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Consolée

Author: Beata Umubyeyi Mairesse

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A shattering and poetic novel about colonialism and its contemporary repercussions.

1954: Rwanda is still under Belgian administrative rule. Consolée, daughter of a white father and a Rwandan mother, is forcibly removed from her black family and placed in an institution for mixed-race children. Sixty-five years later, Ramata, a Senegalese woman in her fifties, begins an art therapy internship in France. There she meets Astrida, an elderly lady of mixed-race suffering from Alzheimer's and swiftly losing her French to an unknown tongue. By putting together her story, Ramata confronts her own fate and the challenges of being a person of color in France.

Awards: Prix Kourouma 2023