

# The Lamplighter Jackie Kay

The Lamplighter Women Experimenting in Theatre Within and Without Empire Scotland and the British Empire Scotland and the Caribbean, c.1740-1833 Forms of Migration. Migration of Forms. Cultural Studies New Books on Women, Gender and Feminism New Books on Women and Feminism Other Lovers The Nation's Favourite Poems of Childhood Gay Icons In Person Darling Life Mask The R&B Indies Index to Poetry for Children and Young People, 1993-1997 Off Colour The Wonderful City of Kirkwood AB Bookman's Weekly Fiction, Folklore, Fantasy & Poetry for Children, 1876-1985: Authors, Illustrators Jackie Kay Kate Aughterson Theo van Heijnsbergen John M. MacKenzie Michael Morris Associazione Italiana di Anglistica Jackie Kay Richard Dyer Neil Astley Jackie Kay Jackie Kay Bob McGrath G. Meredith Blackburn Jackie Kay

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ambitious defiant angry and gripping the bitter story of slavery through the experience of four women guardian jackie kay's work formally expansive and inclusive is always about the opening up of our notions of identity ali smith author of how to be both in the lamplighter award winning poet and scottish makar jackie kay takes us on a journey into the dark heart of britain's legacy in the slave trade first produced as a play on the page it reads as a profound and tragic multi layered poem we watch as four women and one man tell the story of their lives through slavery from the fort to the slave ship through the middle passage following life on the plantations charting the growth of the british city and the industrial revolution constance has witnessed the sale of her own child mary has been beaten to an inch of her life black harriot has been forced to sell her body and our lead the lamplighter was sold twice into slavery from the ports in bristol their different voices sing together in a rousing chorus that speaks to the experiences of all those brutalised by slavery and lifts in the end to a soaring and powerful conclusion stirring impassioned and deeply affecting the lamplighter remains as essential today as the day it was first performed this is an essential work by one of our most beloved writers

this collection of essays covering a broad historical range shows that women working in theatre and drama since the time of aphra behn have been engaged in pushing the boundaries of conventional representation and dramaturgical convention collectively the authors show that women have used performing spaces as a channel for both political and personal radicalism one that has demanded and celebrated experimentalism as a kind of survival in a male dominated world

the concept of the border evoked by the title of the present volume provides a central interpretative key for our project at more than one level as it is suggestive both of scotland as a theoretical borderland in relation to the empire and postcoloniality and of our attempt at bringing into dialogue scholars from different disciplinary backgrounds including scottish celtic and postcolonial studies the scotland of the present volume s title is thus suggestive of a critical standpoint

the extraordinary influence of scots in the british empire has long been recognized as administrators settlers temporary residents professionals plantation owners and as military personnel they were strikingly prominent in north america the caribbean australasia south africa india and colonies in south east asia and africa throughout these regions they brought to bear distinctive scottish experience as well as particular educational economic cultural and religious influences moreover the relationship between scots and the british empire had a profound effect upon many aspects of scottish society this volume of essays written by notable scholars in the field examines the key roles of scots in central aspects of the atlantic and imperial economies from the eighteenth to the twentieth centuries in east india company rule in india migration and the preservation of ethnic identities the environment the army missionary and other religious activities the dispersal of intellectual endeavours and in the production of a distinctive literature rooted in colonial experience making use of recent innovative research the chapters demonstrate that an understanding of the profoundly interactive relationship between scotland and the british empire is vital both for the understanding of the histories of that country and of many territories of the british empire all scholars and general readers interested in the dispersal of intellectual ideas key professions protestantism environmental practices and colonial literature as well as more traditional approaches to politics economics and military recruitment will find it an essential addition to the historical literature

this book participates in the modern recovery of the memory of the long forgotten relationship between scotland and the caribbean drawing on theoretical paradigms of world literature and transnationalism it argues that caribbean slavery profoundly shaped scotland s economic social and cultural development and draws out the implications for current debates on scotland s national narratives of identity eighteenth to nineteenth century scottish writers are re examined in this new light morris explores the ways that discourses of improvement in both scotland and the caribbean are mediated by the modes of pastoral and georgic which struggle to explain and contain the labour conditions of agricultural labourers both free and enslaved the ambivalent relationship of scottish writers including robert burns to questions around abolition allows fresh perspectives on the era furthermore morris considers the origins of a hybrid scottish creole identity through two nineteenth century figures robert wedderburn and mary seacole the final chapter moves forward to consider the implications for post devolution post referendum scotland underpinning this investigation is the conviction that collective memory is a key feature which shapes behaviour and beliefs in the present the recovery of the memory of slavery is performed here in the interests of social justice in the present

jackie kay s first collection *the adoption papers* marked the emergence of an exciting new talent in contemporary poetry in her second collection *other lovers* she achieves an even greater range exploring the qualities of love in a variety of relationships rooted in the past or present all the poems from the book are included in *darling* 2007

this is a collection of poems chosen through a poll in radio times that reflect the emotion and memories of childhood it features work by william blake describing depression in class on a summer s day carol ann duffy on her love for chocolates and many more

published to accompany the exhibition gay icons held at the national portrait gallery london from 2 july to 18 october 2009 t p verso

thirty poets from around the world read to you in person this is a new concept in publishing your own personal poetry festival brought into your home each poet reads to you for about ten minutes up to half a dozen poems chosen from across the range of their work in person is a collaboration between bloodaxe books and award winning film maker pamela robertson pearce her style of filming combines directness and simplicity sensitivity and warmth the perfect combination for these intimate readings it is as if the poet were sitting in the room with you reading just to you and sometimes saying a few things about the poems apart from one recording taken from a live public performance all the films present informal one to one readings they enhance your appreciation of the poetry you hear how the poems sound you see how the poets read and present their work t s eliot once described poetry as one person talking to another while w h auden believed it was essential to hear poetry read aloud for no poem which when mastered is not better heard than read is good poetry in person presents the oral art of poetry in that spirit there are four hours of readings on two dvds pouches inside the back cover and all the poems are printed in this book in person celebrates 30 years of poetry from a pioneering press founded in 1978 bloodaxe has published nearly a thousand titles by three hundred writers until now you wouldn t be able to see or hear readings by many of bloodaxe s international range of poets in person makes that possible for the first time presenting readings by 30 essential voices from britain ireland america spain hungary palestine pakistan china new zealand and the caribbean four out of the 30 short films present the poets work bilingually menna elfyn s reading alternates between her welsh poems and their english translations joan margarit reads in catalan in tandem with his translator anna crowe reading her english translations palestinian poet taha muhammad ali reads in arabic and then re inhabits each poem as it is read in english by his translator peter cole yang lian introduces his work in english and reads the poems in chinese this anthology presents all their poems in both languages in a parallel text format enabling you to follow either language as the poems are read on the film all the other readings are in english only and in many varieties of english which will add greatly to your enjoyment and appreciation of the poetry not just poems read in scottish welsh and irish english by jackie kay w n herbert gwyneth lewis brendan kennelly and micheal o siadhail but also george szirtes hungarian inflected english benjamin zephaniah s melding of jamaican and birmingham and the caribbean lilt of john agard and james berry the musical range of american voices is just as diverse ranging from urban detroit philip levine to the ozark mountains c d wright there s also a bonus track a short film of bloodaxe s first poet ken smith made by ivor bowen just before ken s untimely death

this new book brings together many favourite poems from her four bloodaxe collections the adoption papers other lovers off colour and life mask as well as featuring new work some previously uncollected poems and some lively poetry for younger readers

this title contains poems about love and loss masks and masquerades

a title subject author and first line index to poetry in collections for children

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these poems explore illness sickness and health past and present in a dynamic and original way they examine not only the sick body but the sick mind and sick society racism and prejudice it is jackie kay s third collection

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