



Name _____

Date _____

The Barren Grounds

by David A. Robertson

Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.



Read Aloud Video

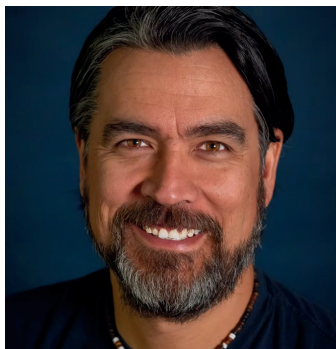
What's It About?

Morgan and Eli, two Indigenous children forced away from their families and communities, are brought together in a foster home in Winnipeg, Manitoba. They each feel disconnected, from their culture and each other, and struggle to fit in at school and at their new home -- until they find a secret place, walled off in an unfinished attic bedroom. A portal opens to another reality, Askí, bringing them onto frozen, barren grounds, where they meet Ochek (Fisher). The only hunter supporting his starving community, Misewa, Ochek welcomes the human children, teaching them traditional ways to survive. But as the need for food becomes desperate, they embark on a dangerous mission. Accompanied by Arik, a sassy Squirrel they catch stealing from the trapline, they try to save Misewa before the icy grip of winter freezes everything -- including them.

Fist book in a series of 6!!!!!!

Who Wrote It?

David A. Robertson is a multi-award winning Canadian author who has published over 25 books across a variety of genres including books for kids and adults as well as several graphic novels. David often chooses to write about the struggles and challenges of Indigenous people in hopes of bringing about awareness and inspiring change. He is also the writer and host of the Kíwew podcast. David is a member of Norway House Cree Nation and lives in Winnipeg.



You can learn more about David and his work at <https://www.darobertson.ca/>

AR Reading Level: 4.6

Lexile Level: 680L

I want to read this book: YES / NO

☆ ☆ WHAT I THINK ☆ ☆



Use this graphic organizer with the First Chapter Friday videos on YouTube from the Word Nerd.