1. Record Nr. UNINA9910820518303321 Autore Wells Marilyn McKillop Titolo Among the Garifuna: family tales and ethnography from the Caribbean coast / / Marilyn McKillop Wells Tuscaloosa: .: University Alabama Press. . [2015] Pubbl/distr/stampa ©2016 0-8173-8824-9 **ISBN** Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (233 p.) Classificazione SOC002010SOC056000 Disciplina 305.897/92 Garifuna (Caribbean people) - Social life and customs Soggetti Garifuna (Caribbean people) - Ethnic identity Garifuna (Caribbean people) Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di contenuto Contents; Introduction; List of People; Part 1. The Old Ways; A Garifuna Wedding; A Garifuna Marriage; The Revolt; The Second Wife; Cervantes's Wake: Cervantes's Burial: Cervantes's Spirit: Release from Mourning: A Stormy Journey: Homeward Bound: Old House: Alvarez Visits; Partners; School Clothes; New Farm; The Red Cock; Skipper's Holiday; Santa's School; Tas to Lidisi; Tas Meets Terese; New Shoes; Flowers of Delight; News from Larube; Return to Larube; Building a House; Tas and Lisa's Stories; Birthing; Part 2. Living There; Invitation Letter: Monica's Story: Meeting Khandi; Tas and Home Nutmeg Alley Margaret's Bath; Fishing Trip; Frog in a Jar; Persecution and Altar; Cashew and Chickens; My Lidisi Visit; Love Magic; Snake Bite; The Feeding: Warin: Khandi's Funeral: Coconut Lady: Butterfly: Joseph's Wedding: Lucas's Sickness: Frank's Lesson: Part 3. The Ancestor Party: The Santa Trance; Consulting the Buyei; The Mali; The Pigs; John Canoe; Building the Gaiunari; Terese Arrives; Baking Day; Moving Day; To the Keys; Unwelcome Guests; Clara Arrives; The Adugahatia; The Banquet; Jubilation; The Last Hours; Glossary "Among the Garifuna is the first ethnographic narrative of a Garifuna Sommario/riassunto

family. The Garifuna are descendants of the "Black Carib," whom the British deposited on Roatan Island in 1797 and who settled along the

Caribbean coast from Belize City to Nicaragua. In 1980, medical anthropologist Marilyn McKillop Wells found herself embarking on an "improbable journey" when she was invited to the area to do fieldwork with the added challenge of revealing the "real" Garifuna. Upon her arrival on the island, Wells was warmly embraced by a local family, the Diegos, and set to work recording life events and indigenous perspectives on polygyny, Afro-indigenous identity, ancestorworshiping religion, and more. The result, as represented in Among the Garifuna, is a lovingly intimate, earthy, human drama. The family narrative is organized chronologically. Part I, "The Old Ways," consists of vignettes that introduce the family backstory with dialogue as imagined by Wells based on the family history she was told. We meet the family progenitors, Margaret and Cervantes Diego, during their courtship, experience Margaret's pain as Cervantes takes a second wife, witness the death of Cervantes and ensuing mourning rituals, follow the return of Margaret and the children to their previous home in British Honduras, and observe the emergence of the children's personalities. In Part II, "Living There," Wells continues the story when she arrives in Belize and meets the Diego children, including the major protagonist, Tas. In Tas's household Wells learns about foods and manners and watches family squabbles and reconciliations. In these mini-stories, Wells interweaves cultural information on the Garifuna people with first-person narrative and transcription of their words, assembling these into an enthralling slice of life. Part III, "The Ancestor Party," takes the reader through a fascinating postmortem ritual that is enacted to facilitate the journey of the spirits of the honored ancestors to the supreme supernatural. Among the Garifuna contributes to the literary genres of narrative anthropology and feminist ethnography in the tradition of Zora Neal Hurston and other women writing culture in a personal way. Wells's portrait of this Garifuna family will be of interest to anthropologists, Caribbeanists, Latin Americanists, students, and general readers alike. "--