



Badlands

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In this moving novel, contemporary characters find and are forcibly changed by the ancient spirit of America and her native inhabitants

To the cosmopolitan New York lawyer Adam and his British lover, the present day lives of the Sioux are dark reminders of the massacre at Wounded Knee. Adam returns regularly to the Badlands, determined to make amends for America's past and "get back to the land" for his friend, the charismatic leader Blackfoot. Soon, politics and ideology give way to a more desperate quest to give and receive love.

When Adam is obliged to return to New York, his lover decides not to accompany him. Instead she plunges into life on the reservation as if rediscovering her true home, The Lakota past becomes her childhood. The Badlands become her gateway into her true self. As she enters Blackfoot's world and takes his willful, adolescent daughter under her wing, she finds herself enmeshed in desire, need, and profound sexual awakening.

More than an extraordinary love story, *Badlands* delves beneath the surface of contemporary America to illuminate the deep-seated dreams of its people — native, newcomer, and immigrant.

Versatile and prolific novelist, painter, poet, journalist, and playwright Melinda Camber Porter is the author of the nonfiction *Through Parisian Eyes*, the plays *Night Angel* and *Boat Child*, and the collection of paintings and poems, *The Art of Love*, which inspired a documentary shown on PBS and a traveling exhibition of Camber Porter's work. She lives in New York City.

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