

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE

Diagram of a Third Culture Kid

A graduate project submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the degree of Master of Arts in English

By

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Diagram of a Third Culture Kid is a nonfiction collection of retrospective and meditative prose that, in subverting narrative conventions and expectations, provides a glimpse of the complex intersectionalities experienced by Third Culture Individuals, especially those whose point of origin has been defined in history as a conquered land and peoples. In diagramming multiple aspects of identity, as well as the tumultuous journey to self-acceptance, through narrative and meditation, the writing seeks to be simultaneously emotionally charged and removed. Working predominantly with the present tense to convey the concept of memory and time as a space that can continuously be revisited, reshaped, and recontextualized, the work is concerned with exploring the multiple interpretations of meaning that cushion the weight of conversations between people, and between people and places.