

Masters of the Dew

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The genre of the peasant novel in Haiti reaches back to the nineteenth century and this is one of the outstanding examples. Manuel returns to his native village after working on a sugar plantation in Cuba only to discover that it is stricken by a drought and divided by a family feud. He attacks the resignation endemic among his people by preaching the kind of political awareness and solidarity he has learned in Cuba. He goes on to illustrate his ideas in a tangible way by finding water and bringing it to the fields through the collective labor of the villagers. In this political fable, Roumain is careful to create an authentic environment and credible characters. Readers will be emotionally moved as well as ideologically persuaded.

Jacques Roumain, the son of a wealthy Haitian family, was born in Port-au-Prince in 1907. After being educated in Europe he identified with the resistance movement against the American occupation. He started *Le Revue Indigene* and published various books including *La Montagne Ensorcellee* (1931). He founded the Haitian Communist Party in 1934, was arrested and, after three years in prison, travelled in Europe and the United States until his return in 1941 when he established the Bureau d'Ethnologie in an effort to legitimise the study of Haiti's peasantry. He was sent in 1943 to the Haitian Embassy in Mexico. It was there that he completed this book *Gouverneurs de la Rosee* a few months before his sudden death in 1944. Text: English (translation)

Original Language: French

Other Books

The Great State of White and High, "A major contribution to our understanding of the rise of the Tangut as a cultural and political unity." –*Studies of Central and East Asian Religions*
Ruth Dunnell's long-awaited book on Buddhism and Tangut state formation expands on themes raised in her earlier work on Tangut history, in particular, the place of Buddhism in the early Xia state officially founded by Li (Weiming) Yuanhao in 1038 and the role of the empress dowager regents in preserving that state against external and internal enemies." –
China Review International

☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ . Because he sustained his life solely on the "ambrosial truth" (ganlu), he was also given the title Master of the Sweet Dew Dharma. His disciple Lebu transmitted this teaching and it was again transmitted by Bao'an: ..."