

Maulian (00:01):

You know, I'm very familiar with the scalp proclamation and all of the different bounties that were placed on Indigenous people's heads throughout Maine and Massachusetts and New England on all the Wabanaki people. So I went into it, knowing I was very prepared but I also was thinking it might be a little bit heavier being there in that room where it was decided on, that this bounty would be placed on our heads and then the document was signed in there, reading it with you two, my kids, I thought it would kind of hit me in a very sad way. And when we were actually there doing it, I definitely felt the power of the moment, but I think it also felt like we survived as a people. And I think there was some real power in that.

Carmella (00:51):

Being that there was definitely a kind of not only power, but just overall vibe in the room that just we're still here, we're strong. It was powerful.

Kaden (01:05):

Culture shocked, honestly. Like I didn't even know that that happened. Like I knew that all the bad stuff that's been happening and has happened to our people, but I didn't think we'd find actual evidence.

Layla (01:24):

The scalp proclamation, was a crucial part in everyone's history, because, like especially Indigenous people, because they should know like with their ancestors and just the lines, lines of trauma that have been going through Indigenous people and the hardship that they have been through.

Dawn (01:44):

The paper, all of a sudden felt slimy and I just wanted to get rid of it. But yeah, even just being in that room was making me feel sick. This feeling of revulsion that I get when I'm... Say standing in front of the legislature speaking and there are these white men staring down at me from the portraits on the wall. It's obviously not a friendly place. It's obviously a place where horrific things happened. Horrific things were decided upon. The feeling of empowerment didn't come in that space when I asked for a lighter. It came from later on watching the film and watching that document go up in flames. I think we all felt horror about the subject matter we were talking about. But I also think that we all understood the importance of making sure that everybody saw it. It's sort of like ripping the bandaid off of an old wound and letting it get some air for healing to occur.