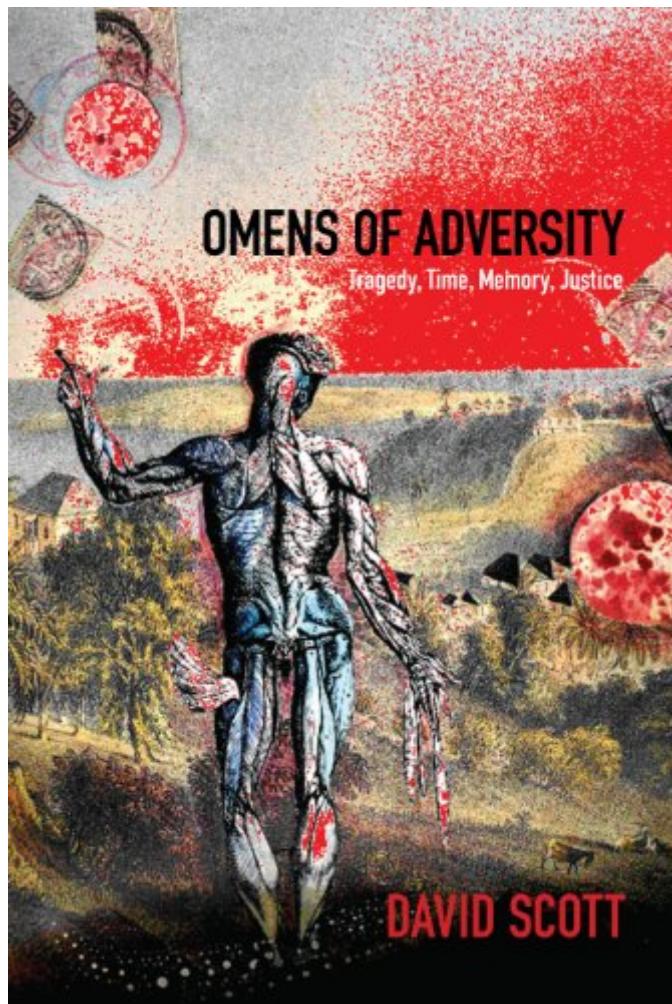


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Omens Of Adversity: Tragedy, Time, Memory, Justice



Synopsis

Omens of Adversity is a profound critique of the experience of postcolonial, postsocialist temporality. The case study at its core is the demise of the Grenada Revolution (1979–1983), and the repercussions of its collapse. In the Anglophone Caribbean, the Grenada Revolution represented both the possibility of a break from colonial and neocolonial oppression, and hope for egalitarian change and social and political justice. The Revolution's collapse in 1983 was devastating to a revolutionary generation. In hindsight, its demise signaled the end of an era of revolutionary socialist possibility. Omens of Adversity is not a history of the Revolution or its fallout. Instead, by examining related texts and phenomena, David Scott engages with broader, enduring issues of political action and tragedy, generations and memory, liberalism and transitional justice, and the possibility of forgiveness. Ultimately, Scott argues that the palpable sense of the neoliberal present as time stalled, without hope for emancipatory futures, has had far-reaching effects on how we think about the nature of political action and justice.

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Customer Reviews

The fall of the Grenadian Revolution in 1983 is a turning point in modern Caribbean history. Since

the tragic October of that year, the Left and its vision of a non-neoliberal future have practically vanished from the scene. In covering this topic, however, the author engages in so much academic posturing that this book is truly one for the Ivory Tower. The interesting bits are drowned out by reams of useless postmodern theorizing. Those who need to learn the lessons of Grenada--young Caribbean women and men hoping to transform their countries-- will have no access to them here. Explaining these events and their legacies in a clear and straight-forward manner, I believe, would have been much more work. If you're interested in the Grenadian tragedy and its memory, please see Bruce Paddington's excellent film, "Forward Ever: The Killing of a Revolution."

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