



# Adjacentland



## ADJACENTLAND

Rabindranath Maharaj  
 Published by Wolsak and Wynn /  
 Buckrider Books  
 Pub date: May 22, 2018  
 \$22.00 CDN/US  
 Paperback 5.5" x 8.5" / 322 pp.  
 ISBN: 978-1-928088-56-1

### RABINDRANATH MAHARAJ

is the award-winning author of three short story collections and five novels, including *The Amazing Absorbing Boy*, which won the 2010 Trillium Book Award and the 2011 Toronto Book Award. In 2012, he received a Lifetime Literary Award, administered by the National Library and Information System Authority as part of the commemoration of Trinidad's fiftieth independence anniversary. In 2013, he was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, which honours significant contributions and achievements by Canadians.

In this disquieting new work from award-winning novelist Rabindranath Maharaj, a man awakens in a strange institution called the Compound with no memory of his past. Struggling to make sense of his surroundings, he is skeptical of the administrators who try to convince him he is mad and dangerous, and suspects he has been the subject of recurring experiments, which have caused episodes of amnesia. In dreamlike prose Maharaj weaves a story of fragments, where our narrator comes to believe that he was once a comic book writer who warned that the reliance on artificial intelligence would make the imagination obsolete and subversive. As the narrator searches for clues he may have left for himself before his memory loss, both he and the reader learn of Adjacentland, a primitive land of misfits and outsiders. It is only in Adjacentland that the imagination has survived. With a motley group of inmates from the Compound, the narrator decides to make his way there, but during the journey he discovers a terrible secret about himself and his companions.

### Points of Interest

- **Award-winning author returns:** Winner of the Trillium Book Award for Fiction and the Toronto Book Award; finalist for the Writers' Trust Fiction Prize, the Commonwealth Writers' Prize and the Foreword INDIES Award for Literary Fiction; longlisted for the OCM Bocas Prize for Caribbean Literature; and recipient of the NALIS Lifetime Literary Award and the Sanatan Dharma Maha Sabha Indian Arrival Day Award.
- **Rich, layered, Caribbean storytelling:** In a style reminiscent of Jorge Luis Borges, Maharaj effortlessly weaves metafiction with action and archetypes with intimacy. *Adjacentland* is a universal story that leaves readers questioning reality.
- **Discussion of tyranny and creativity:** In this dark dystopia, Maharaj takes the reader to a world where creativity has become suspect. As we follow the narrator through layers of story the very purpose of creativity in society is questioned and the reader is asked to consider what would happen without it.
- **Unreliable reality or unreliable narrator?** What happens when you begin to question everything that surrounds you? What if everyone is telling you that you're mad? What does it mean for a society to lose its imagination? These are the sorts of questions Rabindranath Maharaj tackles in *Adjacentland*.



# The Death Scene Artist



## THE DEATH SCENE ARTIST

Andrew Wilmot

Published by Wolsak and Wynn /  
Buckrider Books

Pub date: October 16, 2018

\$20.00 CDN/US

Paperback 5.5" x 8.5" / 258 pp.

ISBN: 978-1-928088-71-4

**ANDREW WILMOT** is a writer, editor and artist living in Toronto, ON. In his day job he works as a freelance book reviewer, academic editor and substantive and copy editor with several independent presses and publications, including the online magazine *Anathema: Spec from the Margins*, for which he is Co-Editor-in-Chief. By night he spends his time writing and painting. Much of Andrew's written work focuses on the intersections of art, identity and the body, often with a healthy dose of surrealist horror. *The Death Scene Artist* is his first novel.

M\_\_\_\_\_ is dying of cancer. Only thirty-two, an extra with a meagre list of credits to their name and afraid of being forgotten, M\_\_\_\_\_ starts recounting the strange, fantastic and ultimately tragic path of their love affair with the world's greatest living "redshirt" – a man who has died or appeared dead in nearly eight hundred film and television roles.

In a compelling narrative of blog entries interspersed with film script excerpts, *The Death Scene Artist* immerses readers in a three-act surrealist exploration of the obsessive fault-finding of body dysmorphia and the dangerous desires of a man who has lived several hundred half-minute lives without having ever experienced his own.

### Points of Interest

- **Debut novel from award-nominated author:** Andrew Wilmot's short stories have been longlisted for the Friends of Merrill Short Story Contest for three consecutive years and his work appeared in the anthology collection *Those Who Make Us: Canadian Creature, Myth, and Monster Stories*, which was nominated for the 2016 Shirley Jackson Award for Edited Anthology.
- **A dark story with a light at the end of the tunnel:** *The Death Scene Artist* warns of the dangers of living one's life solely for another person and the trials of learning when to walk away.
- **Unique storytelling in several forms:** Andrew Wilmot skillfully puts form to use in *The Death Scene Artist*, interweaving film scripts, blog posts, letters and obituaries to tell the story of two people struggling to find their identities.
- **Tackles mental health and trauma:** A dark and surreal exploration of body envy, dysmorphia, identity and relationships both toxic and healthy, *The Death Scene Artist* offers a fresh take on a Hollywood love story.