Gods Other Children - A London Memoir



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Reviews

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(Clotilde Wiegand)

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Createspace. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 538 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 6.0in. x 1.3in.A most worthy contender for the coveted Polari First Book Prize, this non-fiction emotional roller coaster is earning consistently high praise from enthused readers. A very different and distinctive reader event by Vernal Scott, a black gay Londoner and former head of HIV services, his writing is soulful, raw, and unashamedly human. In telling his personal story, he has successfully revealed gay people as holistic rather than just sexual beings, as has too often been the case to date. But there is much much more here. Following a profoundly informative prologue, this dramatic true story starts out in happy but poor 1930s Jamaica. Scotts Windrush-generation parents move to 1950s London, where the substance of this 520-page biog-comenovel really begins, taking the reader up to the present day. Tragedies and taboo issues are frequent and there are no fictional characters or scenarios, so you find yourself immersed in the emotional authenticity of each page. The mood could be described as dark and disturbing in places (e. g. a graphic and deeply worrying boyhood voodoo protection ritual), but the issues are always starkly human: unrequited love, hate, and loss; sex, sexuality and coming out; religion and homosexuality; disease, death and dying; domestic violence and borderline child chastisementabuse; divorce; racism and homophobia; prejudice and equality challenges at home and abroad; gaylesbian baby-making and parenting; fathers and family court; mental health, depression and suicidal bids. Even voodoo and the paranormal make a surprising (and very convincing!) appearance, as does the likes of HRH Diana, Princess of Wales, among others. In their respective forewords, Lord Paul Boateng says the book has a searing honesty, and Peter Tatchell, the renowned human rights activist, refers to it as...



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