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## Denise Tolan Interviews Kat Meads, Author of "In This Season of Rage and Melancholy Such Irrevocable Acts as These" - Southern Literary Review

Denise Tolan : 8-10 minutes : 12/20/2016



Kat Meads

**DT: Four of your six novels, including this newest one, are set in the South. What draws you to the South as setting?**

KM: I was born and raised in eastern North Carolina and still consider it home. Three of my novels, including *Rage and Melancholy*, are set in mythical Mawatuck County, which is a stand-in for Currituck County, my territory. Beyond knowing and loving that actual Southern landscape, over the course of my lifetime I've seen some fairly radical changes in the culture, politics and economics of that region—changes that make for interesting fiction. But also, I suppose, there is an element of witness to my Mawatuck novels. I want those changes and struggles to be remembered.

**DT: The title—*In this Season of Rage and Melancholy Such Irrevocable Acts as These*. I've heard you say that poets love the title while proseists frown their brows when they hear it. When did that title come to you and what made it feel so right for your novel?**