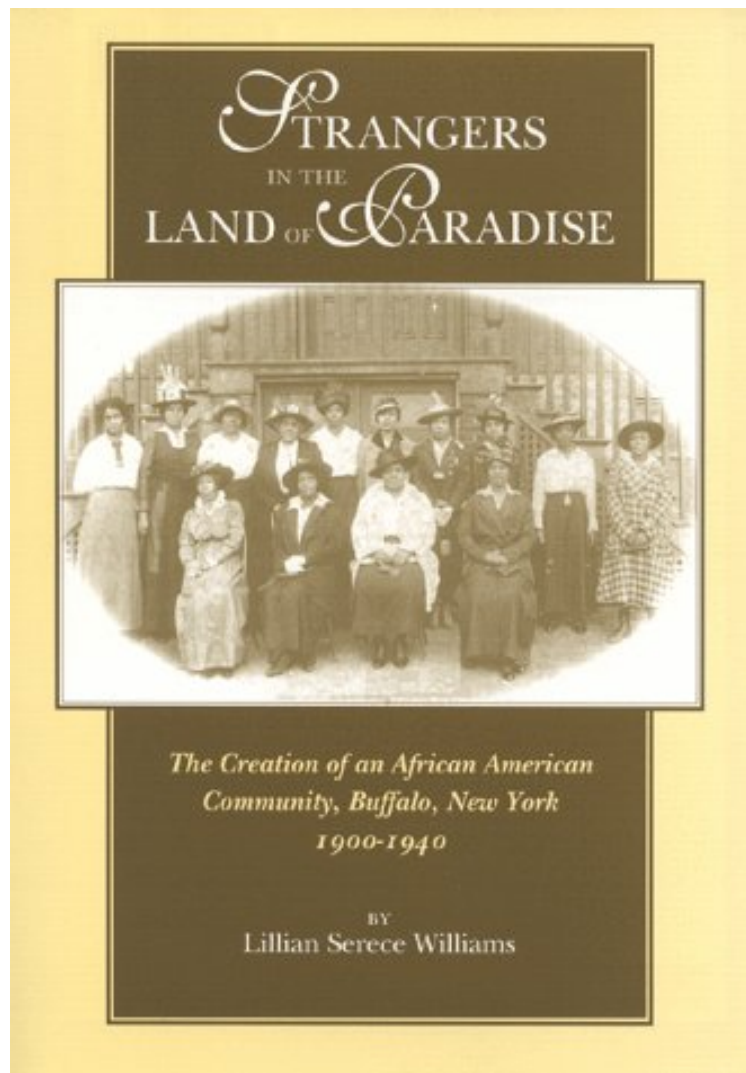


(Download ebook) Strangers in the Land of Paradise: Creation of African American Community in Buffalo (Blacks in the Diaspora)

Strangers in the Land of Paradise: Creation of African American Community in Buffalo (Blacks in the Diaspora)

Lillian Serece Williams

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Lillian Serece Williams : Strangers in the Land of Paradise: Creation of African American Community in Buffalo (Blacks in the Diaspora) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Strangers in the Land of Paradise: Creation of African American Community in Buffalo (Blacks in the Diaspora):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Needed History of Buffalo, New York By G. A. Smith I have met the author. She teaches at a university near me. I have just gotten into the book so don't feel worthy of reviewing it

yet.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Isaac WilliamsAn amazing read. Congrats to Lillian!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An Outstanding Blend of Scholarship and HumanityBy Arlene Reed-Delaney, M. D."Strangers in the Land of Paradise" by Lillian Serece Williams is a brilliantly written book about the creation of an African American community in Buffalo, New York from 1900-1940. Illuminating with new information, pictures and graphs, it answers many questions about the daily life experiences of a group of Americans adjusting to political and economic changes. The family support system that Williams delineated in this turn-of-the-century community is one of those strengths that too often are overlooked in contemporary literature on African Americans. Yet these are important strengths that are present in contemporary African American communities across the nation and upon which I frequently draw to treat some of my patients.This timely, outstanding blend of scholarship and humanity places this work in the category of a genuine classic. The book is a "must" for every serious scholar of American history. "No Shame in my Game" by Katherine Neuman would be a wonderful contemporary companion.

Strangers in the Land of Paradise discusses the creation of an African American community as a distinct cultural entity. It describes values and institutions that Black migrants from the South brought with them, as well as those that evolved as a result of their interaction with Blacks native to the city and the city itself. Through an examination of work, family, community organizations, and political actions, Lillian Williams explores the process by which the migrants adapted to their new environment.The lives of African Americans in Buffalo from 1900 to 1940 reveal much about race, class, and gender in the development of urban communities.

The small but long-lived African American community of Buffalo, New York, grew from free blacks and runaway slaves in the years before the Civil War and then increased in number with migrants from the rural South with the coming of WW I. This standard background serves as the basis for Williams's solid and scholarly exploration of how newer migrants coming to benefit from industrialization collided with the earlier settlers. There was at once a sense of responsibility to look after and yet also keep a distance from uncultured and rustic kinsmen. This finely nuanced study evokes class and status divisions within the African American neighborhoods while presenting readers with the omnipresent role of the black church as a cohesive force among the divisive elements tearing at the community. Black clergy and the social elite served an important leadership role in preserving a sense of dignity and fighting for civil rights, despite the fact that the same leadership might split on whether or not to endorse Marcus Garvey and the Universal Negro Improvement Association. Williams brings a fine balance to her work, revealing a group composed of people whose lives, institutions, and struggle for acceptance, achievement, and advancement mirrored the struggles of so many others. Upper-division undergraduates and above. (J. Kleiman, University of Wisconsin Colleges, 2000jan CHOICE.)About the AuthorLillian Serece Williams is an Associate Professor of History in the Women's Studies Department and Associate Director of the Institute for Research on Women at the University of Albany, the State University of New York. She is editor of Records of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs, 1895-1992, associate editor of Black Women in United States History, and author of A Bridge to the Future: The History of Diversity in Girl Scouting.