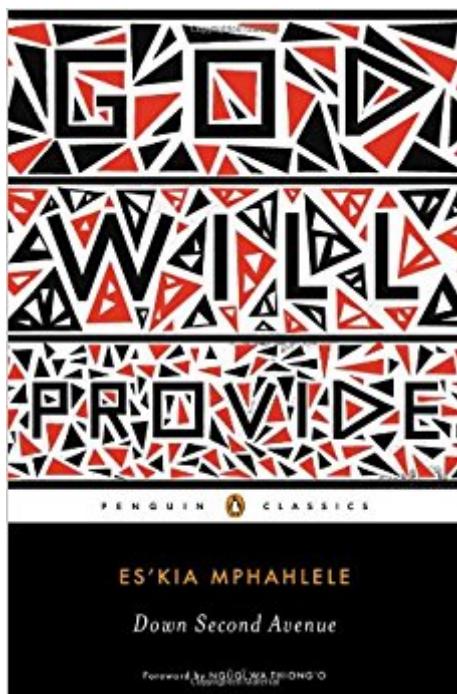


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Down Second Avenue (Penguin Classics)



Synopsis

Esckia Mphahlele's seminal memoir of life in apartheid South Africa is available for the first time in Penguin Classics. Nominated for the Nobel Prize in 1969, Esckia Mphahlele is considered the Dean of African Letters and the father of black South African writing. *Down Second Avenue* is a landmark book that describes Mphahlele's experience growing up in segregated South Africa. Vivid, graceful, and unapologetic, it details a daily life of severe poverty and brutal police surveillance under the subjugation of an apartheid regime. Banned in South Africa after its original 1959 publication for its protest against apartheid, *Down Second Avenue* is a foundational work of literature that continues to inspire activists today. For more than sixty-five years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,500 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"If Nelson Mandela is our political star, Mphahlele was his literary equivalent." Barney Mthombo, in *The Star*

EsÃ¢kia Mphahlele (1919Ã¢â€œ2008) published two autobiographies, Down Second Avenue and Afrika My Music, and three novels, The Wanderers, Chirundu, and Father Came Home, in addition to short stories and nonfiction. His short story collection, In Corner B, is available from Penguin Classics. Ngugi wa ThiongÃ¢â€œcoÃ¢â€œs writings have been translated into more than thirty languages. His novels Petals of Blood; Weep Not, Child; and A Grain of Wheat are available in Penguin Classics. He lives in Irvine, California.

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