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Here Comes The Sun: A Novel



Synopsis

In this radiant, highly anticipated debut, a cast of unforgettable women battle for independence while a maelstrom of change threatens their Jamaican village. A New York Times Cool Reads for Hot Days Pick, One of BBC's Ten New Beach Reads to Devour, Publishers Weekly Writer to Watch, A Cosmo Reads selection for July, Marie Claire What We're Reading List, One of Elle's 19 Summer Books That Everyone Will Be Talking About, One of Bustle's 73 New Summer Books to Enjoy on Your Warm Weather Adventures. Capturing the distinct rhythms of Jamaican life and dialect, Nicole Dennis-Benn pens a tender hymn to a world hidden among pristine beaches and the wide expanse of turquoise seas. At an opulent resort in Montego Bay, Margot hustles to send her younger sister, Thandi, to school. Taught as a girl to trade her sexuality for survival, Margot is ruthlessly determined to shield Thandi from the same fate. When plans for a new hotel threaten their village, Margot sees not only an opportunity for her own financial independence but also perhaps a chance to admit a shocking secret: her forbidden love for another woman. As they face the impending destruction of their community, each woman must fight to balance the burdens she shoulders with the freedom she craves—must confront long-hidden scars. From a much-heralded new writer, *Here Comes the Sun* offers a dramatic glimpse into a vibrant, passionate world most outsiders see simply as paradise.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Nicole Dennis-Benn's debut is at once a gorgeous tribute to and a searing indictment of her home country of Jamaica. Intense, unapologetic and remarkably powerful, *HERE COMES THE*

SUN is a startling and melodic experience. Dennis-Benn explores a range of experiences belonging to black Jamaican woman, weaving together the disparate, interconnected generational narratives via the throughline of one family. Thirty-year-old Margot has two main concerns. The first is providing for her 15-year-old sister, hoping to give young Thandi the chance for prosperity and freedom that she herself never had. The second is concealing the biggest secret of her life, one still punished by torture and death in too many contexts: her love for another woman. Both concerns complicate and motivate her secondary job --- not her official work at the hotel, but her unofficial work, after hours, which has been paying for Thandi's schooling. When their mother, Delores, caught so much as an inkling of Margot's interests in women back in Margot's childhood, she resorted to "fixing" her daughter the only way she knew how, the only way that would help keep both of them alive. Years later, unbeknownst to her mother or sister, Margot still keeps her family alive with the skills she learned as a child. Of course, she never was "fixed," and Margot's experiences falling for Verdene, who the neighborhood sees as a "witch" or "freak," are deeply resonant, crucial literature. While Margot struggles to provide for her family and keep her secrets, Thandi struggles with the expectations foisted upon her. She bears the burden of being her mother and sister's only real hope, their pride and joy, their potential for freedom.

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