshed out through the work of illustrator Greg Ruth. His clean black and white work complements the story perfectly and focuses on reality rather than idealization. There are no pretty characters here, just a lot of misunderstandings, betrayals, and bloodshed. The purpose of the book was to dispel so many of the myths about that time and place - ironically, eschewing Hollywood sentimentality and over-generalizations. For the

most part, it succeeds in that we have a balanced view of terrible acts committed by both sides. E.g., an Apache will just as quickly shoot an unarmed friend for trying to talk sense about a situation - as an American soldier will lie and betray in order to put down the 'Apache menace'. Where it fails is that we still have underpinnings of 'Indian mysticism' - e.g., Apache talking to animals and knowing their time of death. For me, I respected that this wasn't preachy and set out the story in a straightforward fashion that clearly was based on historical evidence and facts. The story did not drag and there were great moments of pathos throughout. The artwork was beautiful and something to be enjoyed rather than glossed over. Great for both its historical perspective as well as a good story, If I rate this 4 rather than 5 stars, it is because I felt the great stories lacked cohesion a bit and were too scattershot. I highly recommend Indeh. Reviewed from an advance reader copy provided by the publisher.

I read part of *Indeh: A Story of the Apache Wars* the night I downloaded it, the rest of it the next afternoon sitting on the creek bank. The graphic novel not being my genre (Calvin & Hobbes is the nearest I've come to this sort of thing), I'd decided to give it a try anyway and see how it went. I was first taken in by the artwork, which is really beautiful and impressive. At the very beginning, the Apache husband and father is drawn moving among his slaughtered family, his former life with them set beside his new, wretched life without them. When I saw that, I felt something more than just ordinary sadness. It was more like desolation. And that's how the rest of the book goes: violence, misery, gore, callousness, greed. History, in other words. But the book's purpose seemed to be only to tell the tale, and no advantage was taken of the tremendous opportunity to favor one side over the other. That was pleasing, and I am in fact thinking about integrating *Indeh* to some extent with the Little House books I'm reading to the kids right now. It would give them a much more balanced view of things than I got reading them as a girl. A beautiful book created by talented men.

It is good to finally read something different about the apache people. A bit of their own revenge is included. Still it is historical fiction. You will not learn much except the violence of those years. That is not the story of the apache anymore than a Hollywood movie is. The apache are still there. Some went to Oklahoma for a while. Some were sold as slaves. Some died out completely. But many still remain near White mountain and other places. Maybe someday their story will be told too.

I originally purchased this for my son thinking it would be a great historical novel to get his attention

as he loves comics. Definitely not for kids. It is an adult book. I am still reading but wanted to put a note out there for anyone considering it for youths. I would say high school or above for sure. I'm fascinated by the story and it sounds like it is an accurate portrayal. I just wish it could have been made so younger audiences could read it. It's beautifully illustrated and draws you in the story. I just can't let my child (he's 12) read it. I try to limit his exposure to violence as there is so much of it out there.

The art is very beautiful and the intention of the book as well. However, I am a bit disappointed in the writing and composition of the story-telling. It is distant in a very special way that it is difficult to put together a story, it is like a collection of dramatic and beautiful scenery but I think the book would have been more powerful with a clearer and more traditional story telling. It is like the story is taken as granted and I feel it is a bit unjust to the characters and to the main idea of catching the story of a people through some main characters.

I thought there would be more of a story-line- the illustrations are good since it is a graphic "novel" but I found it just so-so.

Amazing drawings. Great story. loved it.

Indeh is on my coffee table. The illustrations are extraordinary. I am so happy I bought it.

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