

Rainbow Colors



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The narratives under consideration in *Rainbow Colors* depict Mauritius's history of competing colonial forces, describe its intricate social geography of free and forced migrations, and portray the anxieties of mixed race persons and cultures in postcolonies. Through a rigorous analysis of novels from Loys Masson's *L'etoile et la clef* (1945) to Ananda Devi's *Moi, l'interdite* (2000), this study argues that there is no single grand narrative of cultural hybridity and ethnic pluralism in Mauritius. By conceptualizing literature as the overlapping space of ethnic-cultural realities, national and transnational identities, and a poetics of alterity, *Rainbow Colors* explores how different literary ethno-topographies of Mauritius are produced at this intersection. This original work considers Mauritian writing in French in its own right and not as a minor literature within the Francophone tradition. Furthermore, while significant monographs on ethnicity and nation have been published on the African and Caribbean novel (in English and in French), this is the first such single-authored book-length study on Mauritian novels to date.

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