

Recent Books from Kenya – Jan 2023

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Biography/Memoirs

Paul Mboya : A Portrait of a Great Leader / Godfrey K Sang & Dr. Vincent A Orinda
Nairobi: Gapman Publications Ltd, 2022
xx, 324p.
Includes Select Bibliography
9789914743630
\$ 60.00 / PB
620gm.
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841058>

The Path to Kaliech : The Outsize Story of William Odongo Omamo / William Odongo Omamo
340p.
Includes Index
9789914741421
\$ 65.00 / PB
632gm.

The Path to KALIECH are the memoirs of Dr. William Odongo Omamo, a member of the first generation of Kenyan African technocrats. In it, he describes his journey from his childhood, to his struggles to acquire education as part of the pioneer O level class of Maseno School, to his rise to Cabinet Minister in both the Jomo Kenyatta and Moi Governments.

Themes featuring prominently in it include the cultural milieu of his village and childhood, his challenges acquiring an education all the way to University during pre-independence Kenya, his transition from education to government service, and finally his travails in politics.

Readers will get to know answers to the questions about his much talked about relationship with Jaramogi Oginga Odinga, untold stories of the Jomo Kenyatta and Moi government political intrigues, as well as his well known oratory during his public life, and the origin of his popular nickname, KALIECH.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841062>

Francis Atwoli – Fame, Force and Fury : A Biography / Judith K. Akuma & Babere Kerata Chacha

Nairobi: Moran (E.A.) Publishers Limited, 2019

xxviii, 160p.

Includes Index

9789966630803

\$ 35.00 / PB

306gm.

FRANCIS LUMASAYI ATWOLI is the most flamboyant trade unionist and defender of workers' rights in Kenya since the exit of Tom Mboya in the 1960s. Through sheer hard work, aggressiveness, and commitment to the labour ideals, Atwoli has made a name for himself not just in Kenya, but also in the region and globally. Presently, he stands shoulder to shoulder with the labor luminaries of yesteryears - Tom Mboya, Dennis Akumu, Clement Lubembe, Boy Juma Boy and Joseph Mugalla. Born in 1947 in Kakamega County, western Kenya, to a humble family, he had a modest childhood and education before entering the labour force as an employee of the then East African Posts and Telecommunications Corporation (EAP&TC) at a young age of nineteen. He joined the trade union movement in 1967 in the position of a shop steward from where he rose through the ranks to the pinnacle of the umbrella organisation, COTU, and the regional and international labour movement. In Kenya's political landscape, he strides like a colossus and is perhaps the most influential personality outside the Presidency. How did he get there?

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841065>

Hon. Matu Wamae : Born to Serve / Hon. Matu Wamae, EBS (Eds) Wilson Macharia & Peter Warutere

Nairobi: Neno Publishers, 2021

xviii, 286p.

9789914988444

\$ 40.00 / PB

336gm.

The autobiography provides insight on leadership by incorporating historical accounts with his personal experience. Among other positions, the author participated in the building of Kenya as an MP at Mathira Constituency for three terms: (1983-1988), (1992-1997) and (1997-2002).

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841067>

Tales of the Warfront / Prince Musau

Nairobi: Prince Musau (Self-Published), 2022

V, 139p.

9789914960983

\$ 35.00 / PB

184gm.

Tales of the Warfront gives a soldier's experience in the warfront particularly in the pursuit of the Alshabaab.

It also equips the reader with lifesaving skills in case they become victims of a terror attack.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841070>

The Raila Conspiracy: The Secrets Behind Denying Him the Kenyan Presidency: Authorized Biography / Babior Newton (Eds) Frank Jaffaer & Susan Walker
Nairobi: Scholar Fred Publishers Book Inc., 2017

xx, 416p.

Includes Index

9789966083135

\$ 55.00 / PB

460gm.

Raila Amollo Odinga is one of the most idolized names in the politics of our times. The former prime minister enjoys a cultic following that has brought him admiration and hate in equal measure. He is recognized for his constant agitation for the political emancipation of the masses and enduring the onslaught of oppression and struggle under regimes that worshipped impunity.

His posture has rubbed the powerful elites the wrong way and has set in motion a denigrated flurry of boardroom games aimed at locking him out of top leadership in Kenya. Whether he is in the seat of power or operating behind the scenes, he attracts irrational attention from his lovers and detractors.

In the Raila Conspiracy, Banior Newton delineates Raila's political struggles and exposes the syndicate plots and conspiracies of the powerful political elites and hardliners.

This book unravels secret games and counter-games played by power elites in Kenyan presidential succession.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841074>

Now You See Me : An Illustrated Collection of Short Memoirs / Kitui dJo Thefu

Nairobi: Isukuti Studio, 2022

xii, 146p.

9789914741797

\$ 30.00 / PB

164gm.

A curated cocktail of everyday tales, written over a seven-year period, which have evolved into short memoirs of Thefu, a non-recovering artcoholic and storyteller. His tales are wide-ranging: whacky dreams, observing a chicken lay an egg, destroying beautiful women's property, loss, sombre heartbreaks, philosophical musings over dog behaviour, social commentaries—and everything in between.

Thefu grew up in rural Kenya a quiet, introverted boy, who got out of trouble with brain rather than brawn. His stories reveal a heightened sense of observation, and an ability to find meaning and humour, even in fleeting and seemingly mundane events.

This is an intimate glimpse into his perception of the world, and he means it when he says, Now You See Me.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841077>

This Girl is on Fire! : An African Girl's Journey Towards Significance / Wangari Kuria
Nairobi: Wangari Kuria (Self-Published), 2019

91p.

9789966136800

\$ 15.00 / PB

124gm.

A biography about the life of a girl who surmounts unimaginable obstacles to become everything she never dreamt possible. She unpacks satirical tales and trials of her childhood growing up in Nyahururu, her rather mischievous journey through high school, her wild affair with the city and two scoops at marriage life.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841080>

Arising from the Flames of Death : Tips for Black Migrants Survival in Gulf Countries /
Johntera Kasuto

Nyeri: Dreamlinks Book Supplies, 2020

viii, 72p.

9966739580 ; 9789966739582

\$ 20.00 / PB

110gm.

In the pages of 'Arising from the Flames of Death' the writer cautions all potential Black Migrants about what to look out for, while at the same time making some recommendations to African Governments on how they should assuage the pain of their citizen in the Gulf Region.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841081>

I Missed a Bullet / Juma Patrick Kurwa

Kenya: Williams Publishers Ltd, 2021

vii, 121p.

9789914400755

\$ 18.00 / PB

170gm.

This book is a dedication for young adults from all walks of life irrespective of gender or ethnic background. It inspires hope, resilience and determination especially for the Kenyan men and women in uniform who find no reason to be alive and instead resort to using their own arms to end their lives.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841086>

Moments in the Mountains Hiking on Dead Knees / Stella Ngali Mutuku

Nairobi: Booklyst Press Limited, 2021

208p.

9789966822390

\$ 30.00 / PB
274gm.

Some people get discouraged when they face adversity in life. They allow this to limit their capabilities. Stella loves mountains. She loves spending time outdoors, hiking, trekking and generally enjoying nature. Discovering that she had osteoarthritis when she was hiking, and climbing mountains more and more, would have devastated her. She could have thrown up her hands and given up, saying, 'this is not fair'. However, she did not. Instead, she came to terms with her situation and accepted it but did not allow it to rob her of what she loved doing most.

If you are facing similar adversities or other limitations, you will relate well with what Stella underwent; her endurance and perseverance. Moments in the Mountains will help you learn to focus on smaller goals and to celebrate when you achieve them. It will help you to look at your adversity as an opportunity to develop your character. It will teach you that challenges can be overcome or at least mitigated. All you need to do is accept your situation, seek help where possible and take good care of yourself.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841088>

Women of the Light: Charting the Path Nuggets of Wisdom and Resilience from our Alumnae / Mugoiri Old Girls Association (MOGA)

Kenya: Mugoiri Old Girls Association (MOGA), 2022

xii, 130p.

9789914743449

\$ 20.00 / PB

168gm.

Women of the Light is an anthology made up of inspiring stories told by Alumnae of Mugoiri Girls High School, a national school in Muranga. This book, published by the Mugoiri Old Girls Association (MOGA) is just but a snippet of how life after high school unfolded for a few of the alumnae; the seas they have swum through, mountains climbed and a few valleys traversed too.

They tell us how they have continued to emerge victorious through it all from the plains of Samburu, to the hills of Muranga, the law courts of Nairobi and treacherous Garissa, to Mount St. Scholastica in Kansas and the suburbs in Alpharetta, Georgia. Journey with them as they share nuggets of wisdom and resilience in each of the stories.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841090>

Confessions of Nairobi Women (True Stories Told) / Joan Thatiah

Nairobi: Joan Thatiah (Self-Published), 2022

178p.

9789914743289

\$ 25.00 / PB

208gm.

Confessions of Nairobi Women' is a collection of thirteen true candid stories told to Joan Thatiah. The stories are as awe-inspiring as they are heart-wrenching.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841092>

If I Had A Son : Stories of Manhood to Our Sons / Gitonga Mutani

Nairobi: CLC Kenya Authors Collaboration, 2020

x, 128p.

9789966823823

\$ 20.00 / PB

180gm.

Every boy today will be a man tomorrow.

When they say that the gentleman is an endangered species, they are not wrong. However, we can do something about it. This book is all about raising up a wholesome man.

These are foundational thoughts that if embedded into the man's mind will create an all-rounded gentleman capable of reclaiming manhood and its lost glory.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841094>

Day 365 : Finding My Way in Every Run / Muindi Kimanzi

Kenya: Muindi Kimanzi (Self-Published), 2020

144p.

9789914747416

\$ 20.00 / PB

122gm.

I RAN EVERY DAY FOR A YEAR!

Read the story of how Muindi ran every day for 365 days. The year-long challenge helped him overcome depression and alcoholism, changed his life for the better and helped him build consistency and discipline in achieving his goals. He shares this and hopes to inspire you to build consistency and discipline in pursuing your goals.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841095>

History

Shades of Benga : The Story of Popular Music in Kenya : 1946-2016 / Tabu Osusa & Bill

Odidi; (Ed) Ketebul Music

Kenya: Ketebul Music, 2017

676p.

Includes Index ; Select Bibliography

9789966094605

\$ 300.00 / HB

2746gm.

Although dozens of works have been published over the years on various characteristics of popular music in Kenya – from conventional folk to hip hop – none captures the history of music and its players as authoritatively as Shades of Benga: The Story of Popular Music in Kenya. Ketebul Music undertook the arduous task of meticulously putting together the

content that would faithfully recount the remarkable story of the development of Kenyan music in a manner previously not attempted.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=833649>

The Kipsigis Talai: Tragedy, Tribulation and Triumph of a Community in Kenya / David Ng'asura Tuei & Godfrey K. Sang

Fourth Edition

Nairobi: Gapman Publications Ltd, 2018

xii, 172p.

Includes Bibliography

9789966117090

\$ 75.00 / PB

554gm.

A general walk within Nairobi's old low-income suburbs of Pumwani, Majengo, Kariokor, Kamukunji, and Shauri Moyo, you could chance upon an old Kalenjin woman, you would be forgiven if you thought she was lost.

Still fluent in their particular Kalenjin dialect and with urbane children and grandchildren who scarcely speak her language, the woman represents a dark legacy of removal, displacement, and dispersal dating back to the dawn of colonial rule in Kenya.

The old tin-roofed structures, the filthy surroundings and darkened dwellings in the low-income suburbs offer a paradoxical motif of poverty which pursued them there, even as they tried to escape it, in their villages of origin. You will be coming face to face with a bygone era, far removed from us but not entirely so. Their reasons for being there are as varied as their numbers.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841100>

Stronger Than Faith: My Journey in the Quest for Justice in Repressive Kenya, 1958-2015 / Odour Ong'wen

Nairobi: Vita Books, 2022

550p.

9789914962192

\$ 65.00/ PB

856gm.

Few events in Kenya's recent history have captured the imagination of the nation as those of the period from the late 1970s. Between the pages of this memoirs is a history of that period which is hardly taught in our schools and is fast receding into the holes of the insignificant as a younger generation takes over. The history of that era, like that of all the eras that have made this country, needs to be preserved by those who witnessed and participated in it. In Stronger Than Faith, Oduor Ong'wen adds clarity to the politics of an important but dark era of our history. It adds clarity to why that era is not entirely gone.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841101>

For Love of Soysambu: The Saga of Lord Delamere and His Descendants in Kenya / Juliet Barnes

Naivasha: Old Africa Books, 2022
xii, 364p.
Includes Index; Bibliography
9789966757661
\$ 55.00 / PB
486gm.

This dramatic story spans 122 years and highlights challenges faced by four generations of an initially British aristocratic family in Kenya, with Soysambu in the Great Rift Valley as its central focus. Initially a refuge for dying sheep, but more recently a Wildlife Conservancy and part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site, today Soysambu protects many rare and endangered species. The saga begins in 1897 with the arrival of the Hon. Hugh Cholmondeley, who walked over 1,000 kilometres into East Africa from Berbera. In 1902, after inheriting his title of 3rd Baron Delamere, he abandoned his grand Cheshire family home, Vale Royal, for a grass and mud hut in East Africa, where he befriended local Maasai and gradually built up a formidable reputation as a leading politician and pioneer. When he died in 1931, having sold off his Cheshire estates to fund his agricultural experiments, he was bankrupt. His second wife, Gwladys, Mayor of Nairobi, was associated with the notorious Happy Valley clique, dragging her into the Lord Erroll murder trial in 1941. Delamere's son, Thomas Cholmondeley, now 4th Baron Delamere, moved to Kenya after World War II to salvage his father's farms. Thomas, who was pro-independence, managed to turn Soysambu into a successful cattle ranch. His third wife, Diana, remained notorious for her affair with Lord Erroll at his time of murder, with many still believing she'd been his killer. Following Thomas's death in 1979, his only son Hugh, now 5th Baron Delamere, took over Soysambu. His son, Tom Cholmondeley, faced increasing financial problems and pressure from land-hungry Kenyans, a situation exacerbated when he was charged with murder - twice. After his incarcerations and eventual release, he was busy implementing his innovative ideas on Soysambu when he died unexpectedly on 24th August 2016 after hip surgery.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841102>

Law

Labour Rights Legal Framework in Kenya
Nairobi: Kenya Human Rights Commission, 2019
1v,
9789966188106
\$ 30.00/ PB
352gm.
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841103>

Digital Space – Case Digest: Civic Space Protection Platform / Faith Kisinga Gitonga
Nairobi: Civil Society Reference Group (CSRG), 2020
1v.
\$ 30.00 / PB

208gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841104>

Sexual Violence as a Political Tool During Elections in Kenya: State Actions Need Ahead of the 2022 Polls: Fact-Finding Mission Report

Nairobi: Kenya Human Rights Commission, 2021

1v.

\$ 50.00/ PB

332gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841105>

Democratic Gains and Pitfalls: The Role of Courts in Safeguarding Civic Space in Kenya: A Case Digest

Nairobi: Kenya Human Rights Commission, 2020

1v.

9789966188137

\$ 30.00 / PB

104gm

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841106>

Proposed Amendments in the Criminal Justice System: A Policy Brief

Nairobi: Kenya Human Rights Commission, 2020

1v.

9789966188106

\$ 15.00/ PB

80gm.

In a Policy Brief released today, the Kenya Human Rights Commission broadly examines the issues raised in the National Council on the Administration of Justice The Criminal Justice System in Kenya: An Audit report that sought to provide a comprehensive analysis of the Criminal Justice System towards providing recommendations to strengthen service delivery and policy reforms in Kenya.

The policy briefs seek to also prioritize reform measures that can assist the criminal justice system to attain focus on its core mandate – which should be tackling the more serious criminal offences of concern to citizens and that have the most deleterious effect on the nation.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841107>

Literature

The Stories of Kulang Toat : A Legend in Africa's Nuer Land / Weirial Baluang (Illustrator)

Daud M. Boro

South Sudan: Africa World Books Pte Ltd, 2019

9780648502845

\$ 50.00/ PB

322gm.

In Nuer land not too long ago was a man who was well known during his life and after his death and often not for all the right reasons. Weirial Gatyiel Puok Baluang's *The Stories of Kulang Toat*, take us through Kulang's life and the effect he had on his family and his community around him. With clear moral lessons on what one should and should not do and an interesting look at Nuer traditions, practices and folktales, Kulang Toat's life story will make you both laugh and despair. The Stories of Kulang Toat are a key part of South Sudanese culture and history and though usually orally passed down, are now collected here in written form for all to enjoy.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841108>

The Royal Bead / Grace Ogot
Kisumu: Anyange Press Ltd, 2018
244p.
9789966112712
\$ 25.00 / PB
306gm.

This is a novel based on the famous Luo legend of migration, known by various names and narratives of diverse lengths, as "Legend of Labong'o and Gipir" but only for the first time rendered in novel form – in the tradition of the ancient Greek writers. The story begins sometime in the 10th Century at Winam Settlement, somewhere in present day Northern Uganda, under the leadership of Luo the Beginning.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841109>

Stories of Gatluak Manguel: A Cannibal Who Lived in Nuer's Land, South Sudan / Yien Wil Mayuak
USA: Afrogate LLC., 2022
166p.
English & Thok Naath Languages
9781959037040
\$ 25.00 / PB
162gm.

The Story of Gatluak Manguel is a story of cannibalism that took place in South Sudan many years ago. Till today the story has been told because of its uniqueness, and the scary nature behind it as well as the man, Gatluak Manguel who terrorized the land by feasting on hapless people. Moreover, people can't get rid of the story of cannibalism and when it is being told, you can see the frightened faces of the people because this cannibal inflicted pain, agony, and fear in the life of many.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841110>

Honey and Venom: A Novel / Esther Mwalimu Opiyo (Ed) Njuki wa Nderitu
Kenya: Esther Mwalimu Opiyo (Self-Published), 2022
176p.

9789914742176
\$ 25.00 / PB
330gm.

LOVE & COUNTRY – Two ideals that are worth fighting and dying for to the citizens of a rich but poorly governed African state that is facing unprecedented political turmoil...

SARAH & NICK – Comrades, revolutionaries and lovers. Their outrage over the extrajudicial killing of a fellow university student turns them into the unlikely leaders of a popular movement that threatens the political status quo. But can the grassroots revolution really stand against powerful forces like the incredibly wealthy and powerful Ginzard? And will Sarah's dream of a happy home life with her parents and siblings materialize?

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841111>

Prime Minister's Daughter / Ash Jay
Kenya: Harry's Publication L.L.C., 2021
iv, 298p.
9780463798195
\$ 30.00 / PB
372gm.

How does a moment of excitement and ecstatic fulfilment of a long-held desire suddenly morph into a horror movie and misfortunes galore? That is the story of Mima Adams. Having spent all her teenage years without her father, she is so excited that he is returning to Kenya from South Korea.

However, her joy is short-lived after the reunion because her father and grandmother get assassinated in a gory mafia-like ambush. Emerging from a hair breathe escape, she finds herself in a position she could use to hunt his family killers by happenstance. Will she succeed?

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841112>

The Flip Side of Betrayal: A Novel / Jean Wairimu Kamina (Ed) Patricia Mataga (et al.)
Nairobi: Writers Guild Kenya, 2022
164p.
9789914747997
\$ 25.00 / PB
202gm.

This book unravels a puzzling paradox, a love story, and will take you through experiences from exotic countries, wrapped in sudden twists of fate. Can betrayal ever have a remedy? Is there a flip side to Betrayal?

A woman, haunted by her past struggles to find herself amidst the pain of betrayal and ends up finding recourse in the most extraordinary ways by discovering The Flip Side of Betrayal.

Betrayal is a bitter pill to swallow. It can cause deep seated bitterness, a bitterness that worms its way into the spirit, eating away at the soul like acid. Jessie, a successful

entrepreneur with her own kitenge clothing line, had fallen prey to this evil seed and allowed it to take root in her life. Her whole life is turned around completely as a result of being betrayed.

The Flip Side of Betrayal shows us that there can be a positive side to betrayal.

Are you ready to experience your flip side of betrayal?

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=835464>

The Crystal Ball Fell: A Fiction (Fairy Tale) Book / Muthoni Kirumba

Nairobi: Market and Advertise You Africa (MAYA) Books, 2019

168p.

9789966198020

\$ 25.00 / PB

266gm.

The Crystal Ball Fell is a Kenyan Fiction story focusing on three main societal issues: emotional abuse, family feud and betrayal. These are issues we face on a daily basis.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841113>

Woman Beneath Her Feet and Other Stories / Ida Kemunto (et al.) (Ed) Scholar Akinyi

Nairobi: Noah Roy Publications Kenya, 2022

240p.

9789914409055

\$ 30.00 / PB

264gm.

The book is an anthology of captivating short stories by 13 different Kenyan authors who have flexed their creative ingenuity to put together a fascinating read.

The fictional narratives explore a cocktail of interesting storylines ranging from love to loss and grief, family life, and sex, among other thought-provoking subplots.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841120>

A Slice of Darkness for Breakfast: 9 Curious Kenyan Tales / (Ed) Charles Chanchori

Kenya: NdikoAliet, 2022

304p.

9798354027798

\$ 35.00 / PB

322gm.

This anthology features some of Kenya's freshest writing talents. It is a collection of stories that explore the dark corners of the human mind.

Some of the stories find something in those dark corners, grab it and drag it out as it thrashes like fish on a hook.

Others find something unfathomable lurking in the dark and come out screaming. Yet some tales shine the light on the dark crevices and what we behold knocks us back or takes our breath away.

Whichever way you slice it, these stories will have a lasting impact on you, er, your breakfast.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841121>

Behind The Scenes and Other Stories / (Ed) Nahashon Harrison

Kenya: Harry's Publication L.L.C., 2021

iii, 147p.

9781005570255

\$ 30.00/ PB

196gm.

The ten stories in this anthology are hundred percent Kenyan. Most of them have been authored by budding narrators as they confidently take a plunge to claim space in literary world.

The thematic aspect delved into in these stories includes gender relations and roles, human rights, abuse, corruption, love, and vengeance. These vivid narrations explore human nature, life, and diverse aspects that spice it.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841122>

Our Stories Redefined: Anthology for African Writing 2020 / (Ed) Vincent de Paul

Nakuru: Mystery Publishers Limited, 2022

xii, 128p.

9789914995343

\$ 25.00 / PB

146gm.

Our Stories Redefined annual anthology for African writing is the vehicle for new-age African writers to tell their stories to a generation that understands them.

In this 2022 flash fiction edition, the stories focus on Afro-modernity and Afro-futurism, mainly on familial and societal relationships. It is a collection of souls wishing to be understood in a chaotic and complex environment born out of years of conditioning.

The characters in this anthology are struggling with one problem or another, a mirror of our society. It is not a collection of cynical characters but characters who have refused to drown in the world's cynicism.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841123>

An Outcome Guaranteed / Luke Ameru

Nairobi: Neno Publishers, 2022

472p.

9789914994582

\$ 30.00 / PB

376gm.

The activities of a gang code named "The September Traffickers" escalate from mere kidnapping to merchandise of human body organs, attracting national attention. A great crisis unfolds.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841124>

Chomz: A Novella / Nanu
Mombasa: Flying Dhow, 2021
128pp.
Umbea Mtaani Series No. 1
9789914407419
\$ 25.00 / PB
118gm.

Mombaaz is known for two things: supernatural creatures called yovulis that live among humans and, Umbea – gossip. One of them is bound to bewitch you.

Chomz is a fantasy fiction novella about Angie, a Nairobiian who comes to Mombaaz after her family's fall into chaos following her father's tragic death. Angie, determined that becoming an influencer will make her life easier, finds a surprisingly cheap AirBnb in Old Town, overlooking the channel.

The AirBnb rumored to be built by Kitwana, a long-forgotten mythological figure, is filled with antiques as perfect as the day they were made and a grande wall-length mirror.

Angie's curiosity is piqued when the local street food vendor, Mheshimiwa Fatma, warns her against the AirBnb's mysterious past and strange happenings.

Angie is intrigued but disbelieving of Mheshimiwa Fatma's warnings until she meets Chomz, the talking goat and host of the AirBnb, appears offering a fantastical adventure through history, revealing Kitwana's history and an unforgivable curse that killed his whole family. Chomz offers Angie a gift from Kitwana's private collection. The only catch, she needs to enter the grande mirror, into a pocket world to pick it.

Angie quickly finds herself entangled in Kitwana's past as she comes face to face with creatures and myths that were long believed to be dead, and a curse that threatens to steal her soul.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841125>

From The Eyes Of A Child / Cornelius Kipkosgei
Narok: Elong'o Publishers, 2022
viii, 88p.
9798353186977
\$ 18.00 / PB
132gm.

From The Eyes Of A Child is a poetry collection that digs into themes such as childhood, love and marriage, war, the environment, depression and healing, grief, among other contemporary themes. It fashions itself as a shelf of sarcasm, satire and dark humour. The author opines that fears, vulnerabilities, strengths, dreams and even the littlest experiences are what makes a man. So, let us unravel the question, 'Can a man be or feel like a child given his experiences?' Shall we?

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841126>

My Little Yellow Book / Sakina Taki

Nairobi: Bounceback Books, 2021
120p.
9789914401806
\$ 25.00/ PB
146gm.

My Little yellow Book is a poetry book themed on mental health and process of healing. It is compiled in a Journal format so you can enjoy penning down your thoughts as you admire the art work and enjoy the flow of poetry.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841127>

Window into Worlds / Evans Gesura Mecha
Nairobi: Nsemia Inc. Publishers, 2022
Second Edition
xii, 74p.
9789966082800
\$ 20.00 / PB
104gm.

Dr. Evans Gesura Mecha's poems in Window into Worlds stir the soul and evoke worlds beyond worlds. I am overjoyed to read them, as I believe other readers would. Mecha's poetry easily blends the jigsaws of life in the present with that of antiquity and the metaphysical. It is as much rooted in contemporaneity, indigenous ethos, as in the inwardness of a universal rhythm which ripples through his poetry like a pure, crystalline stream flowing effortlessly. It is delightfully oblique yet not constricted by the artifice of rhetoric and prosody. The subterranean nuances trigger the mind to introspect and delve into untold depths of the "feeling intellect" (Wordsworth). His powerful imagism and natural impressionism makes it superbly impactful, permeating the deepest consciousness of the reader. His poetic diction revels as much in the ordinary beauty of everyday natural life as in the transcendental realm eluding the patterns of words. His poetry smells of the musk of the soil and wings out into the transcendental. Mecha takes one easily on the magic carpet of a poetic elysium into the realms of the multiverse. I am sure readers will revel in his poetry as much as I have. – Prof. Dr. Laksmisree Banerjee, Poet, Professor, Vocalist & Ex-Vice Chancellor; Universities of Calcutta, Ranchi & Kolhan, INDIA.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841128>

In the Murk of Life: An Anthology of Poetry / (Eds) Imali J. Abala & Christopher Okemwa
Nairobi: Nsemia Inc. Publishers, 2019
x, 64p.
9781926906836
\$ 15.00 / PB
92gm.

In the Murk of Life is an anthology written by first year students in the department of literature at Kisii University in Kenya. As its title suggests, the poets in this collection explore the murky landscape of life in Kenyan society and examines issues that are

universal in content: They deal with the bitter-sweet lies evident in intimate relationships among young people. They tackle the issues of corruption, murder and betrayal that paint the rotten fabric of Kenyan politics. They also, categorically, state their fears in poems about death, cancer and HIV/AIDS. Nature and the environment feature prominently in poems about birds, trees and nights and, subsequently, unveil truths that lay beneath the ordinary understanding of this phenomenon. In essence, In the Murk of Life the Kenyan society is portrayed as “the place we call home” as the poet Mose E. Morang’a states in his poem, and as a “Disheartening Society” as the poet, Aurellia Atieno, views it.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841129>

Bile on My Smile: A Collection of Poems / Ruth Jepkorir Koech

Nairobi: Nsemia Inc. Publishers, 2022

x, 72p.

9789966082787

\$ 20.00 / PB

100gm.

Bile on My Smile is a collection of poems authored by the youngest and most brilliant poet in Kenya. Its motivation seems to largely emanate from the poet’s childhood experiences: meditations, self-hate, self-denial, trauma, frustrations, disappointments, and failed ambitions. Reading through the poems the reader feels like being in a dark room with an invisible body that is experiencing anguish and trauma, haunted by invisible ghosts and spirits.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841130>

Chachu za Waja / Muhindo Augustine ‘Bin’ Mali

Kenya: Nsemia Inc. Publishers, 2022

x, 166p.

In Swahili

9789966082794

\$ 20.00 / PB

202gm.

Udhalimu wa wanawake na wanaume ni suala la kawaida. Kazi hii inadhihirisha uhalisia wa maisha katika familia nyingi za kisasa ambapo kuna ufeministi ambapo hata mwanamke anahisi kuwa nguzo ya familia. Maisha hayo ni sawa na yale watu waliyokuwa wakiishi katika nchi dhahania ya Sokoya, iliyokuwa na makabila mawili yaani Wakomoro na Warambi.

Riwaya yenyewe, inadhihirisha dhahiri shahiri jinsi wanaume wanavyodhulumiwa na wake zao. Bw. Mkata ni mfano bora anayedhalilishwa na mkewe Zekelina, mwanamke mashuhuri na maridadi katika mavazi yake kwa sababu ya hali yake ya uchechefe wa pesa. Latifu pia anadharauliwa na mchumba wake Firinda anayetambua kuwa hajatahiriwa kwa mujibu wa utamaduni wa Rambani.

“...ujue kwamba sikutaki tena nyumbani kwangu, muda wako uliisha zamani. Wewe kwa kweli si wa hadhi yangu.” Alisema Firinda akimfukuza Latifu. Latifu alilia akadondokwa na machozi mengi yaliyomlowa mwili mzima, na kutiririka hadi yakaunda kijito cha maji.

“Kweli mapenzi uchizi! Kwa nini umekuja katika maisha yangu ili uniumize? Kwa nini umeruhusu moyo wangu akupende halafu uje kuniacha njiani? Ina maana wakati ulinishawishi nikupende hukuyajua haya...”

Kinyume na matarajio, mahusiano yanazuka wakati ambapo wanawake wanawapenda wanaume na kuvuka mipaka na kutangaza hisia zao. Peremina anamchumbia Isma naye Firinda anamsalitikia Latifu na mahusiano hayo mawili yanaishia kwenye machozi.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841131>

Official Publications

Kenya National Bibliography 2020 / Philomena Mwirigi & Rose Rono
Nairobi: Kenya National Library Service, 2022

1v.

Includes Index

9789966926302

1. Bibliography.

\$ 65.00 / PB

242gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841132>

Religion – Christianity

Sculpted By Design / Kemirimo D. Okuja

Kenya: Kemirimo D. Okuja (Self-Published), 2021

110p.

9789913610674

\$ 20.00 / PB

128gm.

The book is the first volume of the History of Uganda from the Biblical perspective. Most of our early history is founded on mythology, folklore or evolution. In this book, you get to read the Bible as the life manual written by God for the reader, the dreamer, and the one on a quest to make meaning out of life. God did not merely throw words around and out came this world. Like the sculptor and engineer, He carefully and masterfully placed His Words in the universe as valuable trinkets. He unveiled over seven days, a most delightful and perfect maze, our world. This world includes Africa, it includes Uganda and all who live within its boundaries.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841133>

COVID-19: A Buried World and Church / J.G. Nyamu

Nairobi: Camels Publications Ltd, 2020

348p.

9789914708004

\$ 35.00 / PB

432gm.

The author has with incredible skill, created an imagery of a virus with a “mind” which has thrust individuals, the world and the church into lockdown. He tackles major dimensions of the pandemic including China’s responsibility to the world.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841134>

Catholic Social Teaching and Common Good in Africa / (Eds) Marco Moerschbacher & Elias Opongo SJ

Nairobi: Paulines Publications Africa, 2021

184p.

9966602336; 9789966602336

\$ 25.00 / PB

214gm.

In 2017 the Research Group for International Church Affairs of the German Bishop's Conference took the initiative to gather practitioners and experts of Catholic Social Teaching in Africa in order to look at the picture given by the impact of the Catholic Social Teaching on society. The diverse collection of articles in this book are a result of an international conference held in Nairobi, and seek to answer a number of questions related to the Catholic Social Teaching and how the latter can be applied to varying contextual exigences in Africa.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=841135>
