



Crossing the Mangrove

Maryse Conde

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In this beautifully crafted, Rashomon-like novel, Maryse Conde has written a gripping story imbued with all the nuances and traditions of Caribbean culture. Francis Sancher--a handsome outsider, loved by some and reviled by others--is found dead, face down in the mud on a path outside Riviere au Sel, a small village in Guadeloupe. None of the villagers are particularly surprised, since Sancher, a secretive and melancholy man, had often predicted an unnatural death for himself. As the villagers come to pay their respects they each--either in a speech to the mourners, or in an internal monologue--reveal another piece of the mystery behind Sancher's life and death. Like pieces of an elaborate puzzle, their memories interlock to create a rich and intriguing portrait of a man and a community. In the lush and vivid prose for which she has become famous, Conde has constructed a Guadeloupean wake for Francis Sancher. Retaining the full color and vibrance of Conde's homeland, Crossing the Mangrove pays homage to Guadeloupe in both subject and structure.

From the Trade Paperback edition.



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From reader reviews:

Joann Hamilton:

Playing with family inside a park, coming to see the coastal world or hanging out with close friends is thing that usually you could have done when you have spare time, then why you don't try thing that really opposite from that. One particular activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition details. Even you love Crossing the Mangrove, you could enjoy both. It is very good combination right, you still want to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh can occur its mind hangout folks. What? Still don't have it, oh come on its known as reading friends.

Gabriel Reed:

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