



The Fifth Figure: A Poet's Tale

By Jean Binta Breeze

Bloodaxe Books Ltd. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, The Fifth Figure: A Poet's Tale, Jean Binta Breeze, Jean 'Binta' Breeze is a popular Jamaican Dub poet and storyteller whose performances are so powerful she has been called a 'one-woman festival'. "The Fifth Figure" is a book-length sequence mixing poetry and prose which chronicles the lives of five generations of Caribbean and Black British women of mixed ancestry. Part novel, part poem, part family memoir, its structure is based on the Jamaican quadrille, a hybrid version of the dance brought from Europe by the island's former colonial masters. Beginning in the late 19th century with her great-great grandmother's first quadrille, Breeze tells a many-layered tale of love and betrayal, innocence and suffering, hardship and joy over a hundred years as each mother sees her daughter join a dance which shapes her life. "The Fifth Figure" is her fifth book, and sees Breeze breathing new life into the dramatic monologue. Steeped in the history of Jamaica, the book develops the possibilities of narrative, voice and rhythm, offering an eloquent and empowering vision of Caribbean lives and culture.



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