

HABITANTE IRREAL

Nowhere People

ALFAGUARA

Paulo Scott

Habitante irreal



Author: Paulo Scott
Publisher: Alfaguara
Year of publication: 2012
Pages: 264
Dimensione: 15x23.4 cm

Paulo, a young Brazilian activist, meets the young native Maina, and feels the need to help her. Their brief romance will mark their destinies and that of their son, Donato.

Twenty-one years old Paulo is disappointed by his country's social and political conscience after a long military dictatorship. Porto Alegre, as the rest of Brazil, is struggling to find its way back to democracy in the middle of an unstoppable hyperinflation as the whole country is living in a state of chaos. When he meets the young native Maina, by casually giving her a ride, Paulo feel the immediate need to help her. Their brief romance will mark their destinies: Maina will kill herself while Paulo will move to London, where he will be involved in the underground movement and will become a well-known squatter.

The legacy of Paulo and Maina will be embodied by their son Donato. Raised by a young couple of scholars constantly arguing, Donato seems to be ready for a brilliant academic career. He instead chooses to wear native clothes and to perform mute happenings in the middle of the city, to remind passers-by about the daily condition of a big part of the Brazilian population.

With sudden shifts in the characters' lives, this novel takes in the whole story: telling of love, loss and family, it spans the worlds of São Paulo's rich kids and dispossessed Guarani Indians along Brazil's highways. Since the 70s, no one had given this much attention to the native question, and never had it been given voice to the women of the native community. Scott highlights the Brazilian natives' difficult, at once confused and inevitable, relation with the urban reality that besieges them.

Written from the gut, *Habitante irreal* is a raw and passionate classic in the making, about our need for a home.



REDONDO
BOOKS | INTERNATIONAL
LITERARY
AGENCY

ALFAGUARA



Press:

An audacious story. This novel fizzles with anger.
The Guardian

Habitante Irreal is a novel that, the moment you put it down, demands to be reread.
Matt Todd, *A Novel Approach*

This raw and passionate tale about love, loss and family explores the sharply contrasting worlds of Sao Paulo's wealthy young people and the people of the dispossessed Guarani tribe... a classic in the making.
The National, Abu Dhabi

Habitante Irreal is not your average book.
Folha de São Paulo

Prizes:

Habitante Irreal won the 2012 Premio machado de Assis (Fundação Biblioteca Nacional) as Best Novel.

Habitante Irreal was among the finalists of the Premio Jabuti 2012, the most prestigious Brazilian literary prize, and of the Premio São Paulo de Literatura.

Rights:

Germany: Klaus Wagenbach Verlag, Unwirkliche Bewohner (2013).
UK and World English: And Other Stories - Nowhere People (2014)
Portugal: Tinta da China (2014).

Paulo Scott is a Brazilian writer. He works as writer, scriptwriter and cultural journalist. He published five novels, a collection of short stories, seven poetry collections and a theatrical script. He participated to several literary prizes, like the Machado de Assis Prize, the Jabuti Prize, the Premio Portugal Telecom Literature Prize, the Premio São Paulo de Literatura and the Dublin Literary Award. The short stories collected in *Ainda orangotangos* (Livros do Mal 2003, Bertrand Brasil 2007) were adapted for cinema and won the 2008 Milano Film Festival.