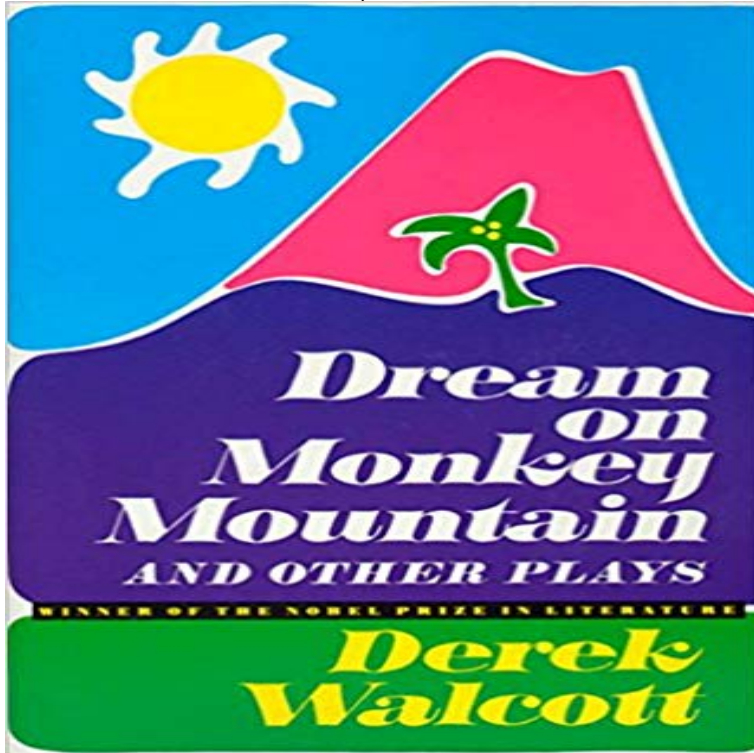


Dream on Monkey Mountain and Other Plays



On a Caribbean island, the morning after a full moon, Felix Hobain tears through the market in a drunken rage. Taken away to sober up in jail, all that night he is gripped by hallucinations: the impoverished hermit believes he has become a healer, walking from village to village, tending to the sick, waiting for a sign from God. In this dream, his one companion, Moustique, wants to exploit his power. Moustique decides to impersonate a prophet himself, ignoring a coffin-maker who warns him he will die and enraging the people of the island. Hobain, half-awake in his desolate jail cell, terrorized by the specter of his friends corruption, clings to his visionary quest. He will try to transform himself; to heal Moustique, his jailer, and his jail-mates; and to be a leader for his people. Dream on Monkey Mountain was awarded the 1971 Obie Award for a Distinguished Foreign Play when it was first presented in New York, and Edith Oliver, writing in *The New Yorker*, called it a masterpiece. Three of Derek Walcott's most popular short plays are also included in this volume: *Ti-Jean and His Brothers*; *Malcochon, or The Six in the Rain*; and *The Sea at Dauphin*. In an expansive introductory essay, *What the Twilight Says*, the playwright explains his founding of the seminal dramatic company where these works were first performed, the Trinidad Theatre Workshop. First published in 1970, *Dream on Monkey Mountain and Other Plays* is an essential part of Walcott's vast and important body of work.

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