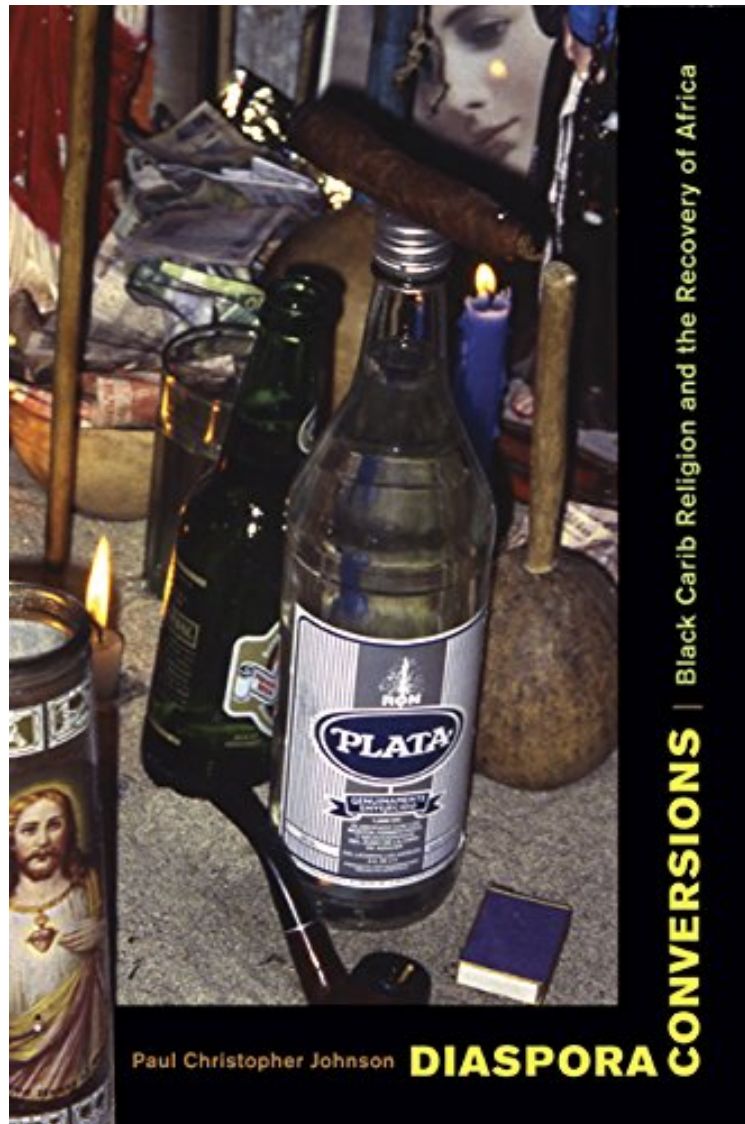


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Diaspora Conversions: Black Carib Religion and the Recovery of Africa

Paul Christopher Johnson

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Indigenous Religions, and it is fantastic! I never thought I would purpose to review my textbook, but this truly is a fun and informative read! We follow these people from possible shipwrecks on Africa to new Americans trying to find a place where they belong. It's great, a must read for any religious studies scholar!

By joining a diaspora, a society may begin to change its religious, ethnic, and even racial identifications by rethinking its "pasts." This pioneering multisite ethnography explores how this phenomenon is affecting the remarkable religion of the Garifuna, historically known as the Black Caribs, from the Central American coast of the Caribbean. It is estimated that one-third of the Garifuna have migrated to New York City over the past fifty years. Paul Christopher Johnson compares Garifuna spirit possession rituals performed in Honduran villages with those conducted in New York, and what emerges is a compelling picture of how the Garifuna engage ancestral spirits across multiple diasporic horizons. His study sheds new light on the ways diasporic religions around the world creatively plot itineraries of spatial memory that at once recover and remold their histories.

Wonderful and eloquently written.