



This Is My Country, What's Yours?: A Literary Atlas of Canada

Noah Richler

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Winner of the 2007 B.C. Award for Canadian Non-fiction
A *Globe and Mail* Best 100 Book (2006)
***National Post* Best Books (2006)**

A bold cultural portrait of contemporary Canada through the work of its most celebrated novelists, short story writers, and storytellers.

Stories are the surest way to know a place, and at a time when the fabric of the country seems daily more uncertain, Noah Richler looks to our authors for evidence of the true nature of Canada. He argues why fiction matters and seeks to discover — in the extra-ordinary diversity of communities these writers represent — what stories, if any, bind us as a nation.

Over two years, Richler has criss-crossed the country and interviewed close to one hundred authors — a who's who of Canadian literature, including Wayne Johnston, Michael Crummey, Alistair MacLeod, Gil Courtemanche, Jane Urquhart, Joseph Boyden, Miriam Toews, Yann Martel, Fred Stenson, Douglas Coupland, and Rohinton Mistry — about the places and ideas that are most meaningful to their work. The result is a journey through the reality of Canada and its imagination at a critical point in the country's evolution. Within thematic chapters he exposes our "Myths of Disappointment" and considers the stories of our native peoples, the rise of the city, and how our history as a colony shapes our society and politics even today.

This Is My Country, What's Yours? is an impassioned literary travelogue and a vivid portrayal of our society, the work of Canadian authors, and the idea of writing itself.

This Is My Country, What's Yours? is based on Noah Richler's ten-part documentary of the same name originally broadcast on CBC Radio's flagship *Ideas* program in spring 2005.

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