

Caucasia Danzy Senna

Caucasia From Caucasia, with Love New People Identity in Danzy Senna's Caucasia (1998) Where Did You Sleep Last Night? You Are Free: Stories Symptomatic Politics and Affect in Black Women's Fiction "Toubab La!" Literary Representations of Mixed-Race Characters in the African Diaspora Body Horror and Shapeshifting: A Multidisciplinary Exploration Freud Upside Down Performative Passing in Jackie Kay's Trumpet and Danzy Senna's Caucasia New Millennium "mulattas" Channel Colored Television Biracial Identity Development in Danzy Senna's Caucasia The Western Journal of Black Studies African American Review MultiCultural Review Calyx Danzy Senna Danzy Senna Danzy Senna Anna-Magdalena Haßkerl Danzy Senna Danzy Senna Danzy Senna Kathy Glass Ginette Curry Jessica Folio Badia Sahar Ahad Laura H. Robinson Ralina Landwehr Joseph Danzy Senna XXX

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from the author of new people and colored television the extraordinary national bestseller that launched danzy senna s literary career superbly illustrates the emotional toll that politics and race take haunting the new york times book review birdie and cole are the daughters of a black father and a white mother intellectuals and activists in the civil rights movement in 1970s boston the sisters are so close that they speak their own language yet birdie with her light skin and straight hair is often mistaken for white while cole is dark enough to fit in with the other kids at school despite their differences cole is birdie s confidant her protector the mirror by which she understands herself then their parents marriage collapses one night birdie watches her father and his new girlfriend drive away with cole soon birdie and her mother are on the road as well drifting across the country in search of a new home but for birdie home will always be cole haunted by the loss of her sister she sets out a desperate search for the family that left her behind a modern classic caucasia is at once a powerful coming of age story and a groundbreaking work on identity and race in america

growing up amidst the power politics of 1970s america birdie and her older sister cole are so close they speak their own language daughters of a white activist mother and a black academic father birdie appears white cole black their relationship a refuge from the rest of their lives yet when their parents separate birdie and cole are thrown worlds apart but birdie s desperate need to reclaim her family forces her back on to the road where her search for her sister becomes inevitably a search for her self twists serious issues race politics identity social and familial responsibility around the structure of a compelling storyline an intelligent questioning book that sparks with ideas independent on sunday

named a best book of the year by the new york times book review vogue time magazine npr and the root a cutting take on race and class part dark comedy part surreal morality tale disturbing and delicious people you ll gulp senna s novel in a single sitting but then mull over it for days entertainment weekly from the bestselling author of caucasia and colored television a subversive and engrossing novel of race class and manners in contemporary america as the twentieth century draws to a close maria is at the start of a life she never thought possible she and khalil her college sweetheart are planning their wedding they are the perfect couple king and queen of the racially nebulous prom their skin is the same shade of beige they live together in a black bohemian enclave in brooklyn where khalil is riding the wave of the first dot com boom and maria is plugging away at her dissertation on the jonestown massacre they ve even landed a starring role in a documentary about new people like them who are blurring the old boundaries as a brave new era dawns everything maria knows she should want lies before her yet she can t stop daydreaming about another man a poet she barely knows as fantasy escalates to fixation it dredges up secrets from the past and threatens to unravel not only maria s perfect new life but her very persona heartbreak and darkly comic new people is a bold and unfettered page turner that challenges our every assumption about how we define one another and ourselves

from the bestselling author of colored television a keen examination of a utopian minded marriage scarred by america s racially divided past vogue when danzy senna s parents got married in 1968 they seemed poised to defy history they were two brilliant young american writers from wildly divergent backgrounds a white woman with a blue blood bostonian lineage and a black man the son of a struggling single mother and an unknown father they married in a year that seemed to separate the past from the present together these two would snub the histories that divided them and embrace a radical future when their marriage disintegrated eight years later it was as one

friend put it the ugliest divorce in boston s history a violent traumatic war that felt all the more heartrending given the hopeful symbolism of their union decades later senna looks back not only at her parents divorce but beyond it to the opposing american histories that her parents had tried so hard to overcome on her mother s side of the family she finds in carefully preserved documents the chronicle of a white america both illustrious and shameful on her father s she discovers through fragments and shreds of evidence a no less remarkable history as she digs deeper into this unwritten half of the story she reconstructs a long buried family mystery that illuminates her own childhood in the process she begins to understand her difficult father the power and failure of her parents union and finally the forces of history in where did you sleep last night senna has given us an unforgettable testimony to the paradoxes the pain and the pride embedded in history family and race

from the bestselling author of caucasia and the forthcoming colored television riveting unexpected stories about identity under the influence of appearances attachments and longing each of these eight remarkable stories by danzy senna tightrope walks tantalizingly sometimes frighteningly between defined states life with and without mates and children the familiar if constraining reference points provided by race class and gender tensions arise between a biracial couple when their son is admitted to the private school where they d applied on a lark a new mother hosts an old friend still single and discovers how each of them pities and envies the other a young woman responds to an adoptee in search of her birth mother knowing it is not she

the much anticipated sophomore novel from the bestselling author of caucasia and the forthcoming colored television a young woman moves to new york city for what promises to be a dream job displaced she feels unsure of her fit in the world then comes a look of recognition a gesture of friendship from an older woman named greta

who shares the same difficult to place color of skin on common ground a tenuous alliance grows between two women in racial limbo so too does the older woman's unnerving obsession leading to a collision of two lives spiraling out of control a beautifully written novel at once suspenseful erotic and tantalizingly clever symptomatic is a groundbreaking contribution to the literature of racial identity

exploring literary possibilities politics and affect reads black women's text in particular frances harper's the two offers 1859 julia collins's the curse of caste 1865 nella larsen's quicksand 1928 and danzy senna's caucasia 1998 as richly creative documents saturated with sociopolitical value interested in how african american women writers from the nineteenth century to the present have mined the politics of affect and emotion to document love shame and suffering in environments shaped by race kathy glass gives sustained attention to the impact of racist affect on the black body and examines how black women writers deploy emotional states to engender sociopolitical change

the book is an examination of mixed race characters from writers in the united states the french and british caribbean islands martinique guadeloupe st lucia and jamaica europe france and england and africa burkina faso south africa botswana and senegal the objective of this study is to capture a realistic view of the literature of the african diaspora as it pertains to biracial and multiracial people for example the expression toubab la as used in the title is from the wolof ethnic group in senegal west africa it means this is a white person or this is a black person who looks or acts white it is used as a metaphor to illustrate multiethnic people's plight in many areas of the african diaspora and how it has evolved the analysis addresses the different ways multiracial characters look at the world and how the world looks at them these characters experience historical economic sociological and emotional realities in various environments from either white or black people their lineage as both white and black determines

a new self making them constantly search for their identity each section of the manuscript provides an in depth analysis of specific authors novels that is a window into their true experiences the first section is a study of mixed race characters in three acclaimed contemporary novels from the united states james mcbride's *the color of water* 1996 danzy senna's *caucasia* 1998 and rebecca walker's *black white and jewish* 2001 reveal the conflicting dynamics of being biracial in today's american society the second section is an examination of mixed race characters in the following french caribbean novels mayotte capécia's *i am a martinican woman* 1948 michèle lacrosil's *cajou* 1961 and *ravines du devant jour* 1993 by raphaël confiant section three is about their literary representations in derek walcott's *what the twilight says* 1970 *another life* 1973 *dream on monkey mountain* 1967 and michelle cliff's *abeng* 1995 from the british caribbean islands section four is an in depth analysis of their plight in novels written by contemporary mulatto writers from europe such as marie n diaye's *among family* 1997 zadie smith's *white teeth* 2000 and bernardine evaristo's *lara* 1997 finally the last section of the book is a study of novels from west african and south african writers the analysis of monique ilboudo's *le mal de peau* 2001 bessie head's *a woman alone* autobiographical writings 1990 and abdoulaye sadji's *nini mulâtresse du sénégal* 1947 concludes this literary journey that takes the readers through several continents at different points in time overall this comprehensive study of mixed race characters in the literature of the african diaspora reveals not only the old but also the new ways they decline contest and refuse racial clichés likewise the book unveils how these characters resist create reappropriate and revise fixed forms of identity in the african diaspora of the 20th and 21st century most importantly it is also an examination of how the authors themselves deal with the complex reality of a multiracial identity

this volume was first published by inter disciplinary press in 2014 the body is unveiled not as a terra incognita but as

terra to be rediscovered the authors whose diverse origins echo the multiple media used to convey their ideas establish a link between bodily metamorphosis and psychological fissures the body is a locus of paradoxes deformed infected monstrosized or negated but at the same time fascinating intimate or sensual here readers will open the door of disruption they will explore the flesh or the inner processes of the body the idea of its degeneration even its perception as a gaping wound the authors in this volume question the very notion of identity as they embark on a journey to reflect on the self life itself is a shapeshifting dance we unknowingly join in its myriad of colours and moves

this thought provoking cultural history explores how psychoanalytic theories shaped the works of important african american literary figures badia sahar ahad details how nella larsen richard wright jean toomer ralph ellison adrienne kennedy and danzy senna employed psychoanalytic terms and conceptual models to challenge notions of race and racism in twentieth century america freud upside down explores the relationship between these authors and intellectuals and the psychoanalytic movement emerging in the united states over the course of the twentieth century examining how psychoanalysis has functioned as a cultural phenomenon within african american literary intellectual communities since the 1920s ahad lays out the historiography of the intersections between african american literature and psychoanalysis and considers the creative approaches of african american writers to psychological thought in their work and their personal lives

a national bestseller a good morning america book club pick a washington post top 10 book of the year a new york times notable book of 2024 a laugh out loud cultural comedy this is the new great american novel and danzy senna has set the standard la times funny foxy and fleet the jokes are good the punches land the dialogue is tart dwight

garner the new york times a brilliant take on love and ambition failure and reinvention and the racial identity industrial complex from the bestselling author of caucasia jane has high hopes that her life is about to turn around after a long precarious stretch bouncing among sketchy rentals and sublets she and her family are living in luxury for a year house sitting in the hills above los angeles the gig magically coincides with jane s sabbatical giving her the time and space she needs to finish her second novel a centuries spanning epic her artist husband lenny dubs her mulatto war and peace finally some semblance of stability and success seems to be within her grasp but things don t work out quite as hoped desperate for a plan b like countless writers before her jane turns her gaze to hollywood when she finagles a meeting with hampton ford a hot producer with a major development deal at a streaming network he seems excited to work with a real writer and together they begin to develop the jackie robinson of biracial comedies things finally seem to be going right for jane until they go terribly wrong funny piercing and page turning colored television is senna s most on the pulse ambitious and rewarding novel yet

as the official publication of the division on black american literature and culture of the modern language association of america african american review promotes an exchange among writers and scholars in the arts humanities and social sciences who hold diverse perspectives of african american literature and culture

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