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Mapping Oblivion

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The epic history of the colonization of Namibia: did the 20th century, the century of war, conquest, and genocide begin there?

In 1889, Jakob Ackermann reached South West Africa with twenty German soldiers. Their mission? To lay the groundwork for a new colony. They were builders, the pride of Germany, triumphantly introducing modernity to Africa.

In 2004, a young Namibian man of mixed race attended a ceremony commemorating the Herero genocide, searching for traces of his past. Like his native land, he is wracked by violence and contradiction, heir to a thing that should never have existed.

One man believes he is making history; the other questions that very history. Both voices are oblivious to each other and yet each provide answers to the other's questions.

Adaptations: Paperback