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## File Type PDF Black Diamond Zakes Mda

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## Black Diamond

[Penguin Random House South Africa](#) **Kristin Uys is a tough Roodepoort magistrate who lives alone with her cat. She is on a one-woman crusade to wipe out prostitution in the town for reasons that have personal significance for her. Although she is unable to convict the Visagie Brothers, Stevo and Shortie, on charges of running a brothel, she manages to nail Stevo for contempt of court and gives him a summary six-month sentence. From Diepkloof Prison, the outraged Stevo orchestrates his revenge against the magistrate, aided and abetted by his rather inept brother Shortie and his erstwhile nanny, Aunt Magda, who believes mass action will force the powers that be to release Stevo. Kristin receives menacing phone calls and her home is invaded and vandalised. Even her cat is threatened. The chief magistrate insists on assigning a bodyguard to protect her. To Kristin's consternation, security guard Don Mateza moves into her home and trails her everywhere. Nor does this suit Don's long-time girlfriend Tumi, former model and successful businesswoman, who is intent on turning Don into a Black Diamond sooner rather than later. And Don soon finds that his new assignment has unexpected complications which Tumi simply does not understand. In Black Diamond, Zakes Mda tackles every conceivable South African stereotype, skilfully (and with the lightest touch) turning them upside down and exposing their ironies, often hilariously. This is a clever, quirky novel that captures the essence of contemporary life in Gauteng and will resonate with all South Africans.**

## Black Diamond

"Kristin Uys, a tough magistrate, goes on a one-woman crusade to wipe out prostitution in her town. Her reasons are personal and her zeal is fierce. Her main targets are the Visagie Brothers, Stevo and Shortie, who run a brothel, and although she fails to take down the entire establishment, she manages to nail Stevo for contempt of court. From Diepkloof Prison, the outraged Stevo orchestrates his revenge against the magistrate, aided and abetted by his rather inept brother Shortie and his erstwhile nanny, Aunt Magda. As Kristin faces menacing phone calls and vandalism, the chief magistrate has no choice but to assign a bodyguard to protect her. To Kristin's consternation, security guard Don Mateza moves into her home and trails her everywhere. This new arrangement doesn't suit Don's longtime girlfriend Tumi, former model and successful businesswoman, who is intent on turning Don into a Black Diamond, a member of the wealthy new black South African middle class. And Don soon finds that his new assignment has unexpected complications which Tumi simply does not understand. In Black Diamond, Zakes Mda tackles every conceivable South African stereotype, skillfully turning them upside down and exposing their ironies, often hilariously. This is a clever, quirky novel in which Mda captures the essence of contemporary life in a fast-changing urban world"--.

## The Sculptors of Mapungubwe

In the timeless kingdom of Mapungubwe, the royal sculptor had two sons, Chata and Rendani. As they grew, so grew their rivalry--and their extraordinary talents. But while Rendani became a master carver of the animals that run in the wild hills and lush valleys of the land, Chata learned to carve fantastic beings from his dreams, creatures never before seen on the Earth. From this natural rivalry between brothers, Zakes Mda crafts an irresistibly rich fable of love and family. What makes the better art, perfect mimicry or inspiration? Who makes the better wife, a princess or a mysterious dancer? Ageless and contemporary, deceptive in its simplicity and mythical in its scope, *The Sculptors of Mapungubwe* encompasses all we know of love, envy, and the artist's primal power to forge art from nature and nature into art. Mda's newest novel will only strengthen his international reputation as one of the most trenchant voices of South Africa.

## Rachel's Blue

What happens when a rapist fights for paternity rights over the rape-conceived child? Weaving together the personal struggles of its characters with the earth-deep worries of a small town, *Rachel's Blue* deftly pulls readers into a close-knit community only to show how suffocating such a community can be.

## The Madonna of Excelsior

## A Novel

[Farrar, Straus and Giroux](#) **A new novel by a towering presence in contemporary South African literature In 1971, nineteen citizens of Excelsior in South Africa's white-ruled Free State were charged with breaking apartheid's Immorality Act, which forbade sex between blacks and whites. Taking this case as raw material for his alchemic imagination, Zakes Mda tells the story of a family at the heart of the scandal -and of a country in which apartheid concealed interracial liaisons of every kind. Niki, the fallen madonna, transgresses boundaries for the sake of love; her choices have repercussions in the lives of her black son and mixed-race daughter, who come of age in post-apartheid South Africa, where freedom prompts them to reexamine their country's troubled history at first hand. By turns earthy, witty, and tragic, *The Madonna of Excelsior* is a brilliant depiction of life in South Africa and of the dramatic changes between the 1970s and the present.**

## The Extraordinary Book of South African Rugby

[Penguin Random House South Africa](#) **The Extraordinary Book of South African Rugby will hook any rugby fanatic. Packed with facts, stats, quotes and anecdotes, from the comical to the controversial, this collection celebrates the rich history of South African rugby. This extraordinary book will run fans through the most enthralling stories to come out of South African rugby, including: How Manie Reyneke was late for his wedding reception after playing a club semi-final; the 90-metre penalty by Oostelikes; how the first Springboks to travel by plane limped over the ocean on three engines; how Kimberley travelled 60 hours by mule wagon on their first tour to Cape Town; how Springbok Andy MacDonald killed a lion with his bare hands; the spectator tackle that cost Western Province the Currie Cup; Paul Roos' weekly 260 km cycle to Pretoria to play club rugby.**

## And the Girls in Their Sunday Dresses

## Four Works

Two very different women meet during a long wait to buy subsidized rice and discover they have more in common than their poverty; an old man and child share a last, loving waltz; a cynical, disabled gangster learns humanity from a committed social worker; and a young girl finds her missing father and her role in the political struggle. This collection of three plays and one cine poem captures the essence of Zakes Mda's method as a dramatist. In most of the works, the characters have no names: they come onto the stage with no identity - except perhaps for the kind of clothes they wear - and slowly reveal themselves. What the reader experiences is a slow but intimate process of revelation (on the part of the characters) and discovery (on the part of the audience or readers).

## The Whale Caller

## A Novel

[Picador](#) **As Zakes Mda's fifth novel opens, the seaside village of Hermanus is overrun with whale-watchers--foreign tourists determined to see whales in their natural habitat. But when the tourists have gone home, the whale caller lingers at the shoreline, wooing a whale he has named Sharisha with cries from a kelp horn. When Sharisha fails to appear for weeks on end, the whale caller frets like a jealous lover--oblivious to the fact that the town drunk, Saluni, a woman who wears a silk dress and red stiletto heels, is infatuated with him. The two misfits eventually fall in love. But each of them is ill equipped for romance, and their relationship suggests, in the words of *The Washington Post*, that "the deeper, darker concern here is not so much the fragility of love, but the fragility of life itself when one surrenders wholly to the foolish heart."**

## Restless

[A&C Black](#) **William Boyd comes to Bloomsbury with an extraordinary story of lies, love and vengeance**

## Sometimes there is a Void Memoirs of an Outsider

[Penguin Random House South Africa](#) But who, really, is this multi-talented man? And how did he come to achieve recognition in so many different creative spheres? *Sometimes There Is A Void*, a disarmingly candid account of the life of Zakes Mda, provides us with some answers. In this memoir Mda weaves together past and present to give an intensely personal story of his development in life, in love and in learning, and the events and people who shaped him. Forced to follow his father, PAC 'founding spirit' A P Mda, into exile in Lesotho (then still Basutoland) at the age of fourteen, Zakes initially finds freedom from close parental discipline irresistible and becomes a frequenter of shebeens and an exponent of fast living, but he also becomes politicised during this time. We are given a fascinating insight into the growth and development of both the PAC and the ANC in exile, as well as contemporary social history. Mda's musical and artistic talents develop at an early age, a little ahead of his literary gifts. But his poetry and playwriting soon take precedence, as Mda's early plays win awards and are performed and published in South Africa. On the strength of his published work, Mda is accepted by Ohio University where he earns two master's degrees and, later, a doctorate at the University of Cape Town. His doctoral thesis is published internationally, and he writes his first novel in 1993. Although based in Athens, Ohio, he travels to South Africa regularly to visit the beekeeping collective he founded for the economic empowerment of people living in his former ancestral village in the Eastern Cape and to work with members of the Southern African Multimedia AIDS Trust which he established in Sophiatown. He continues to be actively involved in the development of indigenous South African theatre through his work with local playwrights.

## Uncommon Wealths in Postcolonial Fiction

[BRILL](#) The essays collected in *Uncommon Wealths in Postcolonial Fiction* "follow the money" to illuminate literature's keen awareness of the multiple and often conflicting meanings of wealth and commons in formerly colonized spaces.

## Ways of Dying

### The Journey of a Caribbean Writer

[Africa List](#) For nearly four decades, Maryse Condé, best known for her novels *Segu* and *Windward Heights*, has been at the forefront of French Caribbean literature. In this collection of essays and lectures, written over many years and in response to the challenges posed by a changing world, she reflects on the ideas and histories that have moved her. From the use of French as her literary language--despite its colonial history--to the agonies of the Middle Passage, at the horrors of African dictatorship, and the politically induced poverty of the Caribbean to migration under globalization, Condé casts her unflinching eye over the world which is her inheritance, her burden, and her future. Even while paying homage to her intellectual and literary influences--including Frantz Fanon, Leopold Sedar Senghor, and Aimé Césaire--Condé establishes in these pages the singularity of her vision and the reason for the enormous admiration that her writing has garnered from readers and critics alike.

## Blind Spot

[Gazebo Books](#) In *Blind Spot*, Myriam Tadessé exposes the difficulty, even the impossibility, for France to truly understand and celebrate the lived realities of mixed or biracial French citizens. What the French word *métis* — which translates to 'half-breed' or 'mixed-race' — hides is how central the notion of race actually is in a society that claims to repudiate it. The French film and theatre world, in which Tadessé has made her career, appears unable to confront the individuality of the performers. They are required to correspond to categories — often based on race — that don't allow for biracial identities. This classification not only contradicts France's asserted ideals but also views as anomalies those who defy ethno-racial assumptions. Drawing on her personal experiences as a biracial Ethiopian-French woman and her family history, Tadessé explores the realities of life for mixed-race individuals in France through her searing and honest memoir. Praise for *Blind Spot* 'Myriam Tadessé's memoir combines formal innovation with a candid look back on her life and the harrowing experiences she's had with discrimination in her chosen field — and in French society as a whole. *Blind Spot* feels like a distillation of its author's life, and a powerful testament to her day-to-day reality.' — Tobias Carroll, *Words Without Borders*

## The New Official K53 Manual

### Motorcycles, light and heavy vehicles

[Penguin Random House South Africa](#) *The New Official K53 Manual* is a comprehensive and effective guide to passing your Learner's Licence and K53 Driver's Licence - first time. Covering both light and heavy motor vehicles, and motorcycles, each chapter discusses the knowledge and skills expected of you. The learner's section explains the K53 Defensive Driving principles, road signs and the rules of the road, with questions and detailed answers to test your knowledge. At the end of this section there is a test similar to that compiled by traffic departments. The driver's section explains how candidates are tested and what examiners look out for, with step-by-step instructions on how to perform every manoeuvre in both the yard and road tests. With detailed, full-colour illustrations throughout, this is the definitive manual for both the learner's and driver's tests.

## Justify the Enemy

### Becoming Human in South Africa

[University of Kwazulu Natal Press](#) This book is a collection of non-fiction by the prolific author Zakes Mda. It showcases his role as a public intellectual with the inclusion of public lectures, essays and media articles. Mda focuses on South Africa's history and the present, identity and belonging, the art of writing, human rights, global warming and why he is unable to keep silent on abuses of power. Some of his best-known novels include *Ways of Dying* (1995, MNet Book Prize); *The Heart of Redness* (2000, Commonwealth Writers' Prize: Africa, and Sunday Times Fiction Prize); *The Madonna of Excelsior* (2002, one of the Top Ten South African books published in the Decade of Democracy); *The Whale Caller* (2005); *Cion* (2007); *Black Diamond* (2009); *The Sculptors of Mapungubwe* (2013); *Rachel's Blue* (2014); and *Little Suns* (2015, Sunday Times Literary Award). Zakes Mda was born in Herschel in the Eastern Cape in 1948 and studied in South Africa, Lesotho and the United States. He wrote his first short story at the age of fifteen and has since won major South African and British literary awards for his novels and plays. His writing has been translated into twenty languages. Mda is a professor of Creative Writing at Ohio University. [Subject: Zakes Mda, Literature, Journalism, Media Studies, African Studies, Current Affairs, History, Politics, Non-Fiction]

## The Accidental Mayor

### Herman Mashaba and the Battle for Johannesburg

[Penguin Random House South Africa](#) In August 2016, well-known South African businessman Herman Mashaba became mayor of Johannesburg, heading a razor-thin DA-led coalition in the city. Three years later, in October 2019, he resigned from the party and from his position as mayor. At the time, Mashaba's approval rating stood at almost 70 per cent and there were calls in overwhelming numbers for him to stay. In this explosive tell-all, his chief of staff, Michael Beaumont, reveals the real story behind these events. *The Accidental Mayor* considers the achievements, challenges and controversies of Mashaba's time in office, and describes what went on behind the scenes in the city and in the multiparty coalition. What was discovered about the previous government's looting of Johannesburg? How did the ANC take to being in opposition? How challenging was it to work with the EFF? Which party proved the most difficult coalition partner? All these questions and more are explored in detail. At a time when the DA's popularity is in decline, *The Accidental Mayor* highlights the infighting and factionalism within the party and questions whether South Africa's official opposition has reached the end of the road. Can Herman Mashaba, arguably one of South Africa's most popular former mayors, offer an alternative for the future?

## Politics of Climate Justice

### Paralysis Above, Movement Below

[University of Natal Press](#) This is an indispensable book for anyone who seeks to understand world leaders' responses to climate change through the United Nations' Conference of the Parties (COP). *Politics of Climate Justice* provides the vital background and theoretical context to what happened at the COPS in Kyoto, Copenhagen, Cancun, and Durban. It explores the favored strategies of key elites from the crisis ridden global and national power blocs, including South Africa, and finds them incapable of reconciling the threat to the planet with their economies' addiction to fossil fuels. Finally, the book reveals sites of climate justice and interrogates the new movement's approach.

## I'll Be You

### A Novel

[Random House](#) Two identical twin sisters and former child actors have grown apart—until one disappears, in this “cleverly crafted and psychologically nuanced” (Time) suspense novel from the New York Times bestselling author of *Pretty Things*. “An addictive thriller that will keep readers burning through pages . . . sneakily hypnotic.”—Los Angeles Times **ONE OF THE MOST ANTICIPATED BOOKS OF 2022**—PopSugar, CrimeReads “You be me, and I’ll be you,” I whispered. As children, Sam and Elli were two halves of a perfect whole: gorgeous identical twins whose parents sometimes couldn’t even tell them apart. They fell asleep to the sound of each other’s breath at night, holding hands in the dark. And once Hollywood discovered them, they became B-list child TV stars, often inhabiting the same role. But as adults, their lives have splintered. After leaving acting, Elli reinvented herself as the perfect homemaker: married to a real estate lawyer, living in a house just blocks from the beach. Meanwhile, Sam has never recovered from her failed Hollywood career, or from her addiction to the pills and booze that have propped her up for the last fifteen years. Sam hasn’t spoken to her sister since her destructive behavior finally drove a wedge between them. So when her father calls out of the blue, Sam is shocked to learn that Elli’s life has been in turmoil: her husband moved out, and Elli just adopted a two-year-old girl. Now she’s stopped answering her phone and checked in to a mysterious spa in Ojai. Is her sister just decompressing, or is she in trouble? Could she have possibly joined a cult? As Sam works to connect the dots left by Elli’s baffling disappearance, she realizes that the bond between her and her sister is more complicated than she ever knew. *I’ll Be You* shows Janelle Brown at the top of her game: a story packed with surprising revelations and sharp insights about the choices that define our families and our lives—and could just as easily destroy them.

## We Shall Sing for the Fatherland

Zakes Mda's work is acutely concerned with South Africa at the crossroads. Elements of history, contemporary experience and the future are combined in these plays to present a powerful dramatic statement.

### Wayfarers' Hymns

[Penguin Random House South Africa](#) Infused with rhythm and melody, Zakes Mda’s new novel invites you to travel from Lesotho’s Mountain Kingdom to the City of Gold through the history of famo. Famo music was born in the drinking dens of migrant mineworkers in Lesotho, where the men would sing to unwind after work, accompanied by the accordion, a drum and sometimes a bass. Meet the boy-child kheleke, a wandering musician, and his surprising sister Moliehi. Then sigh with pleasure at being reunited with Toloki, the professional mourner from *Ways of Dying*, and his beloved Noria. Passionate and ambitious, boy-child is a weaver of songs, and his own story is intertwined with the incredible yet true social history of the music: the Time of the Concertina and the Accordion, the wars of the famo gangs, and the battle for control of illegal mines. The end is always a journey - and what a journey this is!

### Cion

[Penguin Random House South Africa](#) At the instigation of the sciolist, Toloki, the professional mourner introduced in Zakes Mda's early novel *Ways of Dying*, takes the opportunity to travel the world in search of new ways of mourning. He finds himself abandoned in Athens Ohio, but a chance meeting with a Halloween reveller leads him to the poor hamlet of Kilvert, home to descendants of fugitive slaves. A community of traditional quiltmakers, the people of Kilvert, and notably the Quigley family, offer Toloki hospitality while never completely coming to terms with what they regard as his shamanistic attributes. From them he learns the stories told by the quilts and the secrets held by the sycamores - ghost trees that are the carriers of memories - and he becomes aware that this is a community which strives to keep alive their past in order to validate the present. They cannot let go, for the past is all they have. And it is through the quilts and the sycamores and the messages they carry that the old story is told of the slaves in the plantations of the south and their eternal quest to escape and find their freedom, interwoven with the story of life in present-day Kilvert. It is also a time of growth for Toloki, bringing about a softening of his former austerity and enabling him to determine the path his future will take.

## The South Africa Reader

### History, Culture, Politics

[Duke University Press](#) The South Africa Reader is an extraordinarily rich guide to the history, culture, and politics of South Africa. With more than eighty absorbing selections, the Reader provides many perspectives on the country's diverse peoples, its first two decades as a democracy, and the forces that have shaped its history and continue to pose challenges to its future, particularly violence, inequality, and racial discrimination. Among the selections are folktales passed down through the centuries, statements by seventeenth-century Dutch colonists, the songs of mine workers, a widow's testimony before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and a photo essay featuring the acclaimed work of Santu Mofokeng. Cartoons, songs, and fiction are juxtaposed with iconic documents, such as "The Freedom Charter" adopted in 1955 by the African National Congress and its allies and Nelson Mandela's "Statement from the Dock" in 1964. Cacophonous voices—those of slaves and indentured workers, African chiefs and kings, presidents and revolutionaries—invite readers into ongoing debates about South Africa's past and present and what exactly it means to be South African.

## An Englishman in Madrid

[Hachette UK](#) Anthony Whitelands, an English art historian, is invited to Madrid to value an aristocrat's collection. At a welcome lunch he encounters José Antonio Primo de Rivera, founder and leader of the Falange, a nationalist party whose antics are bringing the country ever closer to civil war. The paintings turn out to be worthless, but before Whitelands can leave for London the duque's daughter Paquita reveals a secret and genuine treasure, held for years in the cellars of her ancestral home. Afraid that the duque will cash in his wealth to finance the Falange, the Spanish authorities resolve to keep a close eye on the Englishman, who is also being watched by his own embassy. As Whitelands - ever the fool for a pretty face - vies with Primo de Rivera for Paquita's affections, he learns of a final interested party: Madrid is crawling with Soviet spies, and Moscow will stop at nothing to secure the hidden prize.

## The Heart of Redness

### A Novel

[Farrar, Straus and Giroux](#) A startling novel by the leading writer of the new South Africa In *The Heart of Redness* -- shortlisted for the prestigious Commonwealth Writers Prize -- Zakes Mda sets a story of South African village life against a notorious episode from the country's past. The result is a novel of great scope and deep human feeling, of passion and reconciliation. As the novel opens Camugu, who left for America during apartheid, has 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 Xhosa into Believers and Unbelievers, dividing brother from brother, wife from husband, with devastating consequences. One hundred fifty years later, the two groups' descendants 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. *The Heart of Redness* is a seamless weave of history, myth, and realist fiction. It is, arguably, the first great novel of the new South Africa -- a triumph of imaginative and historical writing.

## Storm Still

Peter Handke, a giant of Austrian literature, has produced decades of fiction, poetry, and drama informed by some of the most tumultuous events in modern history. But even as these events shaped his work, the presence of his mother—a woman whose life spanned the Weimar Republic, both world wars, and the postwar consumer economy—loomed even larger. In *Storm Still*, Handke's most recent work, he returns to the land of his birth, the Austrian province of Carinthia. There on the Jaunfeld, the plain at the center of Austria's Slovenian settlement, the dead and the living of a family meet and talk. Composed as a series of monologues, *Storm Still* chronicles both the battle of the Slovene minority against Nazism and their love of the land. Presenting a panorama that extends back to the author's bitter roots in the region, *Storm Still* blends penetrating prose and poetic drama to explore Handke's personal history, taking up themes from his earlier books and revisiting some of their characters. In this book, the times of conflict and peace, war and prewar, and even the seasons themselves shift and overlap. And the fate of an orchard comes to stand for the fate of a people. “Numerous pleasures await the reader who delves into the fabric of Peter Handke's prose. . . A subtle writer of unostentatious delicacy, Handke excels at fiction that, as it grows, coils around itself like wisteria. . . This is where the French New Novel might have gone if pushed.”—Paul West, *Washington Post Book World*

## The Twin

[ReadHowYouWant.com](#) When his twin brother dies in a car accident, Helmer is obliged to return to the small family farm. He resigns himself to taking over his brother's role and spending the rest of his days 'with his head under a cow'. After his old, worn-out father has been transferred upstairs, Helmer sets about furnishing the rest of the house according to his own minimal preferences. 'A double bed and a duvet', advises Ada, who lives next door, with a sly look. Then Riet appears, the woman once engaged to marry his twin. Could Riet and her son live with him for a while, on the farm?'The Twin' is an ode to the platteland, the flat and bleak Dutch countryside with its ditches and its cows and its endless grey skies. Ostensibly a novel about the countryside, as seen through the eyes of a farmer, 'the Twin' is, in the end, about the possibility or impossibility of taking life into one's own hands. It chronicles a way of life which has resisted modernity, is culturally apart, and yet riven with a kind of romantic longing. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

## Shades of Black

[Quilombola](#)

## Little Suns

[Penguin Random House South Africa](#) 'There are many suns,' he said. 'Each day has its own. Some are small, some are big. I'm named after the small ones.' It is 1903. A lame and frail Malangana - 'Little Suns' - searches for his beloved Mthwakazi after many lonely years spent in Lesotho. Mthwakazi was the young woman he had fallen in love with twenty years earlier, before the assassination of Hamilton Hope ripped the two of them apart. Intertwined with Malangana's story, is the account of Hope - a colonial magistrate who, in the late nineteenth century, was undermining the local kingdoms of the eastern Cape in order to bring them under the control of the British. It was he who wanted to coerce Malangana's king and his people, the amaPpondomise, into joining his battle - a scheme Malangana's conscience could not allow. Zakes Mda's fine new novel Little Suns weaves the true events surrounding the death of Magistrate Hope into a touching story of love and perseverance that can transcend exile and strife.

## Cradle of Life

## The Story of the Magaliesberg and the Cradle of Humankind

[Penguin Random House South Africa](#) The Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site situated in the heart of the Magaliesberg Biosphere Reserve is the jewel in South Africa's evolutionary crown: an area 'of outstanding universal value', it has attracted world-wide interest and furnished key evidence about where, when and how we came to be. The greater Magaliesberg area is peppered with some 200 caves and has a unique geology, history and biodiversity. For decades now, specialists have been combing the area to uncover evidence of our heritage. In his spectacular new title, Vincent Carruthers guides readers along a timeline, from the birth of our planet through to developments of the twenty first century. Along the way he documents the formation of our landscapes and the emergence of life, the rise of hominins, the stone and iron ages, early settlement, migrations, wars and modern developments in the Magaliesberg - the entire evolution of life up to the present, as we know it. Vividly illustrated with photographs, maps and diagrams, Cradle of Life portrays the intrigue and importance of the site, taking readers on a magical journey of discovery. Sales points: Authoritative handling of a complex topic; lavishly illustrated with colourful photos and diagrams; chronological detailing of key events from the beginning of time up to the modern age; accessible and appealing to a wide range of users, from visitors to students, enthusiasts and academics

## She Plays with the Darkness

## A Novel

[Macmillan](#) In a remote mountain village of Lesotho, beautiful Dikosha lives for her dancing and for song, separating herself from her fellow villagers, never leaving and never aging, while in the lowland capital of Maseru, her twin brother, Radisene, struggles to build a life for himself away from his village home. Original. 15,000 first printing.

## Naming the Dawn

The poems in this new volume by Abdourahman A. Waberi are introspective and inquisitive, reflecting a deep spiritual bond--with words, with the history of Islam and its great poets, with the landscapes those poets walked, among which Waberi grew up. The sage yearns here for the simplicity of each individual moment to somehow become eternal, for the histories and people that are part of him--his mother, his wife, his unborn child, the sacred texts that ground his being--to come together harmoniously within him, and to emerge through his words. Lyrical and personal, but with powerful historical and cultural resonances, these poems are the work of a master at the height of his powers.

## Seasons in Hippoland

An enchanting novel of magical realism from a new voice, Kenyan author Wanjikū Wa Ngūgī. Victoriana is a country ruled by an Emperor-for-Life who is dying from an illness not officially acknowledged in a land where truth and facts are decided by the Emperor. The elite goes along with the charade. Their children are conditioned to conform. It is a land of truthful lies, where reality has uncertain meaning. Mumbi, a rebellious child from the capital of Westville, and her brother are sent to live in rural Hippoland. But what was meant to be a punishment turns out to be a glorious discovery of the magic of the land, best captured in the stories their eccentric aunt Sara tells them. Most captivating to the children is the tale of a porcelain bowl supposed to possess healing powers. Returning to Westville as an adult, Mumbi spreads the story throughout the city and to the entire country. Exhausted by years of endless bleak lies, the people are fascinated by the mystery of the porcelain bowl. When word of its healing powers reaches the Emperor himself, he commands Mumbi to find it for him--with dramatic consequences for everyone in Victoriana. Captivating and enchanting, Seasons in Hippoland plays with the tradition of magic realism. Every image in this novel is a story, and every story is a call for resistance to anyone who tries to confine our imagination or corrupt our humanity.

## Burdened by Race

## Coloured Identities in Southern Africa

[Juta and Company Ltd](#) Burdened by Race showcases recent innovative research and writing on coloured identity in southern Africa. It brings new levels of understanding to coloured self-identification and manifestations of colouredness across the region, using interlinking themes and case studies from South Africa, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi to present analyses that challenge and overturn much of the conventional wisdom around this identity.

## Welcome to Our Hillbrow

## A Novel of Postapartheid South Africa

[Ohio University Press](#) Welcome to Our Hillbrow is an exhilarating and disturbing ride through the chaotic and hyper-real zone of Hillbrow--microcosm of all that is contradictory, alluring, and painful in the postapartheid South African psyche. Everything is there: the shattered dreams of youth, sexuality and its unpredictable costs, AIDS, xenophobia, suicide, the omnipotent violence that often cuts short the promise of young people's lives, and the Africanist understanding of the life continuum that does not end with death but flows on into an ancestral realm. Infused with the rhythms of the inner-city pulsebeat, this courageous novel is compelling in its honesty and its broad vision, which links Hillbrow, rural Tiragalong, and Oxford. It spills out the guts of Hillbrow--living with the same energy and intimate knowledge with which the Drum writers wrote Sophiatown into being.

## The Vanishing Act of Esme Lennox

[Hachette UK](#) From the Costa Award winning, bestselling author of THIS MUST BE THE PLACE and I AM, I AM, I AM, comes an intense, breathtakingly accomplished story of a woman's life stolen, and reclaimed. 'Unputdownable' Ali Smith Edinburgh in the 1930s. The Lennox family is having trouble with its youngest daughter. Esme is outspoken, unconventional, and repeatedly embarrasses them in polite society. Something will have to be done. Years later, a young woman named Iris Lockhart receives a letter informing her that she has a great-aunt in a psychiatric unit who is about to be released. Iris has never heard of Esme Lennox and the one person who should know more, her grandmother Kitty, seems unable to answer Iris's questions. What could Esme have done to warrant a lifetime in an institution? And how is it possible for a person to be so completely erased from a family's history?

## Dog Eat Dog

### A Novel

[Ohio University Press](#) **Dog Eat Dog** is a remarkable record of being young in a nation undergoing tremendous turmoil, and provides a glimpse into South Africa's pivotal kwaito (South African hip-hop) generation and life in Soweto. Set in 1994, just as South Africa is making its postapartheid transition, **Dog Eat Dog** captures the hopes—and crushing disappointments—that characterize such moments in a nation's history. Raucous and darkly humorous, **Dog Eat Dog** is narrated by Dingamanzi Makhedama Njomane, a college student in South Africa who spends his days partying, skipping class, and picking up girls. But Dingz, as he is known to his friends, is living in charged times, and his discouraging college life plays out against the backdrop of South Africa's first democratic elections, the spread of AIDS, and financial difficulties that threaten to force him out of school.

### The Zulus of New York

[Penguin Random House South Africa](#) **The Great Farini** would stride on to the stage and announce, 'Ladies and gentlemen, and now for the highlight of the day, the ferocious Zulus.' The impresario Farini introduced Em-Pee and his troupe to his kind of show business, and now they must earn their bread. In 1885 in a bustling New York City, they are the performers who know the true Zulu dances, while all around them fraudsters perform silly jigs. Reports on the Anglo-Zulu War portrayed King Cetshwayo as infamous, and audiences in London and New York flock to see his kin. What the gawking spectators don't know is that Em-Pee once carried nothing but his spear and shield, when he had to flee his king. But amid the city's squalid vaudeville acts appears a vision that leaves Em-Pee breathless: in a cage in Madison Square Park is Acol, a Dinka princess on display. For Em-Pee, it is love at first sight, though Acol is not free to love anyone back.

### African Myths and Legends

[Struik Pub](#) A combination of two earlier Struik publications (*Daughter of the Moonlight and Other African Tales* and *South African Myths and Legends*), this is a spellbinding, fascinating collection of tales to enliven the imagination of young readers.