

The Tattooed Soldier

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antonio bernal is a guatemalan refugee in los angeles haunted by memories of his wife and child who were murdered at the hands of a man marked with yellow ink in a park near antonio's apartment guillermo longoria extends his arm and reveals a sinister tattoo yellow pelt black spots red mouth it is the sign of the death squad the jaguar battalion of the guatemalan army this chance encounter between antonio and his family's killer ignites a psychological showdown between these two men each will discover that the war in central america has migrated with them as they are engulfed by the quemazones the great burning of the los angeles riots a tragic tale of loss and destiny in the underbelly of an american city the tattooed soldier is pulitzer prize winning reporter héctor tobar's mesmerizing exploration of violence and the marks it leaves upon us

in postcolonial grief jinah kim explores the relationship of mourning to transpacific subjectivities aesthetics and decolonial politics since world war ii kim argues that asian diasporic subjectivity exists in relation to afterlives because the deaths of those killed by u s imperialism and militarism in the pacific remain unresolved and unaddressed kim shows how primarily u s based korean and japanese diasporic writers artists and filmmakers negotiate the necropolitics of asia and how their creative refusal to heal from imperial violence may generate transformative antiracist and decolonial politics she contests prevalent interpretations of melancholia by engaging with frantz fanon's and hisaye yamamoto's decolonial writings uncovering the noir genre's relationship to the u s war in korea discussing the emergence of silenced colonial histories during the 1992 los angeles riots and analyzing the 1996 hostage takeover of the japanese ambassador's home in peru kim highlights how the aesthetic and creative work of the japanese and korean diasporas offers new insights into twenty first century concerns surrounding the state's erasure of military violence and colonialism and the difficult work of remembering histories of war across the transpacific

in a shabby apartment in downtown los angeles antonio bernal waits to be evicted it is the final defeat in a series of blows that drove him from guatemala after a death squad murdered his wife and child a boy of two not far from antonio's apartment guillermo longoria is playing chess utterly absorbed in the game he stretches for the queen revealing the tattoo on his arm which bears witness to his past as a member of

the jaguar battalion of the guatemalan army the tattooed soldier tells the riveting story of two haunted men and the fatal intersecting of their lives

the history of japanese body suit tattooing is a fascinating one that encompasses much more than just the application of inks to skin an understanding of the subject requires knowledge of the social and political forces at work from prehistoric times to the present day this book traces the development of those forces their role in the growth of the military government and its efforts to control a people often less than willing to be controlled with reference to the edo period 1600 1867 urbanisation and the growth of edo modern tokyo the background to tattooing is carefully explained the yakuza japanese mafia their forebears and their attitudes to life crime and tattooing are explored in great depth the technical aspects of tattooing are similarly detailed and horikazu a modern practitioner of this traditional craft is profiled the authors visited japan at the invitation of one of tokyo s yakuza gangs where they also interviewed other tattoo artists and conducted research and they have produced a book that will doubtless serve its field as an outstanding reference resource for a generation tattooing is again fashionable the authors hope this book contributes to calls for some tattoo practices to be elevated to the realm of art of which the japanese body suit must be the supreme example the authors visited japan to complete their research by interviewing the bosses of two asakusa gangs the tattooist horikazu as well as other tattoo artists and tattoo specialists they accessed documents hitherto unpublished in a european language and returned with much exclusive illustrative material book jacket

an amazing collection of images and information on the tattooing customs of all cultures that ever practised tattooing

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