



★ **The Tree and the River**

Aaron Becker

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On the banks of a winding river sprouts a civilization: one home with a thatched roof at first; then an outpost with armaments; then contraptions flying toward a busy future. A tree flourishes through it all. When the river is rerouted, though, the tree wilts. Waiting humans out, it maintains just enough life to start again. Whole societies are encompassed in the fixed panels of Aaron Becker's latest wondrous wordless picture book, proffering awesome reminders of both the impacts and impermanence of human progress.

MICHELLE ANNE SCHINGLER (March / April 2023)

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