



Nowhere Else on Earth

Josephine Humphreys

Download now

Read Online ➔

Nowhere Else on Earth

Josephine Humphreys

Nowhere Else on Earth Josephine Humphreys

In the summer of 1864, sixteen-year-old Rhoda Strong lives in the Lumbee Indian settlement of Robeson County, North Carolina, which has become a pawn in the bloody struggle between the Union and Confederate armies. The community is besieged by the marauding Union Army as well as the desperate Home Guard who are hell-bent on conscripting the young men into deadly forced labor. Daughter of a Scotsman and his formidable Lumbee wife, Rhoda is fiercely loyal to her family and desperately fears for their safety, but her love for the outlaw hero Henry Berry Lowrie forces her to cast her lot with danger. Her struggle becomes part of the community's in a powerful story of love and survival. **Nowhere Else on Earth** is a moving saga that magnificently captures a little-known piece of American history.

Nowhere Else on Earth Details

Date : Published October 1st 2001 by Penguin Books (first published September 4th 2000)

ISBN : 9780141002064

Author : Josephine Humphreys

Format : Paperback 368 pages

Genre : Historical, Historical Fiction, Fiction, Military History, Civil War

 [Download Nowhere Else on Earth ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Nowhere Else on Earth ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Nowhere Else on Earth Josephine Humphreys

From Reader Review Nowhere Else on Earth for online ebook

Frederick Bingham says

The story of a poor girl in a community in rural Robeson County NC. It takes place at the end of the Civil War and just afterwards. The main character is a teenager. The region is plagued by 'home guards', men whose job it is to catch deserters and young men who are avoiding military service. There were a lot of them in that part of the country because there was a lot of Union sympathizers. There are also raids by union and confederate bands that roam the countryside, which has turned essentially lawless. The other thing the home guards did was to capture runaway slaves, free blacks and Indians, of which there were many in this part of the world, and send them to work camps. Fort Fisher was built by such people. The main character falls in love with a young man who organizes a band of local youths hiding out in the swamps. They conduct raids and turn into outlaws and rebels against the confederate cause. The corrupt local sheriff tries to find them. In a climactic scene, the young man watches in hiding as the sheriff tortures and then kills his father and brother looking for information. When the war ends, the band stays hidden in the bush, and turns to robbing. Altogether this is a fine book. The only problem I had was keeping track of the characters. There were too many for the casual reader to keep track of despite the genealogical trees displayed in the front cover. It is also a little difficult to follow, especially when there is a scene with a lot of action.

Vernelle Edwards says

This is Ms. Humphreys' greatest novel. The intimate dialogue transports one to that faraway time and place. I felt like I could reach out and touch the main character.

Stephanie says

I loved this book. I want to read the history behind it now that I've read the fictionalized version.

Sherry says

Constant Reader discussion:

<http://web.archive.org/web/2007082315...>

Terri says

An exquisitely written story of a North Carolina backwater caught between forces of the American Civil War, told through the eyes of a Lumbee Indian girl. Josephine Humphrey's descriptive writing style is a feast for readers - every page a gift. I'm so grateful to have come across this now-obscure novel.

Diane says

I have a rule that I have to read 100 pages of a book before I decide whether to continue or to pitch it. I decided to throw in the towel - this book just wasn't worth my time. I found that the author did a poor job of character development. After 100 pages, I was still wondering who's who, and in fact I really didn't care.

Tiffany says

I don't think I could have enjoyed this book more. From the very first it drew me in and I felt myself wrapped up by the story. Being a native of South Carolina and of Cherokee indian descent I thoroughly enjoyed reading this fictional account of Indian life in North Carolina during and shortly after the Civil War.

I would 100% recommend this book, especially if you are at all interested in history.

Kate says

Didn't even bother to finish this book. Was so looking forward to reading it but it was slow and hard to follow. Nothing in it held my interest and considering I love history and different cultures I was surprised.

Brittany says

I liked this book. I think it was easier for me to get into it because I am from the area and know about the Lumbee people. It's based on true people and the most notorious well known Lumbee figure, their version of Robin Hood. It's worth reading but it probably helps to be interested in the culture and history behind it.

Bronwyn Rykiert says

Set in the swampy, piney backwoods of North Carolina at the close of the Civil War in 1864, Josephine Humphreys' passionate, beautifully written novel evokes a time of struggle and helplessness in a proud insular community whose members trace their ancestry back to the Indians. Derisively dubbed Scuffletown by its "mack" neighbours (Scottish farmers mostly), known as "the settlement" to its inhabitants, the area subsists on turpentine manufacture, which has come to a halt with the war.

The story is told by Rhoda Strong who recalls those days of upheaval, tragedy and love from the vantage point of her middle years. She was 16, daughter of a stalwart Scuffletown woman and an outsider, a Scot, weaned from drinking by his wife and subject to bouts of depression.

As the story opens, Rhoda's mother, Cee, keeps the family inside their one-room, windowless cabin in the heat of summer to protect them, especially Rhoda's two brothers, from the Home Guard. The Home Guard is made up of "mack" neighbours, determined to spare their own boys by conscripting Scuffletown youth for

forced labour at the Confederate forts and salt works.

It's a lawless time in the backcountry and the sadistic head of the Home Guard rules with impunity. After two boys are killed escaping from the work gangs, Scuffletown's young men take to the woods, under the leadership of Henry Berry Lowrie, a charismatic, focused young man admired by the whole community, secretly loved by Rhoda. Cee is against the match, though she believes Henry "could turn out to be the best we've got. The best we've ever seen." But since when does a girl ever take her mother's advice on a husband?

Eventually Sherman's March brushes Scuffletown, incidentally disrupting the Home Guard's final murdering rampage. The rampage's aftermath makes Henry a permanent outlaw with a price on his head, leaving Rhoda waiting.

It was a different story to what I usually read and at the end of it I wondered if it was a true story or not, it was so compelling.

Vivian Ann says

WOWED! Loved this book.

Cindy says

Suffice to say, this is one of the best reads ever. My words are mere coarse scratchings compared to hers, so no review this time.

Denise Westlake says

"when there's no food and no law, war don't stay where it's meant to stay but spreads wilder and meaner out on the fringes".

VERY hard to read such sadness- but an A+ book!

Shannon says

This is a beautifully written book. Humphreys clearly loves words and it was a pleasure to read her descriptions and her characters. While this is not a fast-moving book, it has a great sense of place and time and transports you there as the reader.

As with many good characters, the narrator, Rhoda and her love, Henry, are flawed. Flawed characters are wonderful because they remind me of how flawed we all are - how we all make good choices and bad ones and pray that our bad ones don't hurt ourselves or others too deeply. While I thought the characters were well-written and thought provoking, I'm not sure I ever knew them very well. While that would often be a strike against a book, I think in this book it is a testament to the writing that we don't know the characters better - they kept their true selves hidden from each other as well.

This book is set in the swamps of North Carolina, a murky, muddy area. Because this book is so well-written, the narrative felt at times a bit murky and muddy. You couldn't always see exactly where the author was going until you were there, just like the trails the characters follow through the NC terrain.

If you're looking for a read that will challenge you and transport you, this is a good choice.

Maria Calipari says

I could not put this book down. To read such a wonderfully recount of what was a living hell for some and a struggle, yet a force of strength and determination for others was mind boggling. A love stronger than many would understand. Not only for a man, but for your roots, your people, your home. Thank you for bringing me to a swamp where people moved with each other.
