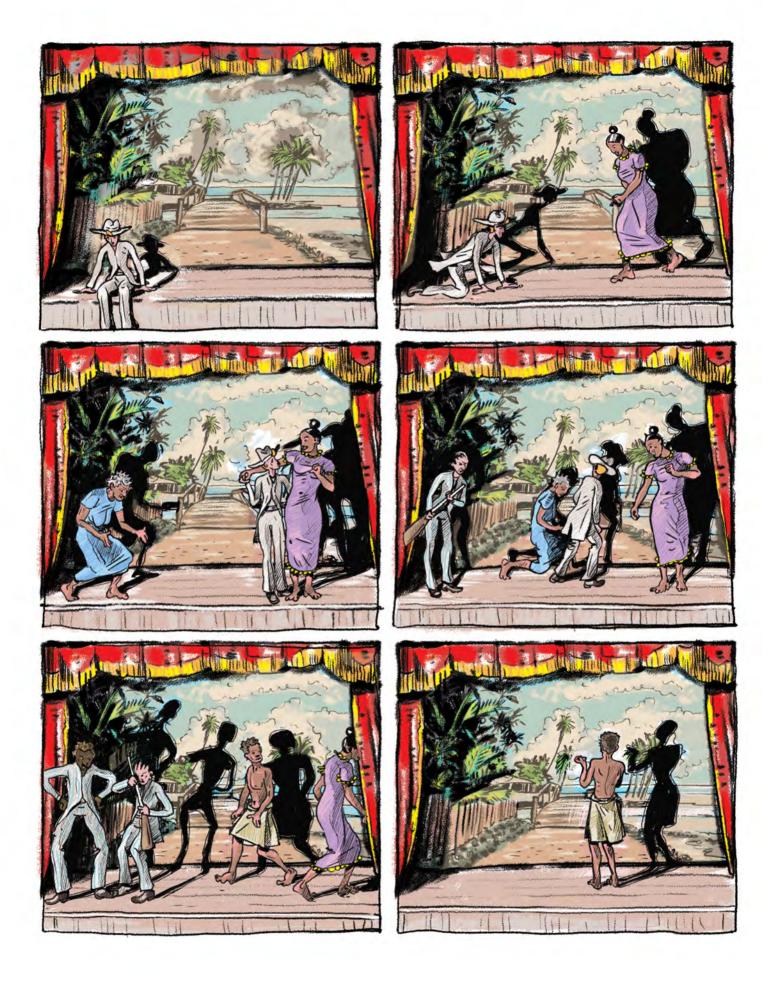
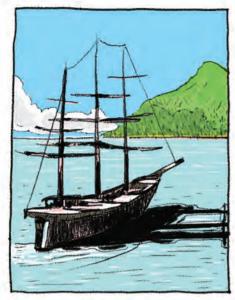


A short graphic novel and poetry inspired by the work of Robert Louis Stevenson with accompanying resources for students and teachers.

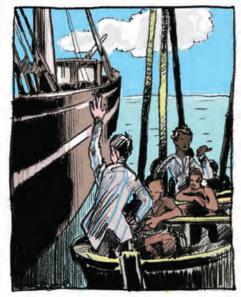




































































































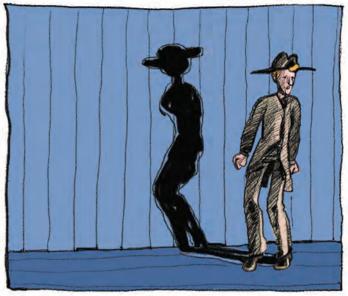






















































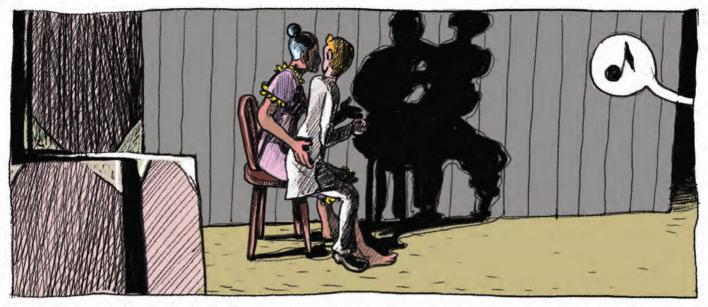


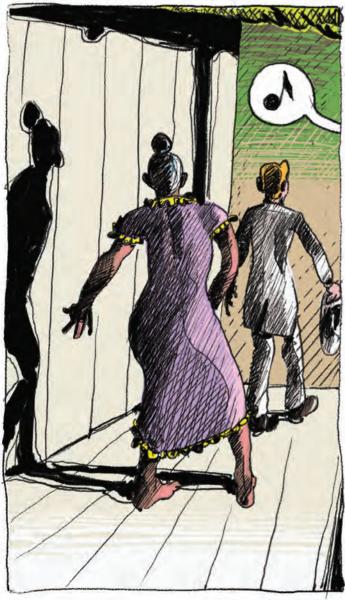




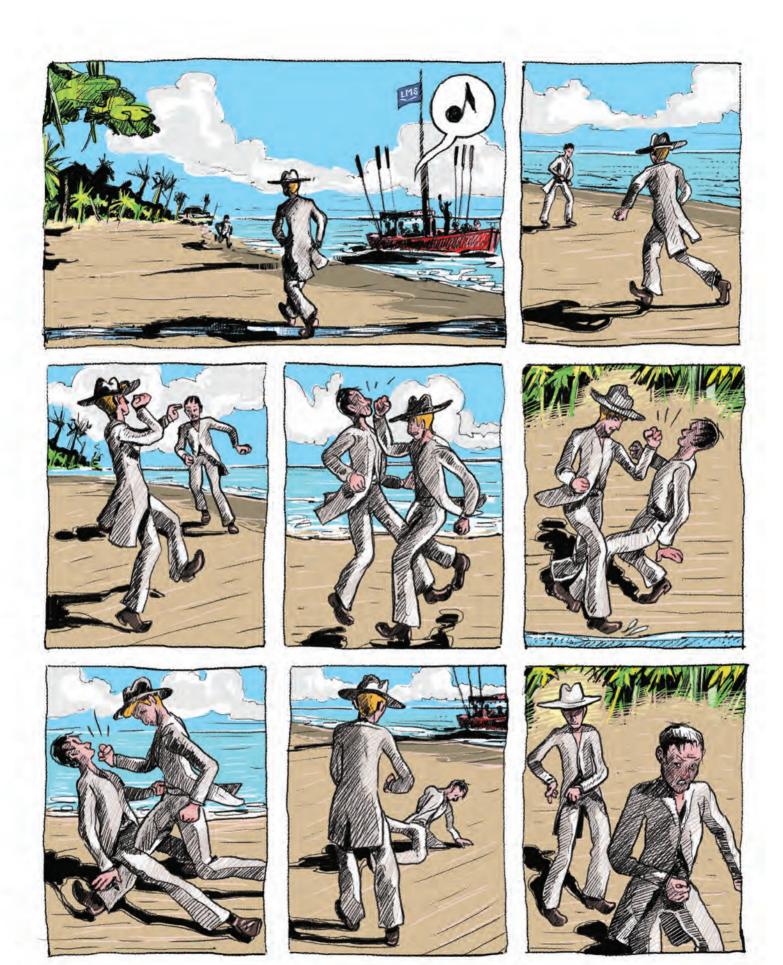




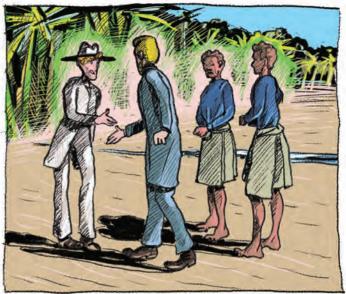










































































































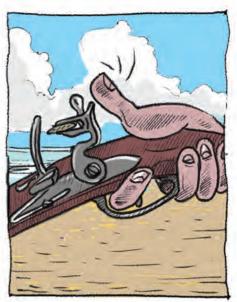


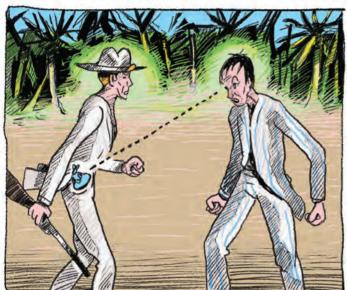






































































































### **Casting Shadows**

Simon Grennan (after Robert Louis Stevenson)



Wiltshire arrived at Falesá to take over one of the stores. He was meant to buy and sell copra (coconut meat), which was worth money. He had never been to the island before. He was from far away, in England, but he'd spent a lot of time buying and selling in the Pacific. Two men knew he was coming and went to meet him. They were called Case and Jack. Case also bought and sold copra.



Immediately after Wiltshire arrived, Case said Wiltshire should find a woman to help him in the store. Case had someone in mind, a young woman called Uma. In fact, Wiltshire, Case and Jack bumped into her mother and some other women the moment they went into the village. Her mother was called Fa'avao . Then Uma turned up. Case said something to her.



Before Wiltshire went to his store, he went to Case's house. Case left Wiltshire there with an old drunk man. Then Fa'avao appeared at Case's house to take a look at Wiltshire. Later that night, Uma, Case and Jack arrived at Case's house. Uma agreed to live with Wiltshire. It was almost like they'd got married.



In the following days, no-one came to Wiltshire's store. Instead, villagers just sat and looked at the store all day. One Sunday, Wiltshire went into the village. He heard singing from a church and looked in. The priest saw him and shouted at him in horror.



Wiltshire asked Uma why people were afraid of him. She told him that when she and Fa'avao had come to the island, a young chief wanted to marry her. People gossiped about them and the chief called it off. Then no-one would talk to her. They had cast her out of the village. The only one who would speak to her was Case. Now she was with Wiltshire, no-one would buy or sell to him.



That night, Wiltshire went to see Case. Case said he'd try and speak to the village chiefs. Next day, Case spoke at the village council, but nothing was decided. Then Wiltshire realised that Case had tricked him into being with Uma, so that no-one would buy or sell to him.



A missionary called Tarleton appeared on the beach by the store. As Wiltshire went to meet him he saw Case coming. They fought and Case ran off. Wiltshire took Tarleton to the store and Wiltshire and Uma were married.



Still no-one came to the store, so Uma and Wiltshire worked with Fa'avao to get their own copra to sell elsewhere. Jack and some villagers were laughing at them. Wiltshire threatened him. Wiltshire and Uma didn't know that one night Case had tried to attack a woman in the village. One of the chiefs started to understand that Case was no good.



One day, Uma and Wiltshire were walking by the forest. She said that she'd seen a demon there in the shape of a pig with Case's face. She said that there were demons in the forest who would do what Case told them to. Just then, Case emerged from the forest. Wiltshire was going to shoot him, but Uma said no.



Wiltshire went into the forest to find out what Case was doing. High up, there were little dolls with a machine that made noises. Wiltshire took one of the dolls. There was also a fake cave with the face of a demon, to frighten people.



Back at the beach, Wiltshire walked past Case on his way to the forest and Case saw that he had one of the dolls. When Wiltshire returned to the store, he saw a village chief agreeing to trade at Wiltshire's store, with Uma and Fa'avao.



Wiltshire decided to blow up the fake cave with gunpowder. One night, he went into the forest. Case followed him. Uma followed Wiltshire to the forest, without him knowing. She told Tarleton what was happening. Tarleton also followed them to the forest with some of his missionary men.

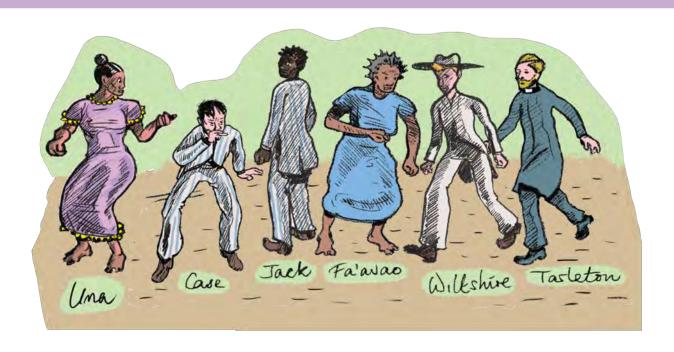


Wiltshire blew up the fake cave. Case appeared and shot Wiltshire and injured him. Uma appeared, fought with Case and killed him. Then Tarleton appeared. They buried Case in the forest and took Wiltshire back to the store on a stretcher.



The store became a success. Wiltshire and Uma had many children and stayed at Falesá for many years.





#### Uma's Sestina Selina Tusitala Marsh

1

Falesá's bosoming beach brings beachcombers and men who trade in desire, sugar, cacao and vows. When fleshly wants have no mask Wiltshire signs his integrity over for Uma, dumb to her taboo.

2

It's Case's business to sell taboo to villagers who, like stranded whales beached, are bloated by lies buzzing around Uma. Wiltshire opens his store for trade to empty air. People fear illuminated masks and Aeolian harps: We keep away! they vow.

3

In their sunlit fale, Wiltshire's false vow burns a hole in his truth, once taboo. Falling for Uma, he lifts his own mask and for a second time, on a beach, is missionary married, setting another trade: Love for lust; Mrs Wiltshire for Uma. Fa'avao, maligned mother of Uma, helps keep her daughter's vow to her husband and their fledgling trade. She warns of spying Black Jack's taboo ways and when seeing him flee from fale to beach, Case's conspiracy is unmasked.

5

Husband and wife plot to remove the mask of Ese, who 'belong tiapolo' says Uma. In darkness Wiltshire crosses Black Beach, surrendering fear to his vow to expose Case's sham taboo and his dishonourable trade.

6

A lit match then dynamite explodes Case's trade in haunting harps and luminous masks, Case's malevolent pantomime of taboo. Brave Uma warns Wiltshire of Case's vow to shoot at all costs above Black Beach.

Case's fabricated taboo, proof of his ill-gotten trade erupts above Black Beach, blasting apart his false masks. And yet, Case bequeaths everything to his own 'Uma', surprising all by the honour of his vow.

#### Uma's Villanelle Selina Tusitala Marsh

I fish all day in waters deep and blue A man has come, not devilish like Case I loved a man and we became taboo

I will not drown in salty tears that brew My back is bent but not my upraised face I fish all day in waters deep and blue

Wiltshire is good, there's marriage papers too 'Aute, 'ie toga: my wedding lace
I loved a man and we became taboo

Pink coral reefs of love in our hearts grew Next to me he took his husbandly place I fish all day in waters deep and blue

Anoint the mats with moso'oi perfume marital bliss removes all my disgrace I loved a man and we became taboo

Through years and babes our love has proven true He worries for them, each pale cacao face I fish all day in waters deep and blue I loved a man and we became taboo.

### Learning Resources Overview

You can find the resources here: https://scotdec.org.uk/resources/remediating-stevenson/



Read • Matching plot summary to panels

· See, think, wonder: context and setting

Respond • To themes: role of women, colonisation, taboo

Remediate • Sesting poem

• Persuasive speech

\* Diamond nine: key messages from the story

\*

Taking it further

Media – analysis of panel content and language

CfE: Experiences and Outcomes

Reading: ENG 4-17aWriting: ENG 4-31a

• Listening and Talking: LIT 4-09a

• Social Studies: SOC 4-05c, SOC 4-06d

Anti-racist Curriculum Principle

See Breaking the Mould, Education Scotland

Principle 2: Our children will understand and enquire into Scotland's role in historical world events, including trans-Atlantic enslavement and olonial histories, and their continuing impact today.

## Artists' Biographies



Dr. Simon Grennan is a graphic novelist, artist and comics scholar. He is Professor of Art and Design at the University of Chester and author of over forty comics, graphic novels, almanacs, histories, introductions, theories and archives.



Selina Tusitala Marsh is of Samoan, Tuvaluan, English, French and Scottish descent and a poet, illustrator, and academic. Her grandfather, Tusitala, was named after Robert Louis Stevenson. Selina currently is the only full Professor of Pacific Islands descent at the University of Auckland where she lectures in Pacific Literature and Creative Writing.



# What you will find in this book

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Casting Shadows summary

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• Uma's Villanelle

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Activities for classrooms

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Artists' biographies



# Casting Shadows

In this book you will find Simon Grennan's visual and verbal adaptation of the short novella 'The Beach of Falesá' by Robert Louis Stevenson, as well as two poems written in response to the story by Pacific Island poet, Selina Tusitala Marsh.

These new creative works were commissioned as part of a project aimed at transforming Stevenson's Pacific writings for a contemporary audience; they draw out themes such as colonialism and exploitation, gender equality, and racism.

Along with a set of accompanying resources, carefully aligned with both the Curriculum for Excellence 'Experiences and Outcomes' and Education Scotland's Principles for an Anti-Racist Curriculum, the book provides a rich visual and verbal resource for teachers and students in Scotlish schools working at 4th Level in English, Media and Social Studies.

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