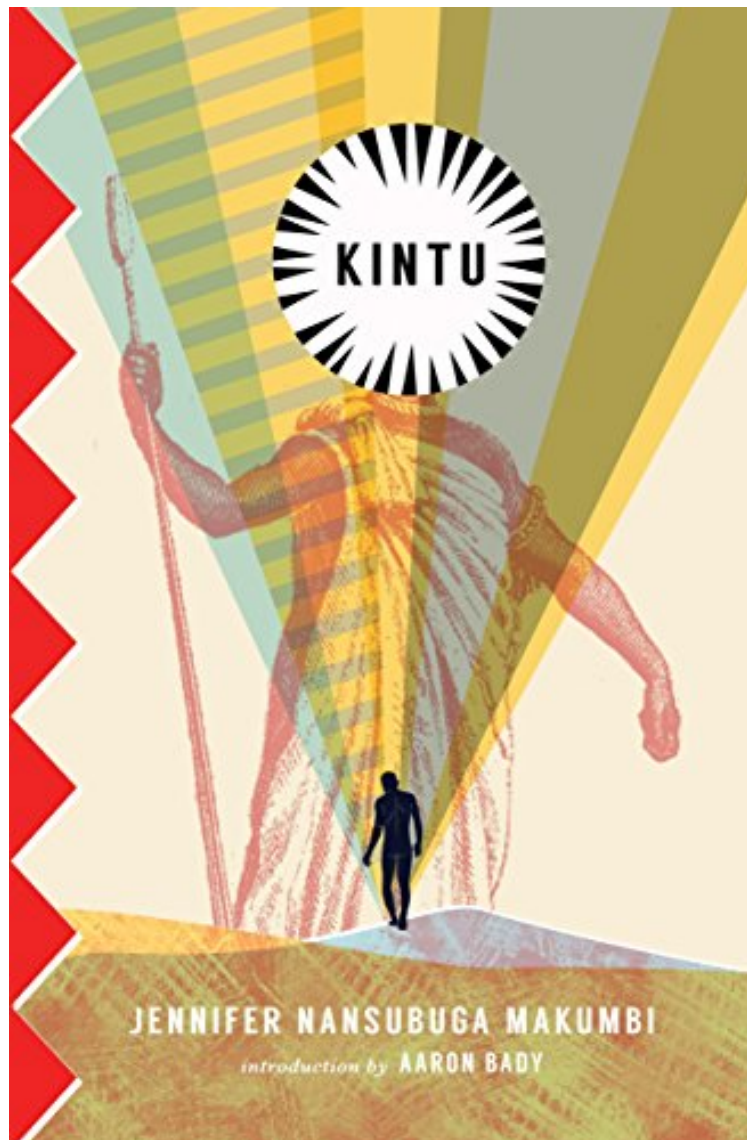


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## Kintu

*Jennifer Nansubuga Makumbi*

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#52658 in Books Ingramcontent 2017-05-16Original language:English 7.90 x 1.40 x 5.20l, #File Name: 1945492015446 pagesKintu | File size: 77.Mb

**Jennifer Nansubuga Makumbi : Kintu** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Kintu:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. One of those books you will never forgetBy Melanie NolenI have found this to be a tale of brotherhood and blood relations (it takes a village!), and the strength of beliefs and convictions through the ages. The importance of roots and a sense of belonging.Technically, the novel does not dwell on descriptives nor does it lose the reader in the narrative. Rather to the point; yet, not lacking on visuals, side stories,

and reference points. I appreciate that it lets the reader figure out foreign terminology and use our own creativity and imagination, through the evolution of the storyline. Very vivid, though not prescriptive, depicting of personality traits and surroundings allows the reader to easily visualize every single element: characters, villages, food, landscape, etc. After merely 20 pages, you have already developed feelings for the characters. You can feel their plight and understand their (re)actions. Short chapters and quick pace. Cons: you can't wait until the unraveling. Drags it out a bit longer than needed. So many characters with so many different names makes you lose track of whose who in book six, and even throughout. Nevertheless, this is going into my top 10 of "modern" literary musts. 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Impressive work! By Afoma What a sprawling work of fiction laced with history! My favorite thing about this story is honestly the history. It's a bit more mythical than I'd expected, but I am fascinated anew by heritage. Kintu left me wishing I could trace my own lineage and return to the places my ancestors began in the 1700's. When Kintu accidentally kills his adopted son, a curse is unleashed on his entire lineage. The curse manifests mostly as mental illnesses. This is concerning to me because obviously this is part of the reason why a large part of the African population thinks mental illness is anything other than illness. The whole curse layer of the story did not sit right with me because everyone now knows mental illnesses are genetic, "curse" or not. However the author weaves a compelling tale of family and the importance of staying together even when families scatter across the globe. I thoroughly enjoyed learning so much about Uganda. I liked the use of indigenous language, even though it's a bit disconcerting at first to keep reading words you don't understand here and there. You get used to it. The Kintu family tree is massive and it can be hard to keep track of family members but I just focused on remembering those whose stories mattered. At the end, there's a good tying together of the entire tale. Solid work here. Cannot wait to read more African literature that is full of history. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. By far the best book I've read from my cultural heritage By Kulaba By far the best book I've read from my cultural heritage. A wonderful addition not only to African Literature but also World Literature. A must read for anyone who loves to be transported to different ages and times. Very well articulated and translated between Luganda and English. Makumbi is by far ahead of her time and has done our forefathers proud.

Longlisted for the Etisalat Prize for Debut African Fiction Winner of the Commonwealth Short Story Prize "A soaring and sublime epic. One of those great stories that was just waiting to be told." Marlon James, Man Booker Prize-winning author of *A Brief History of Seven Killings* First published in Kenya in 2014 to critical and popular acclaim, *Kintu* is a modern classic, a multilayered narrative that reimagines the history of Uganda through the cursed bloodline of the Kintu clan. Divided into six sections, the novel begins in 1750, when Kintu Kidde sets out for the capital to pledge allegiance to the new leader of the Buganda Kingdom. Along the way, he unleashes a curse that will plague his family for generations. In an ambitious tale of a clan and a nation, Makumbi weaves together the stories of Kintu's descendants as they seek to break from the burden of their shared past and reconcile the inheritance of tradition and the modern world that is their future.

"Kintu is a masterpiece, an absolute gem, the great Ugandan novel you didn't know you were waiting for." Aaron Baday, *The New Inquiry* "A masterpiece of cultural memory, Kintu is elegantly poised on the crossroads of tradition and modernity." *Publishers Weekly* (Starred) "Makumbi takes a sniper's aim at the themes of virility and power across time. Over the course of six rich sections, she fires not a single gratuitous shot." *Public Books* "Postcolonial literature is often thought of as a conversation between a native culture and a Western power that sought to dominate it . . . Jennifer Nansubuga Makumbi's marvelous Ugandan epic, *Kintu*, explodes such chauvinism." *Guernica* "Reminiscent of Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*, this work will appeal to lovers of African literature." *Library Journal* (Starred) "Passionate, original, and sharply observed, the novel decenters colonialism and makes Ugandan experience primary." *Book Riot* "With crisp details and precise prose, Makumbi draws us into the dynamic and vast world of Uganda's rich history, its people's intricate beliefs, and the collective weight of their steadfast customs." *World Literature Today* "Some authors set the bar high with their debut work. Then there are authors like Jennifer Nansubuga Makumbi whose first novel succeeds on such a stratospheric level it's nearly impossible to imagine or wait for what she'll write next." *Iowa Gazette* "Jennifer Makumbi's *Kintu* is a charming fable, a wide-ranging historical fiction, and a critical historiography . . . fresh, intelligent, critical, and ambitious." *Bookwitty* "Makumbi's characters are compelling as individuals, but it is their shared past and journey toward a shared future that elevate the novel to an epic and enigmatic masterpiece." *The Riveter* "This is an extraordinary novel about a family bound together by love, betrayal, and an age-old curse, told in gripping language that continually surprises. A literary triumph." Maaza Mengiste, author of *Beneath the Lion's Gaze* "A work of bold imagination and clear talent." Allah Allfrey, editor of *Africa39* "An ambitious modern epic that takes in family saga and the history of Uganda, fusing the urgency of the present with the timelessness of myth." Jamal Mahjoub, author of *The Drift Latitudes* "Kintu is not just the story of a family, but a story of Uganda, a country whose history begins before colonization and encompasses far more than just that chapter." Mary Pappalardo, *New Delta* "Our histories and our names have stories that we cannot afford to keep quiet about." Nyana Kakoma, *Africa In Words* "Makumbi is clearly a creative genius." Tope Salaudeen-Adegoke, *Wawa Book About the*

Author Jennifer Nansubuga Makumbi, a Ugandan novelist and short story writer, has a PhD from Lancaster University, where she now teaches. Her first novel, *Kintu*, won the Kwani? Manuscript Project in 2013 and was longlisted for the Etisalat Prize in 2014. Her story "Let's Tell This Story Properly" won the 2014 Commonwealth Short Story Prize. She is currently working on her second novel and a collection of short stories, *Travel Is to See, Return Is to Tell*. Jennifer lives in Manchester, UK with her husband, Damian, and her son, Jordan. Aaron Bady is a writer in Oakland and an editor at *The New Inquiry*.