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Love Cemetery: Unburying the Secret History of Slaves

By China Galland

HarperOne. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 288 pages. Dimensions: 7.9in. x 5.3in. x 0.8in. By the eve of the Civil War, there were four million slaves in North America, and Harrison County was the largest slave-owning county in Texas. So when China Galland returned to research her family history there, it should not have surprised her to learn of unmarked cemeteries for slaves. My daddy never let anybody plow this end of the field, a local matron told a startled Galland during a visit to her antebellum mansion. The slaves are buried there. Galland's subsequent effort to help restore just one of these cemeteriesLove Cemeteryunearths a quintessential American story of prejudice, land theft, and environmental destruction, uncovering racial wounds that are slow to heal. Galland gathers an interracial group of local religious leaders and laypeople to work on restoring Love Cemetery, securing community access to it, and rededicating it to the memories of those buried there. In her attempt to help reconsecrate Love Cemetery, Galland unearths the ghosts of slavery that still haunt us today. Research into county historical records and interviews with local residents uncover two versions of historyone black, one white. Galland unpacks these tangled narratives to reveal a...



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