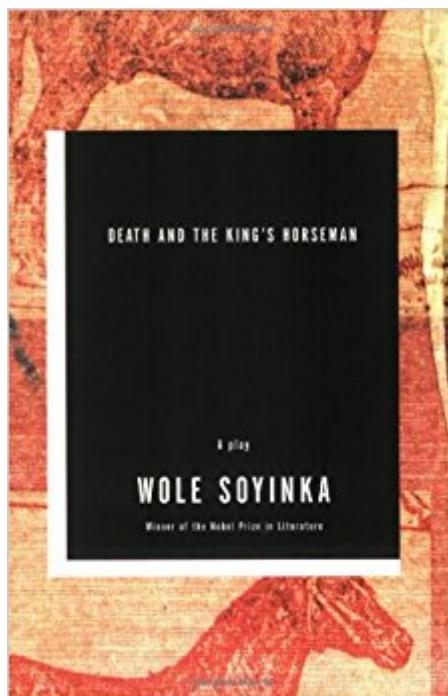


The book was found

Death And The King's Horseman: A Play



Synopsis

A Nobel Prize-winning playwright's classic tale of tragic decisions in a traditional African culture. Based on events that took place in Oyo, an ancient Yoruba city of Nigeria, in 1946, Wole Soyinka's powerful play concerns the intertwined lives of Elesin Oba, the king's chief horseman; his son, Olunde, now studying medicine in England; and Simon Pilkings, the colonial district officer. The king has died and Elesin, his chief horseman, is expected by law and custom to commit suicide and accompany his ruler to heaven. The stage is set for a dramatic climax when Pilkings learns of the ritual and decides to intervene and Elesin's son arrives home.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 27 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

?Death and the King's Horseman blends European literary theater with total-theater traditions from the Yoruba tribe in Southwest Nigeria. Through poetry, chorus, politics, and storytelling, Soyinka both entertains and asks subtle questions about mass psychology, individual psychology, and universal human struggles of the will.?Death and the King's Horseman blends European literary theater with total-theater traditions from the Yoruba tribe in Southwest Nigeria. Through poetry, chorus, politics, and storytelling, Soyinka both entertains and asks subtle questions about mass psychology, individual psychology, and universal human struggles of the will. "

Wole Soyinka, one of Africa's foremost writers, won the Nobel Prize in 1986 and is the author of Death and the King's Horseman, among other works.

again, for grandson's reading requirements for school

Thought the book was pretty good, I'll admit it was for a class, but I thought the book kept a decent plot. I liked that there was a second play after the Death and the Kings Horsemen that explained much of what went on in the background and unseen. It explained more of the characters actions. The criticism of the book was dry and didn't say much that one couldn't pick up from the play itself. Rather few characters so it made the play simple. Surprised at how short the play was. Only about 65 pages plus about 18 for the second play. Most the book is criticism.

I like Soyinka's mind, but not too keen of most of his writings. Maybe because of the unnecessary difficulty level, not speaking directly to this play though. This was an ok read. After reading the likes of Nervous Conditions, The Joys of Motherhood, The River Between I was expecting more. Great themes in this one though. I don't know what it is, for some reason that pizzazz is missing. ~ Montage is author of The Women of Sugar Hill & Duggan, as well as producer of the upcoming documentary, Street Life: Changing Faces

like story great book

Excellent book. Provocative story, well written. The Norton Critical Edition is especially useful in evaluating the text.

The literary criticism contained here will be extremely helpful in teaching this complex work. Kudos

The condition isn't the best, it has writing practically all over it, a bunch of folds and markings. But I only need this for school so the condition isn't so bad. The price was decent too

This item arrived on time and in good condition. This play is so interesting. Difficult at times, but definitely worth reading and re-reading multiple times.

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