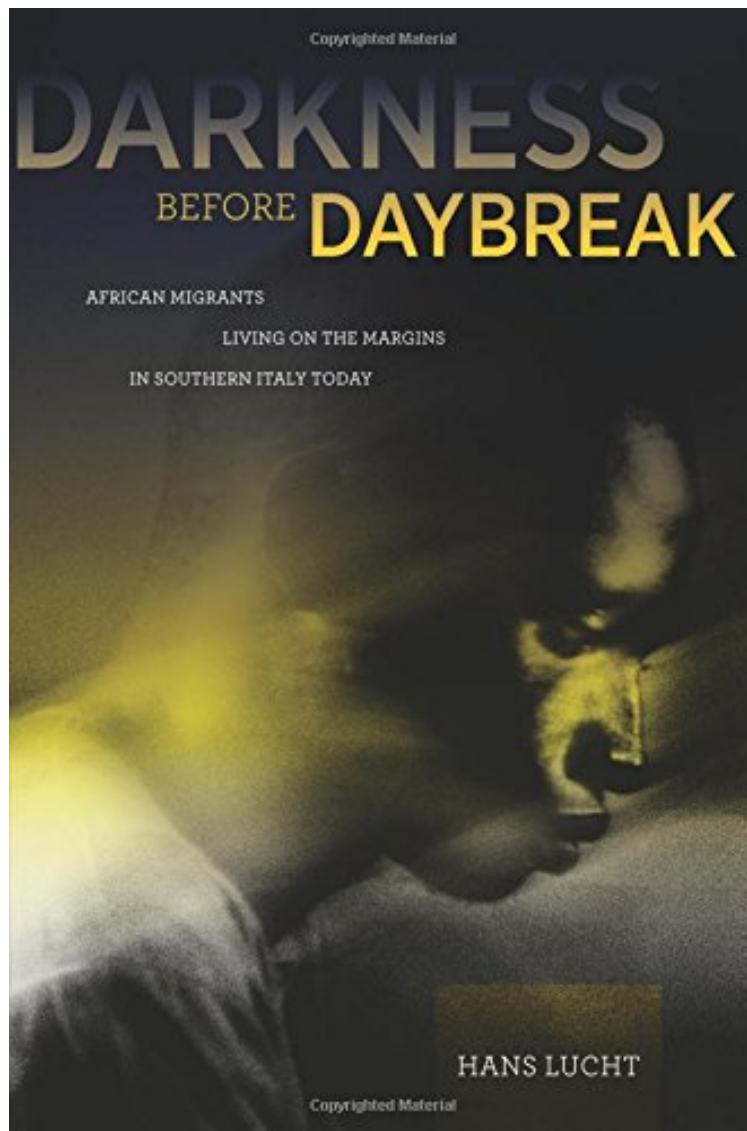


[Free and download] Darkness before Daybreak: African Migrants Living on the Margins in Southern Italy Today

Darkness before Daybreak: African Migrants Living on the Margins in Southern Italy Today

Hans Lucht

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Hans Lucht : Darkness before Daybreak: African Migrants Living on the Margins in Southern Italy Today before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Darkness before Daybreak: African Migrants Living on the Margins in Southern Italy Today:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Excellent contemporary study of immigrants from Ghana trying to

make it in Naples

By Lavendula

Darkness before Daybreak is Danish anthropologist Hans Lucht's ethnography of Ghanaian fisherman living on the periphery of Naples, Italy. Although Lucht lives with a number of migrants, he focuses on one in particular whom he traces from Ghana, being smuggled by traders across the Sahara, brief life in Libya before being smuggled across the Mediterranean to Italy. As anyone who has been to Italy during the past 25 years will notice, the population of this previously poor country that was in 1980 practically entirely native-born has become increasingly diverse through immigration from Eastern Europe, Asia, Latin America, and Africa. Migrants such as these from Ghana are on the bottom in many ways: illegal, dependent on day labor work, and subject to flagrant racist abuse at virtually every turn. Lucht's text is richly woven, exploring not only the backgrounds and experiences of his primary subjects, the Ghanaian migrants, but also unpacking the complex situation in Naples and the relationship between Neapolitans and their own experiences with migration, poverty, and discrimination. In sum, Lucht's text is highly readable, though does incorporate a great deal of anthropological theory as it builds its analytic framework. For that reason, along with the subject matter itself, this text will probably not have much appeal to non-academics, as engaging, well-written, and eye-opening as it is. Recommended.

This riveting book chronicles the lives of a group of fishermen from Ghana who took the long and dangerous journey to Southern Italy in search of work in a cutthroat underground economy. A story that illuminates the nature of high-risk migration around the world, *Darkness before Daybreak* reveals the challenges and experiences of these international migrants who, like countless others, are often in the news but are rarely understood. Hans Lucht tells how these men live on the fringes of society in Naples, what the often deadly journey across the Sahara Desert and Mediterranean Sea involved, and what their lives in the fishing village of Senya Beraku where there are no more fish were like. Asking how these men find meaning in their experiences, Lucht addresses broader existential questions surrounding the lives of economic refugees and their death-defying struggle for a life worth living. He also considers the ramifications of the many deaths that occur in the desert and the sea for those who are left behind.