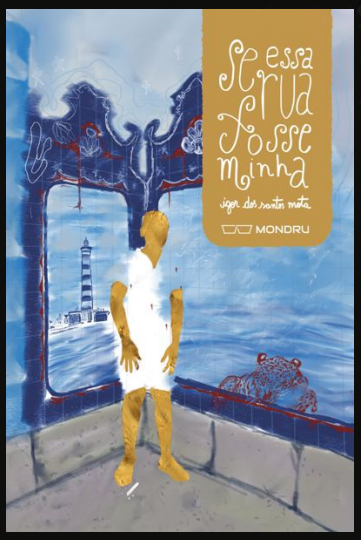
MONDRU



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If This Street Were Mine

IGOR DOS SANTOS MOTA

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SYNOPSIS

"Every poem begins with a choke" — it is from this starting point that the poems in "If This Street Were Mine" are built. Encircling the crossroads between colonial architecture and contemporary power structures, the book weaves narratives of internal migration and exploitative labor into accounts of the formation of Brazil. Drawing upon his own genealogy, marked by generations of construction workers, the author investigates how bodies-territories wounded by the colonial project continue to (re)build the country we know. The plumb line of language here is not polished for comfort; on the contrary, it is a cracked, unfinished stone, echoing the mire of the single History it questions, making room for the foliage that sprouts from the fissures. The normative deviations employed reflect the ruptures left by colonialism, affirming the legitimacy of voices frequently "regionalized" in literary spaces. The invitation extended to the reader is precisely this: to question who/what lies behind the walls, deep within the entrails of a country's architecture.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Igor dos Santos Mota was born in 2000 and raised on the banks of the Jacurici reservoir, in the Povoado de Bela Vista, Cansanção (BA). He is a teacher-poet-translator and a PhD candidate in Education at the University of Derby, England. His work has been published, performed, and/or awarded in Brazil, the United States, Greece, India, Ireland, Portugal, and the United Kingdom. "If This Street Were Mine" is his third book.

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