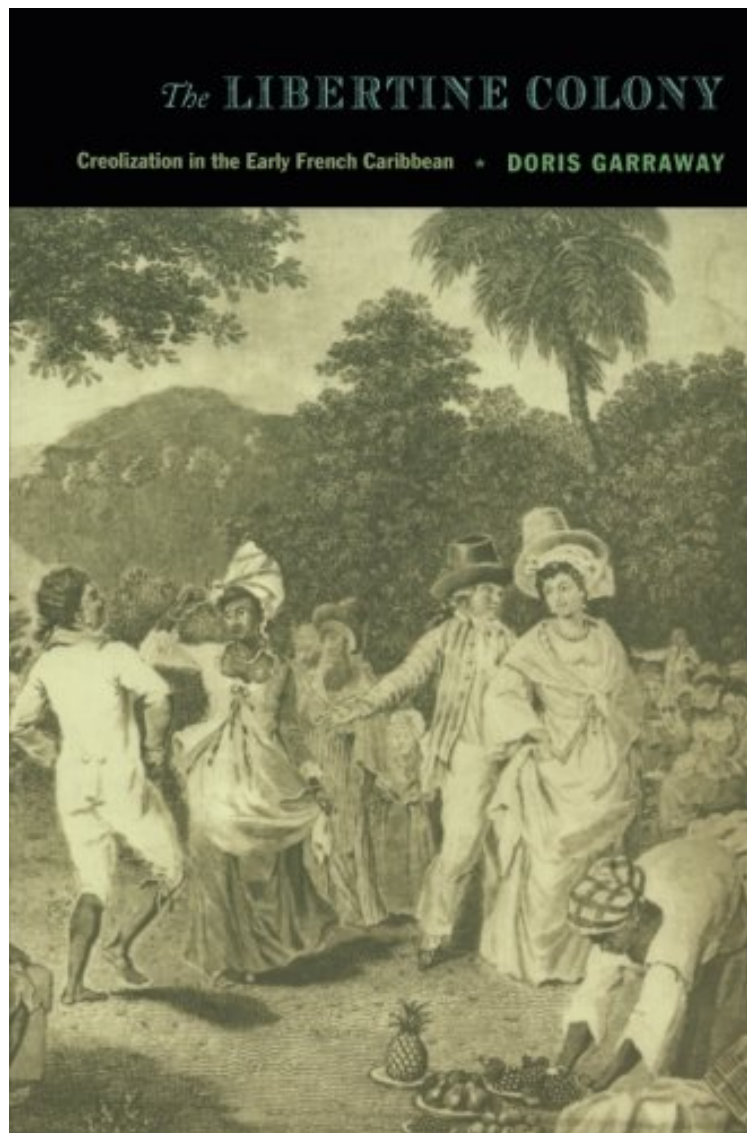


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The Libertine Colony: Creolization in the Early French Caribbean (a John Hope Franklin Center Book)

Doris L Garraway

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Doris L Garraway : The Libertine Colony: Creolization in the Early French Caribbean (a John Hope Franklin Center Book) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Libertine Colony: Creolization in the Early French Caribbean (a John Hope Franklin Center Book):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Highly recommended. By Maria Magnolia Solorzano I am a Nicaraguan and this book is extremely accurate. It is a must to anyone studying the turbulent, violent, fair and unfair relationships between the United States of America and Nicaragua in particular and Latin America in general. Very well documented and supported in facts and not the myths of the leftists intellectuals very prone to US bashing. It describes us as we were, as we are and as we will be. Explain lots of historical and transcendental happenings y a very clear and concise manner. It worth every dollar that you pay for it. Highly recommended. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Nice to read on the history of my two nations. By Julio Gutierrez Great book. Very well researched. My great great grandmother told my father about her memories of that time frame between 1912 and 1933 when the US was heavily involved in Nicaragua. Nice to read up on the history through a very well written book. Gave it to my father as a gift after I read it. He loved it as well. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Perfect By Drea This book was essential in helping me write my BA thesis. It was informative, easy to read, and well-organized. It was recommended to me by one of my Spanish professors at the University of Chicago and also assigned as reading in a history class at UChicago, so it's respected by top scholars.

Presenting incisive original readings of French writing about the Caribbean from the inception of colonization in the 1640s until the onset of the Haitian Revolution in the 1790s, Doris Garraway sheds new light on a significant chapter in French colonial history. At the same time, she makes a pathbreaking contribution to the study of the cultural contact, creolization, and social transformation that resulted in one of the most profitable yet brutal slave societies in history. Garraway's readings highlight how French colonial writers characterized the Caribbean as a space of spiritual, social, and moral depravity. While tracing this critique in colonial accounts of Island Carib cultures, piracy, spirit beliefs, slavery, miscegenation, and incest, Garraway develops a theory of the libertine colony. She argues that desire and sexuality were fundamental to practices of domination, laws of exclusion, and constructions of race in the slave societies of the colonial French Caribbean. Among the texts Garraway analyzes are missionary histories by Jean-Baptiste Du Tertre, Raymond Breton, and Jean-Baptiste Labat; narratives of adventure and transgression written by pirates and others outside the official civil and religious power structures; travel accounts; treatises on slavery and colonial administration in Saint-Domingue; the first colonial novel written in French; and the earliest linguistic description of the native Carib language. Garraway also analyzes legislation including the Code noir that codified slavery and other racialized power relations. *The Libertine Colony* is both a rich cultural history of creolization as revealed in Francophone colonial literature and an important contribution to theoretical arguments about how literary critics and historians should approach colonial discourse and cultural representations of slave societies.

An inquiry into the limitless ambiguity of violence, lust, and law in the early French Caribbean, *The Libertine Colony* is a daring scholarly feat. A model of convergence for its contribution across disciplinary boundaries, this book not only challenges how we read Old Regime colonial narratives but prompts us to think again about the proximity of the common and the sacred. In giving a detailed history to the vagaries of colonial slavery, Doris Garraway confronts the gist of torture in those realms that most seem to deny it. In fascinating detail, she rethinks conceits of love, as she exhumes rituals of belief. Joan Dayan, author of *Haiti, History, and the Gods*