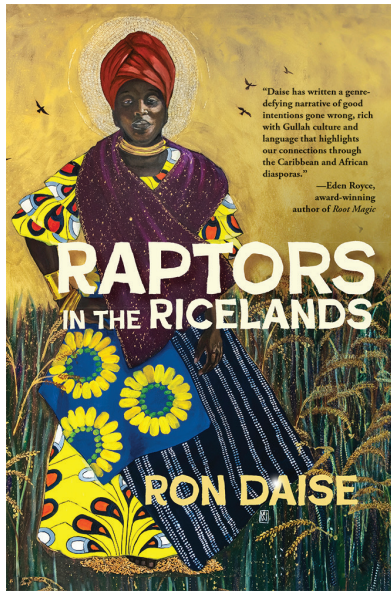


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RAPTORS IN THE RICELANDS

Ron Daise

In the twenty-first century fictional community of Georgetown, SC, a story unfolds revealing family secrets and conflicts that challenge cultural beliefs. With bighearted intention, newlyweds Florence and Chadwick Wineglass attempt to promote economic legacy, but their unconscious motives often ensnare those they assist. The Wineglasses become raptor-like in their generosity at a moment when other community members' intentions also prove to be menacing.

Conveyed in four acts and with chapter names that follow the production stages of Carolina Gold Rice, *Raptors in the Ricelands* spans the future, the present, and the past, and fosters a message of connection with African diasporic communities around the globe. Historical accounts include the Orangeburg Massacre; Black church life, particularly in Oconee County, SC as begun during slavery; the launch of White supremacy in Fort Mill, SC; the Reconstruction Era; and the Universal Negro Improvement Association.

About the Author



Ron Daise, a son of St. Helena Island, SC, is an author, performer, educator, and cultural interpreter. His books, productions, and recordings have documented and shaped Gullah Geechee heritage since 1986. Co-star of "Gullah Gullah Island," Nick Jr. TV's award-winning children's program of the 1990s, Ron also is a former chairman of the federal Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission, and is featured in exhibits at the International African American Museum, Charleston, SC; the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, Washington, DC; and Brookgreen Gardens, Murrells Inlet, SC. When not writing and performing, Ron is a baker and owner of Mr. Ron's Gullahlicious Pound Cakes.

A graduate of Hampton Institute (now Hampton University), Ron and his wife Natalie reside in Georgetown, SC, and are parents of two adult children. He can be found online at www.rondaise.com, on Instagram @gullahron, and on Meta @rondaise.

About the Artist



Front cover art, "Oya in the Rice Field," by Natalie Daise. Used by permission of the artist.

Natalie Daise is a visual artist, storyteller, and creativity catalyst who resides in Georgetown, SC, with her husband, Ron Daise.

"Oya in the Rice Field was inspired by my friend, the textile artist Zenobia Harper, who embodies her Gullah Geechee ancestors. She started the Gullah Preservation Society of Georgetown to honor their story. Georgetown was the center of rice production in the United States, and thousands of Africans were brought here to establish and maintain the rice economy. Oya is the Orisha of the wind and storms, responsible for gentle winds as well as hurricanes. She is also the protector of women."

A graduate of Hampton Institute (now Hampton University), Ron and his wife Natalie reside in Georgetown, SC, and are parents of two adult children. He can be found online at www.rondaise.com, on Instagram @gullahron, and on Meta @rondaise.

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