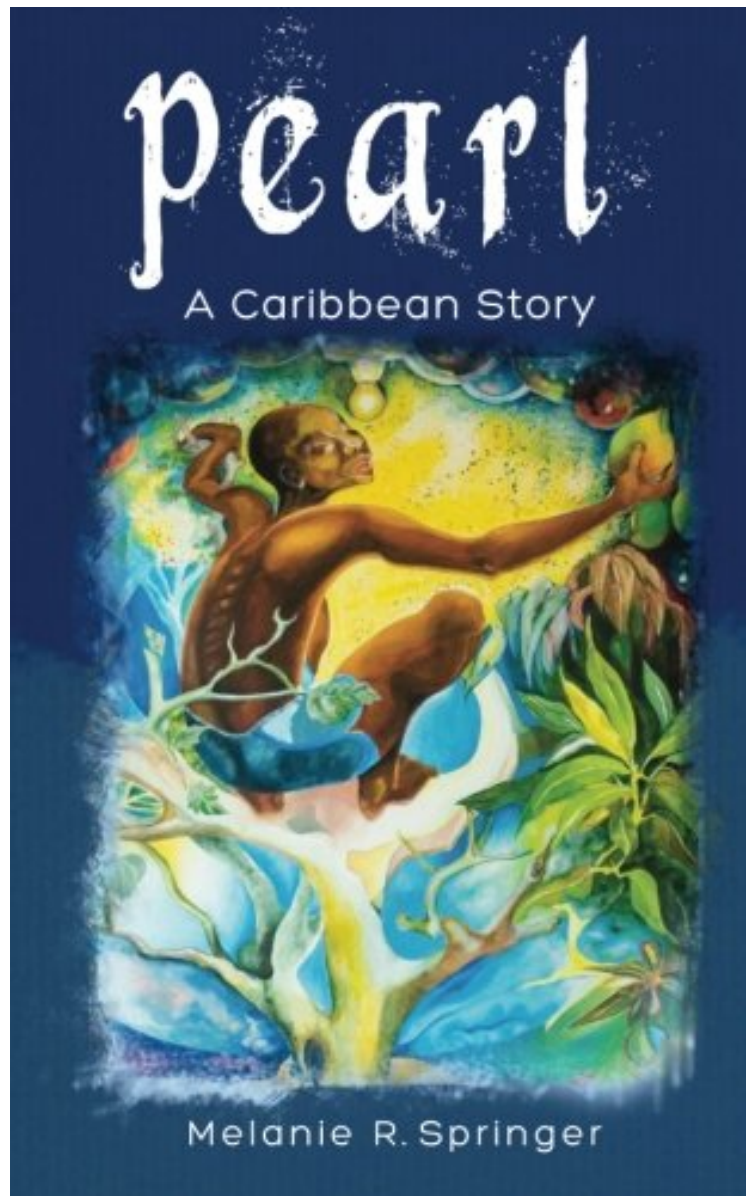


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Pearl: A Caribbean Story

Melanie R. Springer

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Melanie R. Springer : Pearl: A Caribbean Story before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Pearl: A Caribbean Story:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. THIS BOOK COMES HIGHLY RECOMMENDEDBy Heather Negahdar"Man how you could leh she tek dem way?""How you mean I leh she Jeffrey?"Chicken you believe this man! How I could leh she tek them way as if I could stop she. I only ten years old! She nearly twice my age and twice

my size."Over the years there has been an expansion of young Caribbean authors, and we hope to see more of their work published. Melanie Springer was new to me but her novel has so impressed me and kept me on the edge of my seat as I waited to see what was happening next. She displays a colourful portrait of our island Barbados in the summertime at one of the busiest seasons of the year, and that is obviously, The Crop Over Festival. Melanie in a class of her own and in her novel Pearl, you will see it all as she entertains you with great humour, heart-beating suspense and at times an overwhelming of sadness for some of the dear and not-so-dear characters. As in most West Indian societies the young boys in their teens like to tease the older girls as they are growing up and allowed to wear more sophisticated clothes if you want to call it that or special attire in the form of what is new on the market. Pearl became a victim after being laughed at by her brother and his friends by anything she did. They were always making fun of her but she had the upper hand on them, and she let them know. She will report their bad behaviour to their elders. Frightened the boys Omar, Chicken and Jeffery got jittery and started making some plans to work some 'obeah' or witchcraft on Pearl. It is not long before Pearl one morning is found in her bed by Omar, but she does not budge. He tries in vain to wake her but there is no response. While the festivities of Bridgetown Market, Party Monarch at Cattlewash Cohoblopot and even Kadooment are in full swing, Pearl is still in that bed in the same position as her brother Omar has found her. I do not want to spoil the story for you by saying too much more, but I guarantee you won't be disappointed as the suspense grasps you tight, to the last page. Reviewed by Heather Marshall Negahdar - BARBADOS 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Customer Great novel about contemporary Caribbean life! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Pearl. A Caribbean Story By Rachael Lazare I am reading this book now. It is a fantastic read; a true Caribbean story. The author has been able to capture the real essence of the story place; taking me back to when I was a young girl, and reminding me about all those simple things that we have forgotten being raised in the Caribbean. You can almost smell the air back there. The writing is that engaging. All those Barbadian out there should read this book.

Pearl, a misunderstood teenager is found dead in bed one Kadooment weekend. And three young boys who dabble in obeah just might have something to do with it. Affected by interfering ancestral spirits, the characters of Whits End, St. Thomas, Barbados struggle with love, sibling rivalry, death, and the intensely Caribbean way of dealing with life's little inconveniences. THE ENTICINGLY BOYISH CHARACTERS OF OMAR, JEFFREY CHICKEN POSITIVELY COME ALIVE! Fabulously well paced, Pearl takes place amidst a backdrop of hot Caribbean summers and rollicking Crop-Over celebrations, the wild Atlantic Ocean and miles of rolling cane fields. Told in dark comedy fashion, Pearl - is an extraordinary coming-of-age.

About the Author Inspired by the cultural diversity of the Caribbean, Melanie Springer started writing Pearl A Caribbean Story while at film school in Cuba. As an experienced filmmaker, fine Artist, and educator, Melanie has worked for years in the fields of Brand communications and Multi-media production. When she's not producing television commercials and documentaries, Melanie shares her knowledge of the creative world with BFA graphics students, teaching part-time at the Barbados Community College. Her multi-national background and love of travel has played a pivotal role in shaping the author she is today. Pearl A Caribbean Story is her first novel.