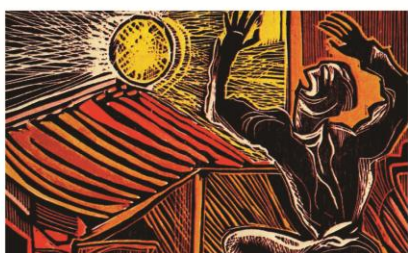




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Advance Retreat



richard
rive

ADVANCE, RETREAT

'Rive's range is tempered with wisdom and his sympathies lie with the victims of oppression, whoever and wherever they may be.'

Cape Times



Description

"Karlie was concentrating hard while trying to follow the speaker. Something at the back of his mind told him that these were great and true words, whatever they meant." - Richard Rive, *The Bench*

A spectacular, career-spanning collection, Richard Rive's *Advance, Retreat*, is a milestone in the development of the modern South African short story. While these dozen selected short stories were banned upon their publication in South Africa, they found high praise abroad for their spare, yet beautiful prose, along with their nuanced, personal depictions of the absurdities, frustrations and contradictions of coloured life under apartheid.

From the sinister whimsy of Rive's early work to the listless fury of his final stories, *Advance, Retreat* exposes both the schizophrenic absurdities of the apartheid state, as well as the everyday tragedies and sadnesses it imposed upon those it oppressed. Laced with irony and masterfully crafted, *Advance, Retreat* is a collection to be savoured; a chronology of both a masterful career and an evolving social consciousness, cut short at its prime.

About the Author

Richard Rive was born in 1930 in Cape Town's slum area of District Six. His distinction as a scholar took him out of the ghetto. He also participated in the campaign of defiance against apartheid. Rive's first novel, *Emergency*, dealing with his experiences in this period, was published abroad in 1964 to wide critical acclaim. In 1965, Richard Rive went to take his Master's Degree at Columbia University. He later studied for his Doctorate at Oxford University before returning to settle as an English professor at his alma mater, Hewat College. Rive's writings include poems, short stories, and the autobiographical novel '*Buckingham Palace*', *District Six*, about his boyhood in the slums.

Richard Rive was murdered in Cape Town in 1989.

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