

THIS LAND IS MY LAND

A GRAPHIC HISTORY
of BIG DREAMS,
MICRONATIONS,
and Other
SELF-MADE STATES

By **Andy Warner**
and
Sofie Louise Dam


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TITLE:	This Land Is My Land
AUTHOR:	Andy Warner and Sofie Louise Dam
ISBN:	978-1-4521-7018-3
PRICE:	\$19.95
TRIM SIZE:	7½ x 9 inches
PAGES:	160
GENRE:	Nonfiction, Comics & Graphic Novels, History/World
PUBLICATION DATE:	APRIL 2019

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SAN FRANCISCO

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Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data available.

ISBN: 978-1-4521-7018-3

Manufactured in China.



Artwork and design by Sofie Louise Dam.

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Chronicle Books LLC
680 Second Street
San Francisco, California 94107
www.chroniclebooks.com

Andy

For Will & Ollie & the dream of a better world



Sofie

For my parents

INTRODUCTION

Has the unending grind
of everyday life or the
horrifying state of
politics got you down?

Do you long for a better
world, with more beauty,
fairness, or opportunity?



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The hope that tomorrow
will be better than today is
shared universally.

But while this hope unites us, the vision of what that better tomorrow might be is as different as every person in the world.



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Most people settle for the small stuff—voting, donating to charity, or changing their diets.




There are few indeed who truly possess a more radical vision of how the world should be, and the will to try to build their own utopia.



Do you have the guts to be one of them?





These people often spend
their entire lives single-
mindedly working to make
their dreams reality.


Some sacrifice
everything—family
and friends, health,
and sanity.



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The true stories
of these people and
their projects can
serve as an example,
or a warning!





This book is
divided into five
chapters:

I

Intentional Communities

Groups of people who choose to radically remake their social structures.

II

Micronations

Brief histories of the tiny, unrecognized nations of the world.

III

Failed Utopias

The bigger the experiment, the harder it falls.

IV

Visionary Environments

Stories of wonderful and bizarre places where individuals make their visions reality.

V

Strange Dreams

Proposals, plans, and schemes, never brought to pass.



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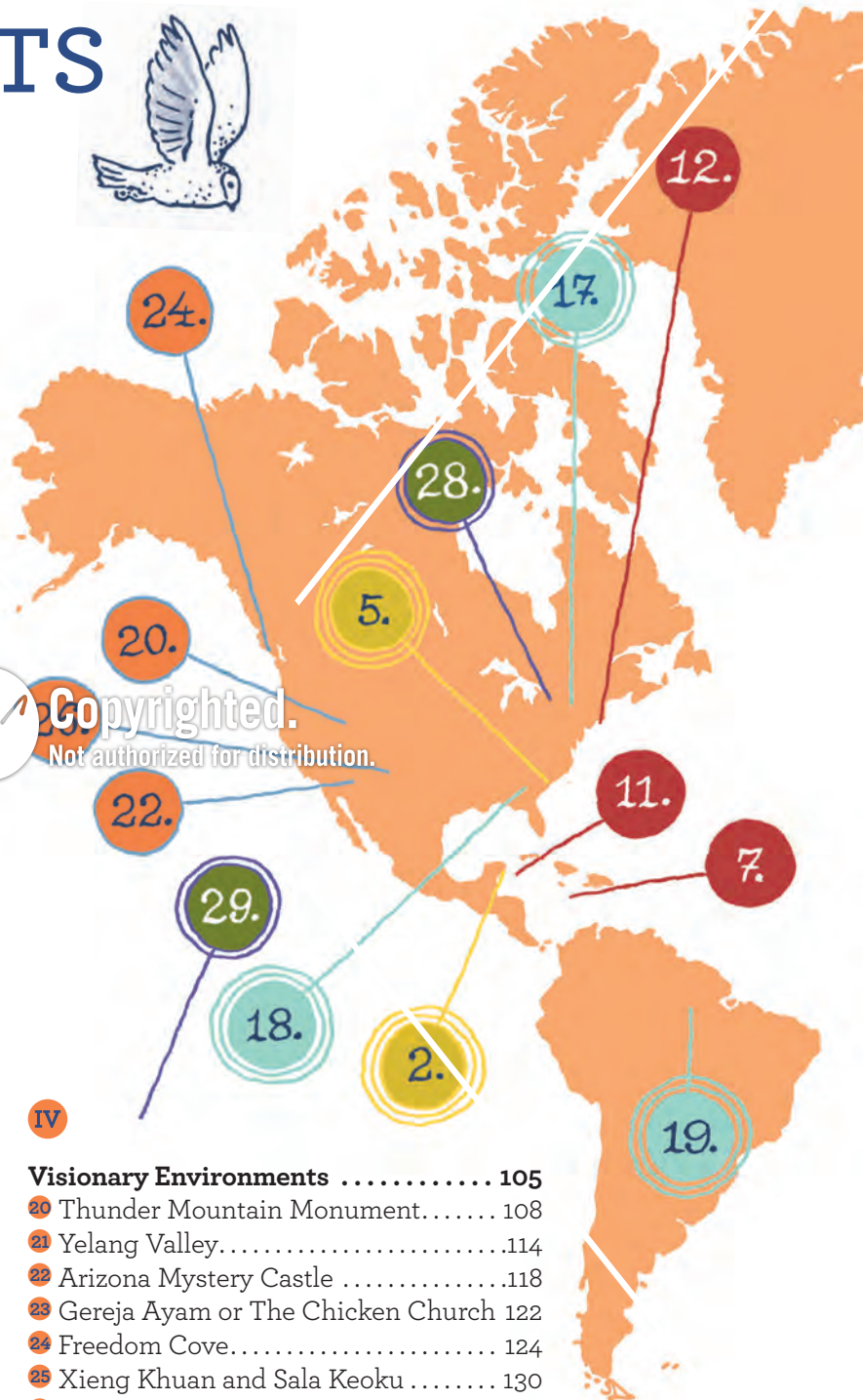
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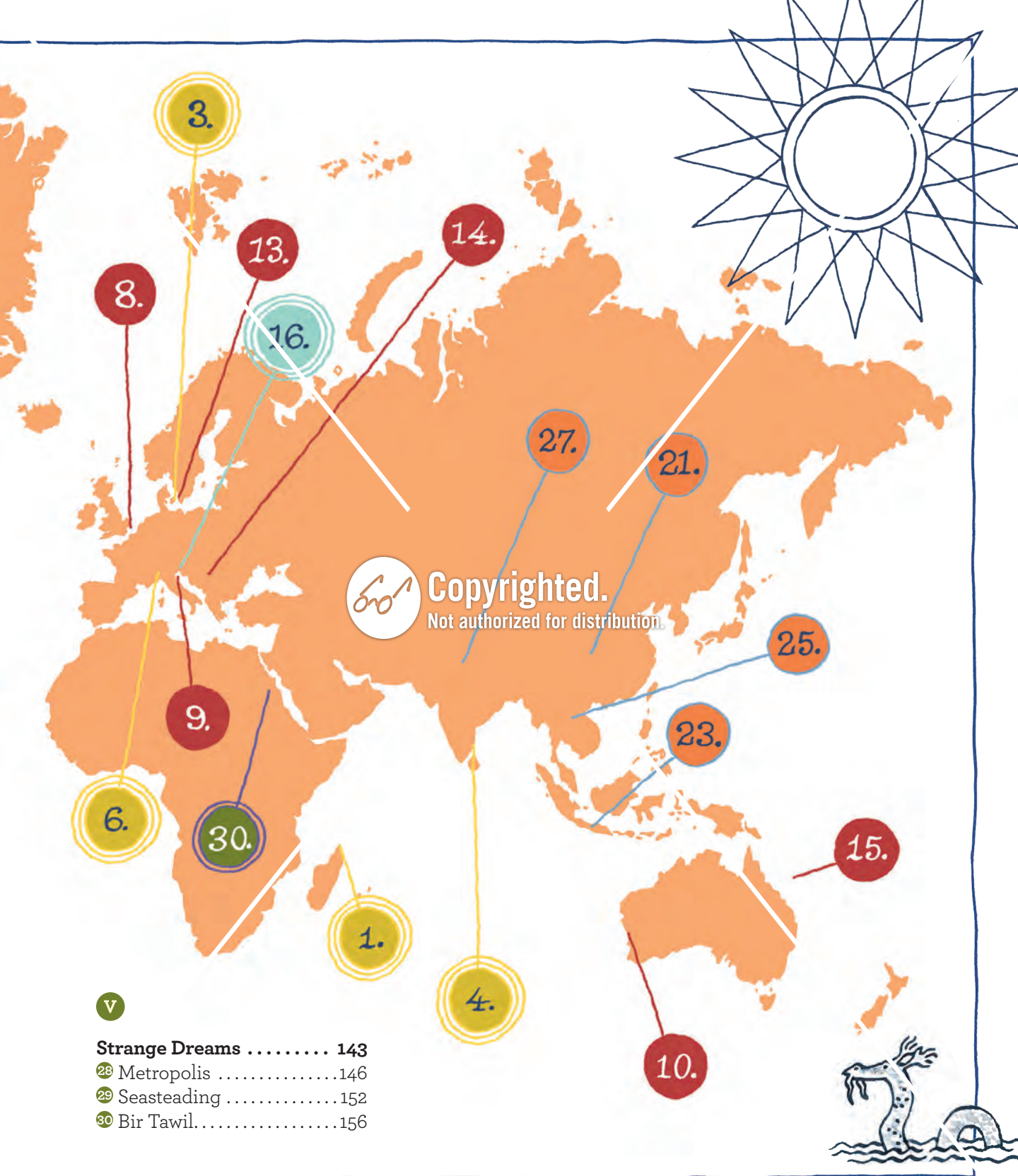
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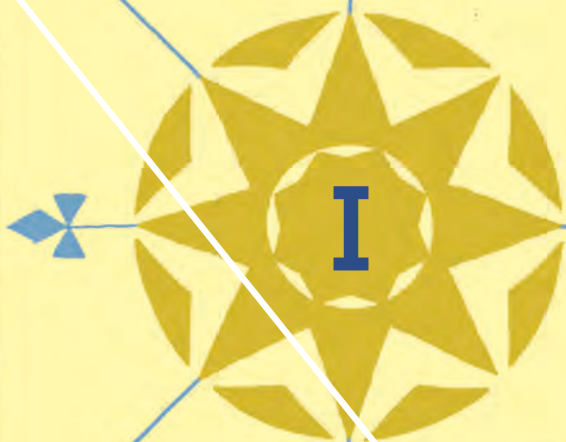
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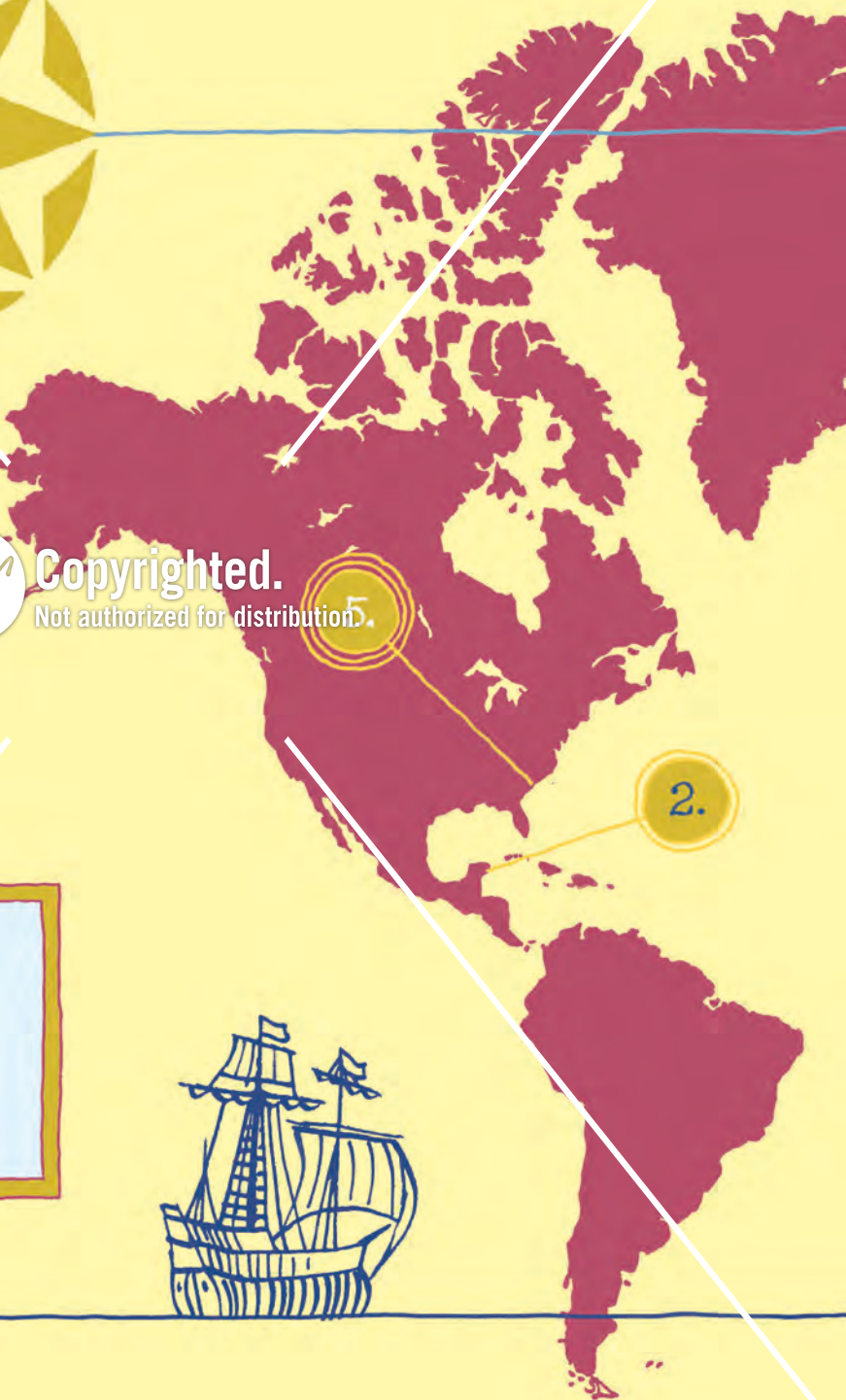
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INTENTIONAL COMMUNITIES



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Community is what binds a person together with those around them.

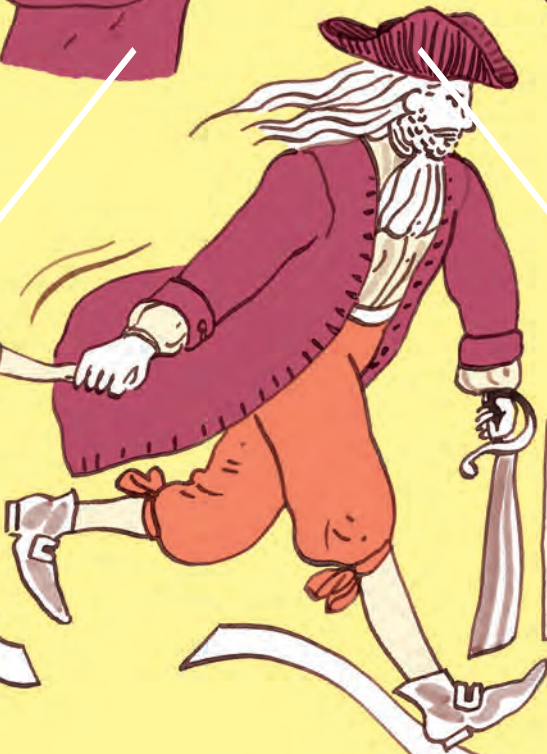
But the way we deal with each other is weighed down by our histories.

Biases of custom, class, gender, and race trap us.



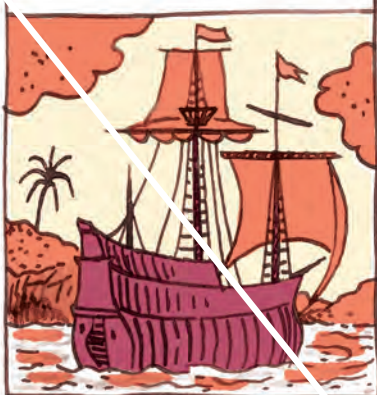
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Why not cast them all off?



Here you can find people who chose not to settle for the community they'd been born into, but struck out from the beaten path and formed their own.

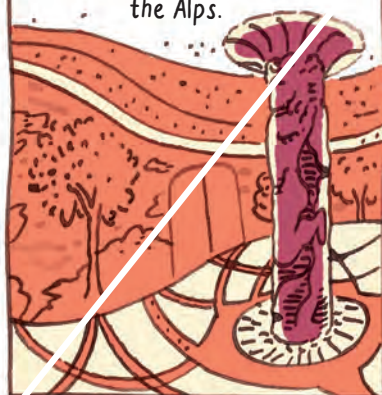
A self-made community may
be a pirate city-state,



vans filled with
vegan lesbians,



or a hidden network of
psychedelic tunnels under
the Alps.

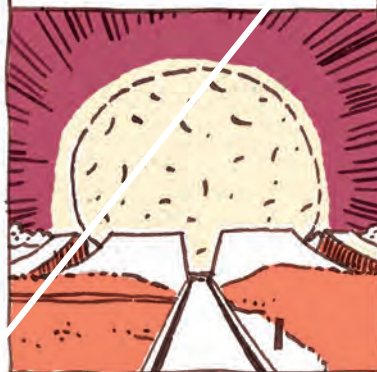


The community makes
its own rules, writes
its own history.



It answers
only to itself.

And whether it's a
golden orb in India,



a monarchical tribal village
in South Carolina,



or a neighborhood in
Copenhagen ...



... the vital thing is the bond.