

Zakes Mda

Zakes Mda was born in 1948 in Eastern Cape, South Africa. He spent his early childhood in Soweto and finished his school education in Lesotho, where he joined his father in exile. He has studied at Ohio University and joined the University of Lesotho as lecturer in the Department of English. In 1989 he was awarded a Ph.D. by the University of Cape Town. In the early 1900s, Mda served in a number of academic posts. In 1991 he was writer-in-residence at the University of Durham, in 1992 he was a research fellow at Yale University, and in 1994 he was a visiting professor at the University of the Witwatersrand. He is the writer of plays, novels, poems, and articles for academic journals and newspapers and has also worked on paintings and theatre and film projects. His plays have been performed in the USSR, the United States, and Scotland as well as various parts of southern Africa.

His works include: *We Shall Sing for the Fatherland* (1973), *The Hill* (1974), *The Road* (1982), *Bits of Debris* (1986), *When People Play People* (1993), *The Nun's Romantic Story* (1991), *The Dying Screams of the Moon* (1992), *Ways of Dying* (1995), *She Plays with the Darkness* (1995), and *Melville 67* (1998).