

Serafin Moreno

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Summary

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excellent summaries Serafin

Preface "Storied Land"

In reading the preface of storied land, we start to visualize an image of the message that the author John Walton is attempting to convey to the ^{reader} lector. An image of oppressed historical factual information starts to resonate as we read further into the context of the preface. "History is written by the winner". This is how John Walton chooses to structure his opening sentence along with other information providing an insight of what is to come in the readings ahead. He then proceeds to inform the lector of instances in which history is one-sided and only portrays history from the perspective of the victors or the oppressors. We see this phenomenon repeat itself throughout the course of history time-and-time again. The author uses this brilliant example of how history is oppressed by those telling the story, "*Thomas Jefferson's illegitimate interracial family life..*," this is a perfect example of how history can sometimes be veiled with the purpose of obscuring the "*hidden truth*," if you will.

We see this reoccurrence in just about every historical facet of history since the beginning of documented occurrences. This very same scenario can be attributed to the early history of Monterey peninsula, we often hear the historical accounts of those who came to dominate the area, but seldom do we hear the historical accounts from those who were on the losing end of a conflict. A perfect example of this would be the Ohlone Indians, which the author alludes to in

the preface. He also touches basis on the forgotten accounts of those who called the Monterey Peninsula home, like the Chinese, Mexicans, Sicilians, Japanese, etc... prior to the urbanization of the city.

The preface of *Storied Land* attempts to give us an insight accounting for the last two hundred and thirty years in and around the Monterey area. The attempt is to illustrate a more conceptual image of regional history which allows the lector to gain a more well-rounded insightful perception of the region's history. The author explicitly denotes that he bases much of the information conveyed on extensive archival research and extended hours of fieldwork which gives the information provided a sense of great validity. Having read this preface, one cannot exclude the possibility and must bear in mind that the information provided could have a certain level of bias which is why one must be critical when analyzing the information. ^{With that being} said I was intrigued by the reading.

// good point