

Katherena Vermette, MFA. (b. 1977)

On November 13, 2013, Katherena Vermette won the Governor General's Literary Award for Poetry for *North End Love Songs* (Winnipeg: Muses' Co., 2012). She is a graduate of the prestigious Master of Fine Arts Creative Writing program at the University of British Columbia. She has been a member of the Aboriginal Writers Collective of Manitoba since 2004, Vermette lives in Winnipeg. She is currently the 2018-2019 Writer in Residence for Athabasca University.

Vermette comes from a well-known Métis family. She is the great-great granddaughter of Pierre and Caroline Vermette of St. Norbert parish. Pierre's oldest brother Joseph Vermette fought and died during the 1885 Resistance at Batoche.

Vermette is a Métis writer of poetry and fiction. Vermette's work has appeared in several literary magazines and compilations, *Home Place 3*, *Prairie Fire Magazine*, and *Heute Sin Wir Hier / We Are Here Today*, a collection of Canadian Aboriginal writers, compiled and translated into German by Hartmut Lutz and students of Greifswald University. Most recently she has been published in, *The Exile Book of Native Fiction and Drama* (2011), *Other Tongues—Mixed Race Women Speak Out* and *Manitowapow: Aboriginal Writings from the Land of Water*.

Her debut novel *The Break* was published in 2016, and was a shortlisted finalist for that year's Roger's Writer's Trust Fiction Prize and Governor General's Award for English-language fiction. In November 2017, it won the *Burt Award for First Nations, Métis and Inuit Literature*.

Vermette has recently published the first two books of her graphic novel series *A Girl Called Echo, Vols. 1 and II* (Winnipeg: HighWater Press, 2017 and 2018).



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