Las desventuras de Jonás Plum

Jonás Plum's adventures



Author: Iñigo Echenique [1] Publisher: Editorial Ambar [2] Year of Publication: 2009 Pages: 253 Number of editions: 2 Spanish Retail price: 16.35€ ISBN: 978-84-936784-1-8 Genre: Literature SPRING 2010 Season: SPRING 2010

Jonas Plum is the name of the candid protagonist of this novel set in the Caribbean in the early nineteenth century. He tells the reader how his uncle and aunt rid themselves of him by putting him on a merchant ship bound for America and how he got lost in the jungle with Professor Clipercuff, who becomes his teacher and companion on his adventures. The two are captured by aboriginal cannibals and rescued by a rival tribe, the Arahuacos, with whom they live peacefully. Jonas falls in love with Vitali. However, on a trip to a neighbouring village, Jonas is kidnapped by a French officer, triggering another string of adventures. He crosses swords with pirates and fights a duel to the death from which he emerges victorious. He is made a count thanks to a powerful man on an island where he lives quietly until he is visited by the crew of Greenbeard the pirate, who want him to become their captain. Master of the "Nadie vivo" (no-one alive), he then decides to return a group of African slaves to their native land. On the way there, he manages to lay his hands on a rowboat and makes his way home. But the crew finds him and decides to abandon him on the island where he writes his memoirs.

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«Jonás is the most naive protagonist I have come across in the history of literature. A delicious novel, one imbued with extremely subtle humour. With so many heavy-going works being published, this novel reconciles the reader with literature itself» (Luis Sepúlveda)

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