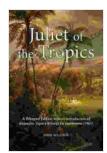
# Juliet of the Tropics: A Literary Analysis of a Classic Caribbean Novel

Juliet of the Tropics is a classic Caribbean novel written by French author Michèle Lacrosil. First published in 1956, the novel tells the story of a young woman named Juliet who comes of age in Martinique during the mid-20th century. The novel explores themes of female empowerment, racial identity, and love and relationships against the backdrop of the island's complex social and political landscape.

#### Characters

**Juliet** is the protagonist of the novel. She is a young woman who is coming of age in Martinique during the mid-20th century. Juliet is a complex and multifaceted character. She is strong-willed and independent, but she is also vulnerable and insecure. She is searching for her identity in a world that is often hostile to her.



Juliet of the Tropics: A Bilingual Edition of Alejandro Tapia y Rivera's La cuarterona (1867) by Sam Vaseghi

↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ 4 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 642 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Print length : 273 pages



**Bernard** is Juliet's love interest. He is a young man who is also from Martinique. Bernard is intelligent and ambitious, but he is also arrogant and selfish. He loves Juliet, but he is not always willing to put her needs before his own.

Madame Delmont is Juliet's grandmother. She is a strong and independent woman who has raised Juliet since she was a child. Madame Delmont is a source of strength and support for Juliet, but she is also traditional and conservative.

**Father Louis** is Juliet's priest. He is a kind and compassionate man who offers Juliet guidance and support. Father Louis is a symbol of the Catholic Church in Martinique, which plays a significant role in the novel.

### **Plot**

The novel follows Juliet's journey from adolescence to adulthood. She comes of age during a time of great social and political change in Martinique. The island is still under French colonial rule, but there is growing demand for independence. Juliet witnesses the rise of the independence movement, and she becomes involved in the struggle for freedom.

Juliet's personal life is also tumultuous. She falls in love with Bernard, but their relationship is not always easy. Bernard is often arrogant and selfish, and he does not always understand Juliet's need for independence. Juliet also struggles with her racial identity. She is of mixed race, and she is often made to feel like an outsider by both black and white people.

Despite the challenges she faces, Juliet emerges as a strong and independent woman. She learns to stand up for herself and to fight for what she believes in. She also learns to accept her own identity, and she becomes a symbol of hope and inspiration for her people.

## **Symbolism**

The novel is rich in symbolism. The island of Martinique itself is a symbol of the Caribbean region. It is a place of beauty and diversity, but it is also a place of struggle and oppression. The hurricane that hits the island in the novel is a symbol of the natural disasters that often plague the Caribbean. It is also a symbol of the political and social upheaval that the island has experienced.

The Catholic Church is another important symbol in the novel. It is a symbol of the traditional values of Martinique. It is also a symbol of the power that the Church has over the people of the island.

The mango tree is a symbol of Juliet's coming of age. It is a tree that is native to Martinique, and it is a symbol of the island's rich culture and heritage.

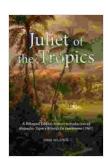
## **Literary Significance**

Juliet of the Tropics is a significant novel in Caribbean literature. It is one of the first novels to be written by a Caribbean woman, and it explores important themes that are relevant to the Caribbean experience. The novel is a powerful and moving story of love, loss, and self-discovery. It is a must-read for anyone who is interested in Caribbean literature.

Juliet of the Tropics is a classic Caribbean novel that explores themes of female empowerment, racial identity, and love and relationships. The novel is a powerful and moving story of love, loss, and self-discovery. It is a must-read for anyone who is interested in Caribbean literature.

### **Additional Resources**

- Juliet of the Tropics on Encyclopedia Britannica
- Review of Juliet of the Tropics in The Journal of Caribbean History
- Juliet of the Tropics on Amazon



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