

The Heart Of Redness

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a south african man returns to a divided village in pursuit of lust redemption and identity in this humorous mythic and complicated novel san francisco chronicle having left for america during apartheid camugu has now returned to johannesburg disillusioned by the problems of the new democracy he follows his famous lust to qolorha on the remote eastern cape there in the nineteenth century a teenage prophetess named nonqawuse commanded the xhosa people to kill their cattle and burn their crops promising that once they did so the spirits of their ancestors would rise and drive the occupying english into the ocean the failed prophecy split the people in two with

devastating consequences one hundred fifty years later the two groups decedents are at odds over plans to build a vast casino and tourist resort in the village and camugu is soon drawn into their heritage and their future and into a bizarre love triangle as well brilliant a new kind of novel one that combines gabriel garc a m rquez s magic realism and political astuteness with satire social realism and a critical reexamination of the south african past the new york times book review shortlisted for the commonwealth writers prize a new york times notable book

apartheid and beyond offers trenchant historically sensitive readings of writings by coetzee gordimer fugard tlali dike magona and mda focusing on the intimate relationship between place subjectivity and literary form it also explores the way apartheid functioned in its day to day operations as a geographical system of control exerting its power through such spatial mechanisms as residential segregation bantustans passes and prisons throughout the study rita barnard provides historical context by highlighting key events such as colonial occupation the creation of black townships migration forced removals the emergence of informal settlements and the gradual integration of white cities apartheid and beyond is both an innovative account of an important body of politically inflected literature and an imaginative reflection on the socio spatial aspects of the transition from apartheid to democracy

ecoambiguity community and development takes stock of cultural and environmental contexts in many different regions of the world by exploring literature and film artists and scholars working in the social ecology environmental justice and postcolonial arenas have long recognized that as soon as we tug on a thread of ecodegradation we generally find it linked to some form of cultural oppression the reverse is also often true in the spirit of postcolonial ecocriticism the studies collected by scott slovic r swarnalatha and vidya sarveswaran emphasize the impossibility of disentangling environmental and cultural problems while not all the authors explicitly invoke karen thornber s term ecoambiguity or the concepts and terminology of postcolonial ecocriticism their articles frequently bring to light various ironies for example the fact that ukrainian environmental experience in the twenty first century is defined by one of the world s most infamous industrial disasters the chernobyl nuclear accident of 1986 yet ukrainian culture like many throughout the world actually cherishes a profound even animistic attachment to the wonders of nature the repetition of this and other paradoxes in human cultural responses to the more than human world reinforces our sense of the congruities and idiosyncrasies of human culture every human culture regardless of its condition of economic and industrial development has produced its own version of environmental literature and art but the nuances of this work reflect that culture s precise social and geophysical circumstances in various ways these stories of community and development from across the planet converge and diverge as told

and explained by distinguished scholars many of whom come from the cultures represented in these articles

in recent years the work of zakes mda novelist painter composer theater director and filmmaker has attracted worldwide critical attention gail fincham s book examines the five novels mda has written since south africa s transition to democracy ways of dying 1995 the heart of redness 2000 the madonna of excelsior 2002 the whale caller 2005 and cion 2007 dance of life explores how refigured identity is rooted in mda s strongly painterly imagination that creates changed spaces in memory and culture through a combination of magic realism african orature and intertextuality with the western canon mda rejects dualistic thinking of the past and the present the human and the nonhuman the living and the dead the rural and the urban he imbues his fictional characters with the power to orchestrate a reconfigured subjectivity that is simultaneously political social and aesthetic

the concept of fabulation makes a late appearance in deleuze s career and in only limited detail but by tracing its connections to other concepts and situating them within deleuze s general aesthetics ronald bogue develops a theory of fabulation which he proposes as the guiding principle of a deleuzian approach to literary narrative fabulation he argues entails becoming other experimenting on the real legending and inventing a people to come as well as an understanding of time informed by deleuze s chronos aion distinction and his theory of the three passive syntheses of time in close readings of contemporary novels by zakes mda arundhati roy roberto bolano assia djebar and richard flanagan he demonstrates the usefulness of fabulation as a critical tool while exploring the problematic relationship between history and story telling which all five novelists adopt as a central thematic concern this is an original and exciting project by a highly respected specialist in the field

with a focus on the connected spiritual legacy of the black atlantic literary expressions of african spirituality leads the way to more comprehensive trans geographical studies of african spirituality in black art with essays focusing on african spirituality in creative works by several trans atlantic black authors across varying locations in the ameri atlantic diaspora this collection reveals and examines their shared spiritual cosmology diasporic in scope literary expressions of african spirituality offers new readings of black literatures through the prism of spiritual memory that survived the damaging impact of trans atlantic slaving this memory is a significant thread that has often been missed in the reading and teaching of the literatures of the african diaspora essays in this collection explore unique black angles of seeing and ways of knowing that characterize african spiritual presence and influence in trans atlantic black artistic productions essays exploring works ranging from turn of the century african american figure w e b dubois south african novelist zakes mda haitian novelists edwidge danticat and jacques roumain as well as african belief systems such as voodoo

and candomble provide a scope not yet offered in a single published volume this collection explores the deep and often unconscious spiritual and psychosocial connectedness of people of african descent in the african and ameri atlantic world

the present collection aims at throwing light on transculturality and the identities and masks that people put on in writing as much as in life in an age of global levelling and the struggle for a particular place in a postcolonial world topics covered include north african identity in france cultural citizenship and the asian diaspora novels of beur self identity by maghrebi immigrants in france scottish fiction britain and empire memory amnesia and the re invention of the past in south africa the caribbean and elsewhere borders necrophilia and history in southern african fiction encodings of female control spectating in black documentary cinema theatre performance and the western presence in africa masks history transtextuality and other aspects of irish poetry and drama the masking and unmasking of identity in the african american novel violence and titus andronicus in black nova scotian poetry notions of the national and of indigeneity in contemporary canadian drama native canadians space and the city authors and artists treated include william boyd andré brink george elliot clarke david dabydeen ralph ellison bessie head seamus heaney tomson highway isaac julien daniel david moses paul muldoon albert murray jean rhys sir walter scott robert louis stevenson richard wright and w b yeats

remembering the nation dismembering women explores the ways in which the imaginative reconstruction of post apartheid south africa as rainbow nation has been produced from images of women that dismember their bodies and disremember their historical presence from krotoa eva and sarah bartmann to nongqawuse and winnie mandela samuelson tackles the figurations of some of the most controversial and significant women in the making of modern south africa drawing on feminist postcolonial and post structuralist theory and close textual readings of literary and cultural texts produced during the first decade of democracy her analysis offers a provocative critique of the formation of nationalist and feminist collectivities the book explores the constraints of subjection and the performative power of subjectivity as well as the ways in which women have been able to form collectivities on new terms book jacket

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