

# **What We All Long For**

**Dionne Brand** 

#### What We All Long For:

What We All Long For Dionne Brand, 2024-03-26 Gripping at times heartrending at others What We All Long For is an ode to a generation of longing and identity and to the rhythms and pulses of a city and its burgeoning questioning youth Dionne Brand's multicultural infusion follows the stories of a close circle of twenty something second generations living in downtown Toronto and the secrets they hide from their families Tuyen is a lesbian avant garde artist and the daughter of Vietnamese parents who ve never recovered from losing one of their children while in the rush to flee Vietnam in the 1970s She rejects her immigrant family s hard won lifestyle and instead lives in a rundown apartment with friends each of whom is grappling with their own familial complexities and heartache Tuyen is love with her best friend Carla a biracial bicycle courier Oku is a jazz loving poet who unbeknowst to his Jamaican born parents has dropped out of college He is tormented by his unrequited love for Jackie a gorgeous black woman who runs a hiphop clothing store Meanwhile Tuyen's lost brother Quy now a criminal in the Thai underworld sets out for Toronto to find his long lost family Gripping at times heart wrenching at others Dionne Brand s What We All Long For is a story of identity love and loss the universal experience of being human and discovering the nature of our longing Transnational Canadas Kit Dobson, 2009-08-04 Transnational Canadas marks the first sustained inquiry into the relationship between globalization and Canadian literature written in English Tracking developments in the literature and its study from the centennial period to the present it shows how current work in transnational studies can provide new insights for researchers and students Arguing first that the dichotomy of Canadian nationalism and globalization is no longer valid in today s economic climate Transnational Canadas explores the legacy of leftist nationalism in Canadian literature It examines the interventions of multicultural writing in the 1980s and 1990s investigating the cultural politics of the period and how they increasingly became part of Canada's state structure Under globalization the book concludes we need to understand new forms of subjectivity and mobility as sites for cultural politics and look beyond received notions of belonging and being An original contribution to the study of Canadian literature Transnational Canadas seeks to invigorate discussion by challenging students and researchers to understand the national and the global simultaneously to look at the politics of identity beyond the rubric of multiculturalism and to rethink the slippery notion of the political for the contemporary era Recharting the Black Atlantic Annalisa Oboe, Anna Scacchi, 2011-04-13 This book focuses on the migrations and metamorphoses of black bodies practices and discourses around the Atlantic particularly with regard to current issues such as questions of identity political and human rights cosmopolitics and mnemo history What We All Long for Dionne Brand, 2005 They were born in the city from people born elsewhere What We All Long For follows the overlapping stories of a close circle of second generation twenty somethings living in downtown Toronto There's Tuyen a lesbian avant garde artist and the daughter of Vietnamese parents who ve never recovered from losing one of their children in the crush to board a boat out of Vietnam in the 1970s Tuyen defines herself in

opposition to just about everything her family believes in and strives for She s in love with her best friend Carla a biracial bicycle courier who s still reeling from the loss of her mother to suicide eighteen years earlier and who must now deal with her brother Jamal's latest acts of delinquency Oku is a jazz loving poet who unbeknownst to his Jamaican born parents has dropped out of university He is in constant conflict with his narrow minded and verbally abusive father and tormented by his unrequited love for Jackie a gorgeous black woman who runs a hip clothing shop on Queen Street West and dates only white men Like each of her friends Jackie feels alienated from her parents former hipsters from Nova Scotia who never made it out of subsidized housing after their lives became entangled with desire and disappointment. The four characters try to make a life for themselves in the city supporting one another through their family struggles. There is a fifth main character Quy the child who Tuyen's parents lost in Vietnam In his first person narrative Quy describes how he survived in various refugee camps then in the Thai underworld After years of being hardened he has finally made his way to Toronto and will soon be reunited with his family whether to love them or hurt them it s not clear His story builds to a breathless crescendo in an ending that will both shock and satisfy readers What We All Long For is a gripping and at times heart rending story about identity longing and loss in a cosmopolitan city No other writer has presented such a powerful and richly textured portrait of present day Toronto Rinaldo Walcott writes in The Globe and Mail every great city has its literary moments and contemporary Toronto has been longing for one We can now say with certainty that we no longer have to long for a novel that speaks this city s uniqueness Dionne Brand has given us exactly that Donna Bailey Nurse writes in the National Post What We All Long For is a watershed novel From now on Canadian writers will be pressed to portray contemporary Toronto in all its multiracial colour and polyphonic sound But What We All Long For is not only about a particular city It s about the universal experience of being human As Walcott puts it Brand makes us see ourselves differently and anew She translates our desires and experiences into a language an art that allows us to voice that which we live but could not utter or bring to voice until she did so for us Littell's Living Age ,1907 Senate documents ,1877 Punch Mark Lemon, Henry Mayhew, Tom Taylor, Shirley Brooks, Francis Cowley Burnand, Owen Seaman, 1924 Novels Edward Bulwer Lytton Baron Lytton, 1892 Unity ,1905 The Works of the British Dramatists Sir John Scott Keltie, 1875 **Gospel Herald** Forest and Stream ,1906 ,1915 Stone Cutters' Journal ,1914 Special Crops, 1913 Annual Iowa Year Book of Agriculture Iowa. Dept. of Agriculture, 1920 Includes proceedings reports statistics etc of different county and district agricultural institutes and societies The Express Messenger ,1922 The Railway Conductor ,1908 Annual Report of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church Methodist Episcopal Church. Missionary Society,1885 **Proceedings of The...consecutive And...biennial Convention** United Mine **The Public** .1913 Workers of America, 1952

#### What We All Long For Book Review: Unveiling the Magic of Language

In a digital era where connections and knowledge reign supreme, the enchanting power of language has be much more apparent than ever. Its capability to stir emotions, provoke thought, and instigate transformation is truly remarkable. This extraordinary book, aptly titled "**What We All Long For**," compiled by a highly acclaimed author, immerses readers in a captivating exploration of the significance of language and its profound affect our existence. Throughout this critique, we shall delve in to the book is central themes, evaluate its unique writing style, and assess its overall influence on its readership.

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