

On the map below you can see the locations of Shelina's Empire story.

What locations appear in your Empire story?

The "Pink Map" of the British Empire c. 1920s

This map was known as the "pink map" and it shows the territories of the British Empire as it would have looked in the 1920s. This is when the Empire was at the height of its power. Clearly in this book it's not pink (sorry, it's a black-and-white book). But remember we talked about children, like you, living a hundred years ago? Well, this is the map that might have hung on their classroom walls.

In this map, north faces up and Greenwich is centred. This makes places further from the equator look bigger. So, Africa should really be 125 times bigger than Britain and twice as large as Canada. Britain wanted to look much bigger than it really was, to appear to be at the centre of the world, and show off its vast, well-connected territories. This is excellent for projecting world domination!



Extract taken from Story of Now by Shelina Janmohamed.

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