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Maria Elena Diaz

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#1805954 in Books Maria Elena Diaz 2002-07-23 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x 1.10 x 6.00l, 1.40 #File Name: 080474713X464 pages The Virgin the King and the Royal Slaves of el Cobre Negotiating Freedom in Colonial Cuba 1670 1780 | File size: 52.Mb

Maria Elena Diaz : The Virgin, the King, and the Royal Slaves of El Cobre: Negotiating Freedom in Colonial Cuba, 1670-1780 (Cultural Sitings) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Virgin, the King, and the Royal Slaves of El Cobre: Negotiating Freedom in Colonial Cuba, 1670-1780 (Cultural Sitings):

0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. great bookBy ValeriaThis was a great book, the way she explains the different sources and the gaps that she find. Is an interesting way to see Cuban and peasant history

This book tells the extraordinary story of a village of peasants and miners in late seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Cuba who were slaves belonging to the king of Spain and whose local patroness was a miraculous image of the Virgin of Charity of El Cobre. In reconstructing this history, the book reveals that in Cubas eastern region, slavery to the King became a very ambiguous form of slavery that evolved into forms of freedom unprecedented in other colonial societies of the New World. The author studies the relations that developed between the Virgin, the King, and the royal slaves as the enslaved villagers imagined and negotiated social identity and freedom in this Caribbean frontier society. In the process, she examines several dimensions of the royal slaves daily and imaginary lives. Drawing on a range of cultural, social, political, and economic sources, this book presents a multisided history of enslaved people as they remade colonial spaces and turned them into a new homeland in El Cobre. As they produced social memory and appropriated popular religious traditions centered on the Virgin of Charity, they reinvented their past and present as a new people within the structures and strictures of Spains colonial world.

"In itself, this is a fascinating and perhaps unique story. The author, however, is to be congratulated for the extensive

research that she undertook to flesh out the narrative and make her analysis all the richer and more satisfying . . . This is a book that will naturally be read by those who study slavery but it will also be useful for those examining the creation of community identity and the engagement of the less powerful within a colonial society." (Canadian Journal of History)"Mara Elena Daz's *The Virgin, the King and the Royal Slaves of El Cobre* examines a fascinating and little known episode of Cuban and Afro-Latin American history...In the process of telling this remarkable story, Daz offers rich asides on the *cobrer*os' social, economic, cultural, and religious life." *Journal of Social History*"This is an excellent example of just how sophisticated scholarship on early Cuban history has become. . . . The book looks at a host of subjects: eastern Cuba (too often neglected by scholars); religious history through the emergence of the shrine of Our Lady of Charity; rural economic activity in a non-sugar-producing area; and the institution of Spanish slavery. Daz's book will be a reference point for future studies in all these areas. . . . Professional historians will appreciate how Daz extracts social and narrative history from a variety of disjointed and fragmentary materials. . . . *The Virgin, the King, and the Royal Slaves of El Cobre* provides its readers with surprises and puzzles at almost every turn." (History: s of New Books)"This fascinating book treats issues of broad, interdisciplinary significance in original and stimulating ways, lending historical depth and concreteness to problems that are often pursued too abstractly. This is the best sort of history, one that will have an impact on the historical study of Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as on the fields of anthropology and cultural studies." (Ana Mara Alonso)"This book is a gem. It is carefully researched, elegantly written, exquisitely crafted, and poignantly personal. . . . The most notable characteristic of Diaz's superb analysis is her adroit command of the conceptual frameworks of several conventional and crossborder disciplines, among them history, anthropology, sociology, and cultural studies. . . . Diaz has chosen to transcend the constraints of disciplinary demarcation to offer a remarkable adventure into the past." (The Journal of Interdisciplinary History)"This is an excellent book that represents a prime example of the *jeux d'echelles* of the historical view and the application of micro history, yet without losing sight of social history or other contexts...Without question, this is an important book that belongs in every research library." (Michael Zeuske University of Cologne)"This is an outstanding, highly original piece of work that should appeal to a very wide audience, given the great variety of themes the author discusses: slavery, freedom, legality, status, gender roles, authority, marginality, religion, social structure, colonial society, Cuban history, Caribbean history, and early Spanish colonial history." (Franklin W. Knight Johns Hopkins University)"This outstanding history of colonial El Cobre during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries explores the ways that royal slaves negotiated their condition, and the way that popular religion, focused on Our Lady of Charity, underwrote their efforts." (Choice)Using the intimate details of village life, Diaz brings historical insight to bear on the Virgins popularity, and, in the process, breaks down longstanding assumptions about slavery and colonialism in Cuba.David Sartorius, University of North Carolina"Diaz's study offers new insights into slavery and invites comparisons with other colonial slave societies of the Americas." (American Historical)From the Inside FlapThis book tells the extraordinary story of a village of peasants and miners in late seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Cuba who were slaves belonging to the king of Spain and whose local patroness was a miraculous image of the Virgin of Charity of El Cobre. 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