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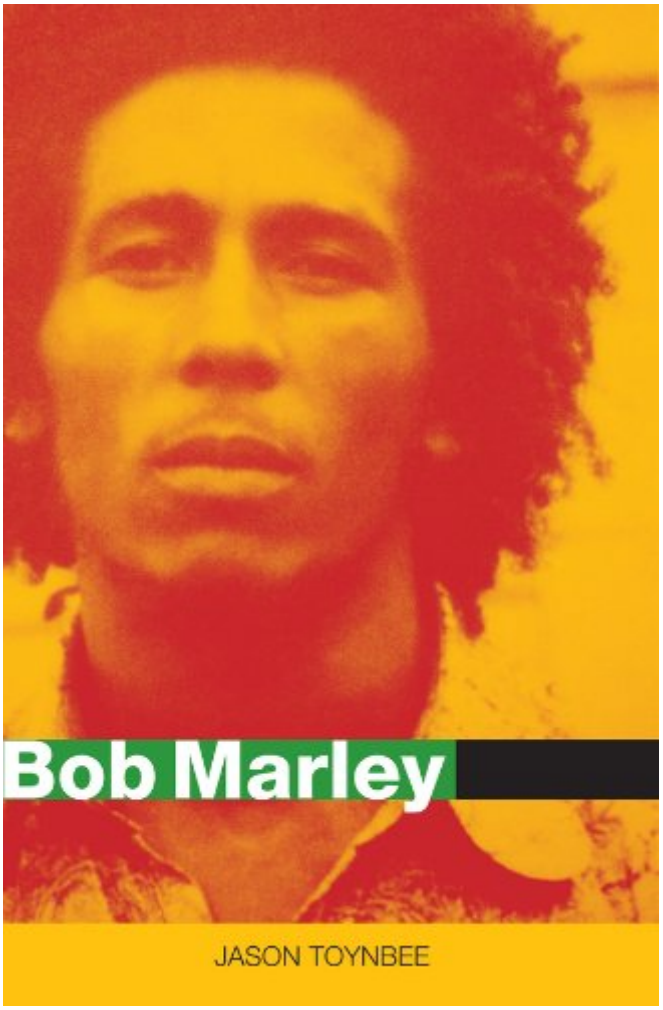

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Synopsis

Is Bob Marley the only third world superstar? How did he achieve this unique status? In this captivating new study of one of the most influential musicians of the twentieth century, Jason Toynbee sheds new light on issues such as MarleyÃ¢â ¬â„¢s contribution as a musician and public intellectual, how he was granted access to the global media system, and what his music means in cultural and political terms. Tracing MarleyÃ¢â ¬â„¢s life and work from Jamaica to the world stage, Toynbee suggests that we need to understand Marley first and foremost as a Ã¢â ¬Ëœsocial authorÃ¢â ¬â„¢. Trained in the co-operative yet also highly competitive musical laboratory of downtown Kingston, Marley went on to translate reggae into a successful international style. His crowning achievement was to mix postcolonial anger and hope with Jamaican textures and beats to produce the first world music. However the period since his death has been marked by brutal and intensifying inequality in the capitalist world system. There is an urgent need, then, to reconsider the nature of his legacy. Toynbee does this in the concluding chapters, weighing MarleyÃ¢â ¬â„¢s impact as advocate of human emancipation against his marginalisation as a Ã¢â ¬ËœNatural MysticÃ¢â ¬â„¢ and pretext for disengagement from radical politics.

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Customer Reviews

Bob Marley Herald Of A Of a Postcolonial World? is obviously about Bob Marley, but this book goes way in depth about his music and a lot of other peoples' music during the 1980's. I honestly did not enjoy this book that much as a biography. I think that the only way you could understand most of it is to have a degree in music or sociology.There weren't a lot of interesting facts about him. But I will say that the little amount of facts about him were very interesting. Like the one about when he was in a welding accident. With that there is also a lot of stuff that did not make sense, like when Jason Toynbee talks about the Reggae Conjuncture (Toynbee has a whole chapter on this). If you're looking for a biography full of interesting facts and stories about Bob Marley, I don't suggest this book.

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