



## Above All, Don't Look Back (CARAF Books: Caribbean and African Literature translated from the French)

By Maïssa Bey

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### Above All, Don't Look Back (CARAF Books: Caribbean and African Literature translated from the French) By Maïssa Bey

*Above All, Don't Look Back* follows the path of a young woman, Amina, as she makes her way through a city, a life, and a sense of self that have been ravaged by an earthquake. In this powerful novel, inspired by a devastating earthquake in northern Algeria in 2003, the acclaimed Algerian writer Maïssa Bey skillfully interweaves descriptions of the earthquake with descriptions of Amina's family, culture, and country and her place within them. She leaves the reader to wonder whether Amina is fleeing the earthquake or something much more complex.

Through prose that marries form and content, Bey shows the full breadth of her talent. She goes beyond straightforward journalistic narrative to represent the inner experience of a victim of a natural disaster. The novel's nonlinear structure and deliberate incoherence plunge the reader into a state of disorientation that will especially resonate for survivors of other natural disasters worldwide.

In linking a particular place, context, and event to themes of identity, family, and the relation of the individual to the group and of religion to society, *Above All, Don't Look Back* explores psychological and social issues of universal relevance.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

This novel is especially well written, showing the maturity of the experienced writer; it is also an interesting work, as the author delves with compelling force into crucial questions of nation, religion, society, family, gender, memory, and madness, against the backdrop of a natural disaster.

(Alison Rice, University of Notre Dame, *author of Time Signatures: Contextualizing Contemporary Francophone Autobiographical Writing from the Maghreb*)

#### About the Author

Maïssa Bey is an award-winning novelist, writer of short stories, poet, and essayist. She lives in Algeria. Senja L. Djelouah has won academic distinction for her literary translations from French into English.

### Users Review

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##### Ronald Walker:

The particular book Above All, Don't Look Back (CARAF Books: Caribbean and African Literature translated from the French) has a lot info on it. So when you check out this book you can get a lot of gain. The book was authored by the very famous author. The writer makes some research prior to write this book. This specific book very easy to read you may get the point easily after perusing this book.

##### Eric McDonald:

People live in this new morning of lifestyle always try to and must have the time or they will get lots of stress from both way of life and work. So , when we ask do people have spare time, we will say absolutely sure. People is human not just a robot. Then we ask again, what kind of activity are you experiencing when the spare time coming to anyone of course your answer will probably unlimited right. Then do you ever try this one, reading textbooks. It can be your alternative inside spending your spare time, the book you have read is actually Above All, Don't Look Back (CARAF Books: Caribbean and African Literature translated from the French).

##### Amanda Bell:

Playing with family within a park, coming to see the marine world or hanging out with close friends is thing that usually you might have done when you have spare time, subsequently why you don't try point that really opposite from that. One activity that make you not experiencing tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already been ride on and with addition of knowledge. Even you love Above All, Don't Look

Back (CARAF Books: Caribbean and African Literature translated from the French), it is possible to enjoy both. It is great combination right, you still desire to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh occur its mind hangout guys. What? Still don't buy it, oh come on its called reading friends.

### **Shirley Williams:**

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