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Caitlin Trafton

## **Dead Media Scenarios: THEN AND NOW**

### **-PAST-**

In May of 1801-A traveler by the name of Peter Feidler meets Native Americans to the East of the Rocky Mountains. The Chief of the Blackfeet tribe draws a map in the dirt, as a guide for the lost visitor. Compelling in its nature, the map depicted West and East, the Rocky Mountains, the Missouri River and numerous corresponding streams. The Chief drew this from a mental map he stored in his mind, roughly 200,000 acres of terrain. He detailed tribes with their names and populations; rivers as if they were roadways and trailways through forests: all with a stick and dirt.

Peter Feidler made it to Wyoming, and recreated the map of Ac ko mok ki, and the Hudson Bay Company sold it.

### **-PRESENT-**

Kristine and Mark Wathke set out from Yellowstone National Park in October 2013, heading for Mile City, Montana. Their GPS instructed the couple to take Beartooth Highway; which was closed to travelers because of severe snow. The couple buried themselves high in the snowy mountains, facebooked the world, rationed the bottled waters, wrote farewell notes to loved ones; for six days. Meanwhile, Cowboy Troy Barnett, was responding to Kristine and Mark's facebook post, that was scrolling the news broadcast. He readied his snowmobile, and set out on a personal search and rescue; Troy Barnett found the Wathke's, and saved their lives.

### **-FUTURE-**

100 million years from today, the Polar Icecaps have melted; planet Earth is more ocean than land. Twenty percent of the population owns the land and the all of its coastlines. Families that did not sell their homes to the banks, had them taken, all of them migrated to outer-islands and built floating homes, anyone living in the South Pacific lives in communities within the floating

garbage reefs between Japan and California. The rich have constant surveillance, signs, barricades that trim the shores. They have created giant landing zones for personal spaceships, jets and helicopters. They fly everywhere and do not know how to swim.

Just East of the Rocky Mountains, in what used to be Colorado, A young pair of rich adventurers find fun in going down to the docks, during the days they skip school, to watch the poor children that come to work in the food processing plants.

The boy's name is Montana, and the girl is Wyoming; they were named after the territories their great, great, great, Grand-father claimed in the Chinese-American War.

They are home-schooled, but their parents are never home; so they set up holograms of themselves at the base where they receive their instructions. Besides, the parents have droids conduct the classes, and the droid cannot tell the difference between the two of them.

Montana fires up the jet, Wyoming plugs in the GPS coordinates for the East Coast. The jet automatically lifts-off and heads North. They have a digital representation of the world, and weather patterns. The two children view the world as an interactive movie that they can see but never literally touch.

As they were crossing the Great Lakes, and all digital signals are lost. The movie stops, the jet stops, they two are zero gravity, plummeting downward. A solar flare has struck the Earth, and destroyed all radio communication, the children have no way of knowing, they don't do anything, they never had to before, they crash into the Great Lakes and their ship floats to the Gulf of Mexico.

Evaluation: All three stories encompass the use of some sort of map. The underlying theme that ties them together is the idea of what a map is, and how it has changed, and how it may be altered in the future.