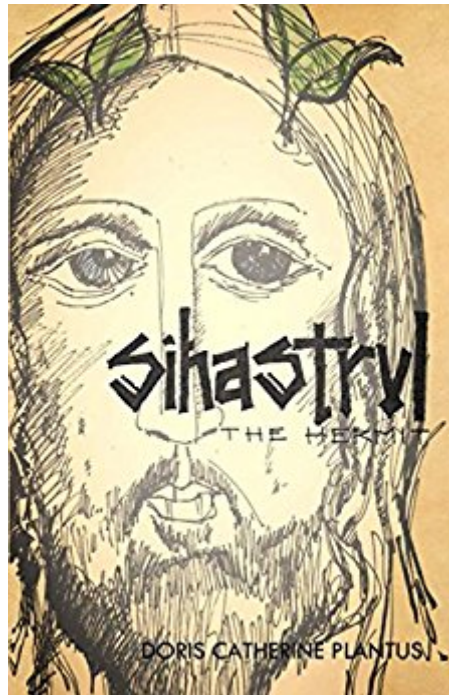


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Sihastrul: The Hermit



Synopsis

A REALM OF POSSIBILITY...A DIMENSION OF ALTERNATE PERCEPTION. Sihastrul, (The Hermit), is the first in a series that introduces the eponymous hero as an ambiguous character born under curious circumstances in a mysterious cave, but whose ultimate origins and destiny are determined by much larger forces. The story is divided into books and told from different points of view across the timeless expanse from the very beginning of the world, to present day. It is structured as a collection of apocryphal works (from Greek word apocryphos, meaning obscure, to hide away), whose themes offer a sense of innocents, if quirky, ingenuity with which to re-imagine the history of the world.

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Customer Reviews

In Book XX of âœSihastrulâ •, the author, Doris Catherine Plantus specifies that the writing of an apocryphal tale âœgives it truth, and if not truth, then meaning. Sometimes meaning makes all the difference,â • the author tells us. âœSihastrulâ • invites us to uncover the meanings hidden within its pages and its unconventional characters. One cannot help but sense the authorâ™s

appreciation of the depth and complexity of the charactersâ™ emotions as well as for their exceptionality: the Hermit, the Angel, God himself, the butterfly, the young woman for whom the words are carved -âœbecause you seek meaning in all the thingsâ• (book XVIII, page 87), etc. There is a warm familiarity infused with love in the way the characters introduce themselves and connect with each other: âœBut when she opened her eyes and saw the Hermit huddled a short distance away, back against the cave wall, knees drawn to chest and chin resting on folded arms, she felt a solidarity soothe her spirit like a warm and welcomed balm. âœWho are you?â• âœI am the Hermit of this cave.â• âœWhat is your name?â• (Book XVIII, page 86). At times, the reader is stopped in his tracks by a meditation that can elicit immediate existential musings about his own life: âœSome strive for heaven, others for the center of the earth; some search for the beginning of time, others for infinity. Some say the soul guides us, others claim forces of nature decide our fate. It was in this fashion the Hermit contemplated the young woman who lay sleeping on the cave floor.

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