



# Sanctuary, Sovereignty, Sacrifice: Canadian Sanctuary Incidents, Power, and Law

By Randy Lippert

University of British Columbia Press, Canada, 2006. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 223 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Facing immediate deportation, a lone Guatemalan migrant entered sanctuary in a Montreal church in December 1983. Thus began the practice of sanctuary in Canada. By 2003, thirty-six incidents involving 261 migrants had occurred nationwide. Sanctuary, Sovereignty, Sacrifice closely examines sanctuary practice in Canada. Randy Lippert suggests that, far from being a coherent social movement, sanctuary practice is a localized and isolated phenomenon, and often not primarily religious in orientation. It is also remarkably successful -- in every documented incident, state authorities were kept at bay and providers avoided arrest. In most cases, migrants also ultimately received legal status. Drawing on theories of governmentality, Lippert traces the emergence of this practice to a shift in responsibility for refugees and immigrants from the state to churches and communities. Here sanctuary practices and spaces are shaped by a form of pastoral power that targets needs and operates through sacrifice, and by a sovereign power that is exceptional, territorial, and spectacular. Correspondingly, law plays a complex role in sanctuary, appearing variously as a form of oppression, a game, and a source of majestic authority...



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-- Zachery Mertz

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