



Mandela's Earth and Other Poems

By Wole Soyinda

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The first full-length collection of poems by Wole Soyinka to appear since "A Shuttle in the Crypt" in 1972; it includes many works that are available in paperback in the UK for the first time. Soyinka, author of "The Jero Plays", is an essayist, poet and playwright and Nobel Prize-winner.

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Mandela's Earth and Other Poems By Wole Soyinda Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

The Nigerian writer's first book since he was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1986 sounds a further note of political urgency. Essentially direct address and hortatory, giving neither the speaker nor anyone else a chance to hide, these poems are probably better sung. Soyinka's repetition and dialogue suggest poetry's origin as news delivered orally. Sense is through sound, making the logic of the line immediate, although sometimes associations are not clear; in "Like Rudolf Hess, the Man said," for instance, we don't know who the "designated" enemy is, as Soyinka creates associations between Mandela-Mengele, the Israelis, South Africans, Icarus, the gold rush, and Auschwitz. Poems of immediacy, translating reflection into anger.

Rosaly DeMaios Roffman, Indiana Univ. of Penna., Indiana

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Users Review

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Ruby Freeman:

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Joseph Dolezal:

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