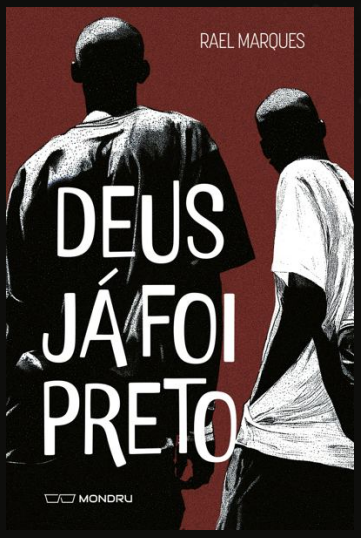
MONDRU



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God Was Once Black

RAEL MARQUES

Original title: Deus já foi preto

IMPRINT	GENRE	PUBLISHED	PAGES	TRIM SIZE	ISBN
Mondru	Novel	2025	264	14 × 21 cm	978-65-6042-239-1

SYNOPSIS

"God Was Once Black" recounts the visceral journey of Ian, a young man growing up in Morro das Almas, immersed in the harsh reality of Brazilian favelas. From childhood, Ian fights for survival, confronting police violence, extreme poverty, and the constant threat of marginality. Amidst the chaos, his life is shaped by meaningful encounters—from young Yara, a glimpse of innocence and affection, to Claudinho, who introduces him to knowledge through a book by Malcolm X, awakening within him a search for identity and a greater purpose. The narrative follows Ian in his ceaseless quest for a dignified future, for affection, and for a place in the world where he can be truly free, defying the expectations imposed by his environment and oppressive social structures.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Rael Marques is an advertising professional, copywriter, screenwriter, and holds a postgraduate degree in Storytelling and Creative Writing. A caiçara raised in Guarujá, on the coast of São Paulo, the author developed his creative side from an early age—crafting comic strips during his childhood without imagining that, years later, he would discover his true calling there. "God Was Once Black" marks his debut in literary fiction.

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