



No Great Mischief: A Novel

By Alistair MacLeod

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Winner of the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award: "This sturdily textured debut novel never hesitates or meanders."?Library Journal

Alistair MacLeod musters all of the skill and grace that have won him an international following to give us *No Great Mischief*, the story of a fiercely loyal family and the tradition that drives it.

Generations after their forebears went into exile, the MacDonalds still face seemingly unmitigated hardships and cruelties of life. Alexander, orphaned as a child by a horrific tragedy, has nevertheless gained some success in the world. Even his older brother, Calum, a nearly destitute alcoholic living on Toronto's skid row, has been scarred by another tragedy. But, like all his clansman, Alexander is sustained by a family history that seems to run through his veins. And through these lovingly recounted stories-wildly comic or heartbreakingly tragic-we discover the hope against hope upon which every family must sometimes rely.

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Editorial Review

Review

“[MacLeod's] entire oeuvre . . . [is] a new land that [readers'] imaginations can seize like a manifest destiny.”
(Thomas Mallon - The New York Times Book Review)

“Mesmerizing.” (Margaret Flanagan - Booklist)

“You will have scenes from this majestic novel burned into your mind forever.” (Alice Munro)

“His writing, graceful and elegiac, has the resonance of Steinbeck, and the violence is as raw and unchecked. But his pictures?of the men, the land and their fate?are more fragile, like old photographs pulled from a wallet. Endlessly creased, they will fall apart unless you unfold them with great care and patience?which MacLeod does beautifully.” (Los Angeles Times)

About the Author

Alistair MacLeod (1936?2014), raised in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, was an acclaimed Canadian novelist, short story writer, and academic.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Sheila Gallagher:

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