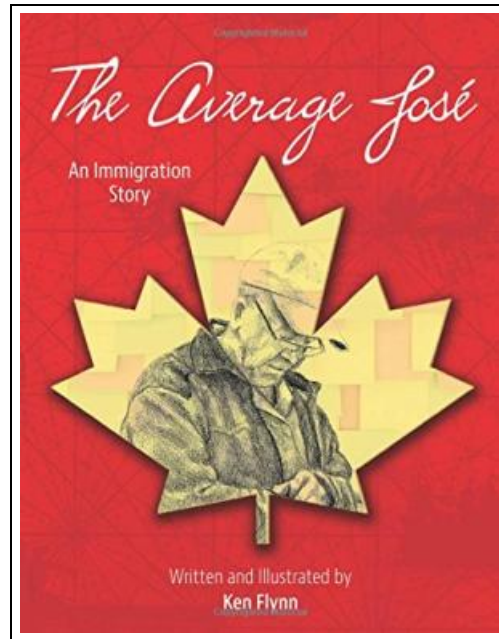


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Friesenpress, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Canada is a nation built by immigrants, and this is the story of one such man. In the 1950s, Jose Pires bid farewell to his wife of five days, leaving the island of Sao Miguel in the Azores and coming to Canada in hopes of building a life for his future family. Working across Canada on the Canadian Pacific Railway and Canadian National Railway, Jose embodied an ideal that is hard to find in today s generation: the idea that your life should not be measured by what you achieve for yourself, but by what you leave to others. An honest, loyal man, Jose waited eighteen months to see his wife again - Maria, the love of his life, mother of his eventual children, and the woman he would, years later, tend to in chronic care. Intelligent and compelling, The Average Jose deftly counterbalances Portuguese themes of saudade (a simultaneous sense of love and loss) and obrigado (thankfulness). It moves effortlessly between the sometimes dreamlike cultural landscape of the Azores in the forties and fifties and the realities of the Canadian immigrant experience.



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