

# Haiti Noir (Akashic Noir)



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"A wide-ranging collection from the beloved but besieged Caribbean island...The 36th entry in Akashic's Noir series (which ranges from *Bronx* to *Delhi* to *Twin Cities*) is beautifully edited, with a spectrum of voices."

#### --Kirkus Reviews

"This anthology will give American readers a complex and nuanced portrait of the real Haiti not seen on the evening news and introduce them to some original and wonderful writers."

## --Library Journal

"Danticat has succeeded in assembling a group portrait of Haitian culture and resilience that is cause for celebration."

# --Publishers Weekly

"A solid contribution to the [noir] series, especially for its showcasing of a setting not commonly portrayed in crime fiction."

#### --Booklist

"Danticat has put together a collection possessing classic noir elements--crimes and criminals and evil deeds only sometimes punished--but also something else, perhaps uniquely Haitian too."

### --Los Angeles Times

"The characters that emerge in the anthology are divergent figures, alienated by exile, thriving in the diaspora and devastated by limited choices. Their stories are multi-layered, thrilling and necessary."

### --Ms. Magazine

"Who can ever judge how important Danticat has been to Americans' understanding and re-evaluating Haiti's position and role in the hemisphere? Not just as a novelist and essayist in her own right, but as editor and guiding force behind this collection of short stories and the re-publication and English translation of the Chauvet triptych, the Haitian-born Danticat has brought her country's literature back into the world of English-speakers. Filled with delights and surprises, *Haiti Noir*, taken as a whole, provides a profound portrait of the country, from its crises to its triumphs, from the tiny bouks of the countryside to the shanties of the sprawling bidonvilles. Danticat herself has a lovely story in the collection, and permits two distinguished foreign writers on Haiti, Madison Smartt Bell and Mark Kurlansky, to slide in there among all the brilliant Haitians."

### -- Daily Beast

"Haiti Noir...showcases the diversity, humour, beauty and originality of 'Haitian' writing."

# --Wasafiri (UK)

Akashic Books continues its groundbreaking series of original noir anthologies, launched in 2004 with *Brooklyn Noir*. Each story is set in a distinct neighborhood or location within the city of the book.

**Brand-new stories by**: Edwidge Danticat, Rodney Saint-Éloi, Madison Smartt Bell, Gary Victor, M.J. Fievre, Mark Kurlansky, Marvin Victor, Josaphat-Robert Large, Marie Lily Cerat, Yanick Lahens, Louis-

Philipe Dalembert, Kettly Mars, Marie Ketsia Theodore-Pharel, Evelyne Trouillot, Katia D. Ulysse, Ibi Aanu Zoboi, Nadine Pinede, and Patrick Sylvain.

# From the introduction by **Edwidge Danticat**:

"I began working on this anthology about a year before January 12, 2010, when Haiti was struck by its worst natural disaster in over two hundred years. The world knows now that more than two hundred thousand people died and over a million lost their homes in Haiti's capital and the surrounding cities of Léogâne, Petit—Goâve, and Jacmel. As I am writing these words, survivors remain huddled by the thousands in displacement camps, most shielding themselves from intermittent rain with nothing but wooden posts and bedsheets.

Even before the earthquake, life was not easy in Haiti. There was always the risk of dying from hunger, an infectious disease, a natural disaster, or a crime. But there was also hope, laughter, and boundless creativity. Haitian creativity has always been one of the country's most identifiable survival traits. Whether expressed in vibrant and colorful paintings, double entendre--filled spiritual or party music, or the poignant, humorous, erotic, lyrical (and yes, also dark) short stories and novels of its writers, Haiti's more nuanced and complex face often comes across in its arts...

I can honestly say that, in spite of the difficult circumstances in Haiti right now, I have never felt a greater sense of joy working on any collective project than I have on this book."



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### From reader reviews:

#### **Donna Wood:**

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#### **Melissa Sands:**

Do you have something that you enjoy such as book? The reserve lovers usually prefer to opt for book like comic, quick story and the biggest one is novel. Now, why not attempting Haiti Noir (Akashic Noir) that give your fun preference will be satisfied by simply reading this book. Reading addiction all over the world can be said as the opportinity for people to know world a great deal better then how they react towards the world. It can't be claimed constantly that reading practice only for the geeky particular person but for all of you who wants to possibly be success person. So, for all of you who want to start studying as your good habit, you could pick Haiti Noir (Akashic Noir) become your own personal starter.

#### **James Melendez:**

Is it an individual who having spare time and then spend it whole day by means of watching television programs or just laying on the bed? Do you need something new? This Haiti Noir (Akashic Noir) can be the respond to, oh how comes? The new book you know. You are and so out of date, spending your extra time by reading in this brand new era is common not a geek activity. So what these books have than the others?

# Wayne Hankinson:

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