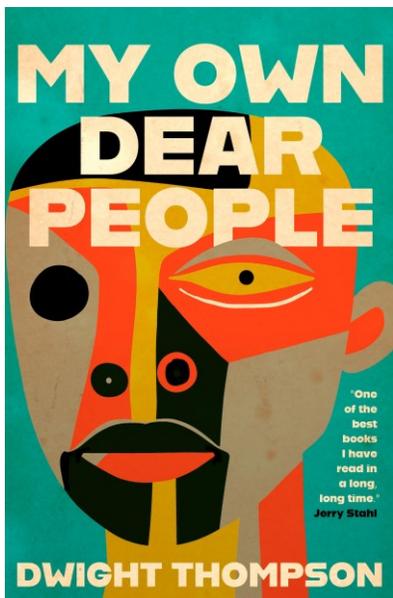


My Own Dear People



By Dwight Thompson

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ADVANCE INFORMATION

“Thompson’s novel effectively taps into the complexities of boyhood friendships and masculinity in its portrayal of Nyjah’s sluggish progress toward a sense of justice. This one leaves a mark.” – Publisher’s Weekly

It is not a ghost that haunts the newly independent life of Nyjah Messado; it is the living memory of a violation — and a silence so thick it corrodes the heart.

After witnessing Maude Dallmeyer, a young trainee teacher, being dragged off to be raped by his friends, the masculine code at his all boy’s private school demands only one response from him – silence. And so he remains silent. Through the rest of high school. Through the years at university. Until he returns to Montego Bay, where he must navigate the politics, street gangs and colonial ethos of a city smoothed over for tourists but hostile to its working-class residents.

At its heart, *My Own Dear People* is a story about coming of age in a world that is the limits of escape and the uneasy road to self-forgiveness. Brutal and lyrical, it chronicles what it means to come of age in a world that is violent to women and LGBTQ.

KEY SELLING POINTS

- *“An important, beautifully written novel about a young man’s struggle to come to terms with the actions (and inactions) of his own past. This is one of the best books I have read in a long, long time.” —Jerry Stahl, author of **Nein, Nein, Nein!***
- A visceral and haunting exploration of rape culture, homophobia and toxic masculinity
- **Comp titles:** *His Favorites* by Kate Walbert, *Rainbow Milk* by Paul Mendez

PR INFORMATION

- Focused national media campaign to accompany launch
- Author-led campaign including festivals, blog tours and editorials
- Online pre-order campaign targeting 1000 pre-orders

DWIGHT THOMPSON



DWIGHT THOMPSON is the award-winning author of the novel *Death Register* and has published short stories in *PREE* and the *Caribbean Writer*. He won the Charlotte and Isidor Paiewonsky Prize, was short-listed for the 2012 *Small Axe* Literary Competition, and was long-listed for the 2021 and 2022 Commonwealth Short Story Prize. *My Own Dear People* is his second novel. He was born and raised in Jamaica, and currently works at an international school in Hiroshima, Japan.