

The King v. Picariello and Lassandro

BY GISELE AMANTEA

***The King v. Picariello and Lassandro* by Gisele Amantea**

The King v. Picariello and Lassandro is a graphic narrative of the real-life story of Filumena "Florence" Lassandro and Emilio Picariello, Italian immigrants who were hanged in 1923 for the murder of an Alberta Provincial Police officer. Composed of drawings based on a variety of sources – archival photographs, family albums, newspaper reports, the capital case files, film stills – the book weaves fact, fiction, cultural stereotypes and popular beliefs to construct a revealing history that probes the complex social circumstances and regional and national politics during the Prohibition era that led to the quick and decisive conviction of these two "foreigners."

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