

FICTION

"The characters Makuchi creates are survivors; they are scrappy and they are strong, especially the women. As we enter their world and see the neocolonial forces of gargantuan proportions that shape their daily living, Makuchi's pen guides us into a new literary space. She wields her pen like a pioneer's axe in the forest, clearing new spaces . . . that invite us to consider realities we would otherwise never know."

—FROM THE INTRODUCTION BY ELOISE A. BRIÈRE

Women's writing in Cameroon has so far been dominated by Franco-phone writers. The short stories in this collection represent the yearnings and vision of an Anglophone woman, who writes both as a Cameroonian and as a woman whose life has been shaped by the minority status her people occupy within the nation-state.

The stories in *Your Madness, Not Mine* are about postcolonial Cameroon, but especially about Cameroonian women, who probe their day-to-day experiences of survival and empowerment as they deal with gender oppression: from patriarchal expectations to the malaise of maldevelopment, unemployment, and the attraction of the West for young Cameroonians.

Makuchi has given us powerful portraits of the people of postcolonial Africa in the so-called global village who too often go unseen and unheard.



MAKUCHI, who was educated at the University of Yaounde (Cameroon) and McGill University (Montreal), is now Associate Professor of English at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg.

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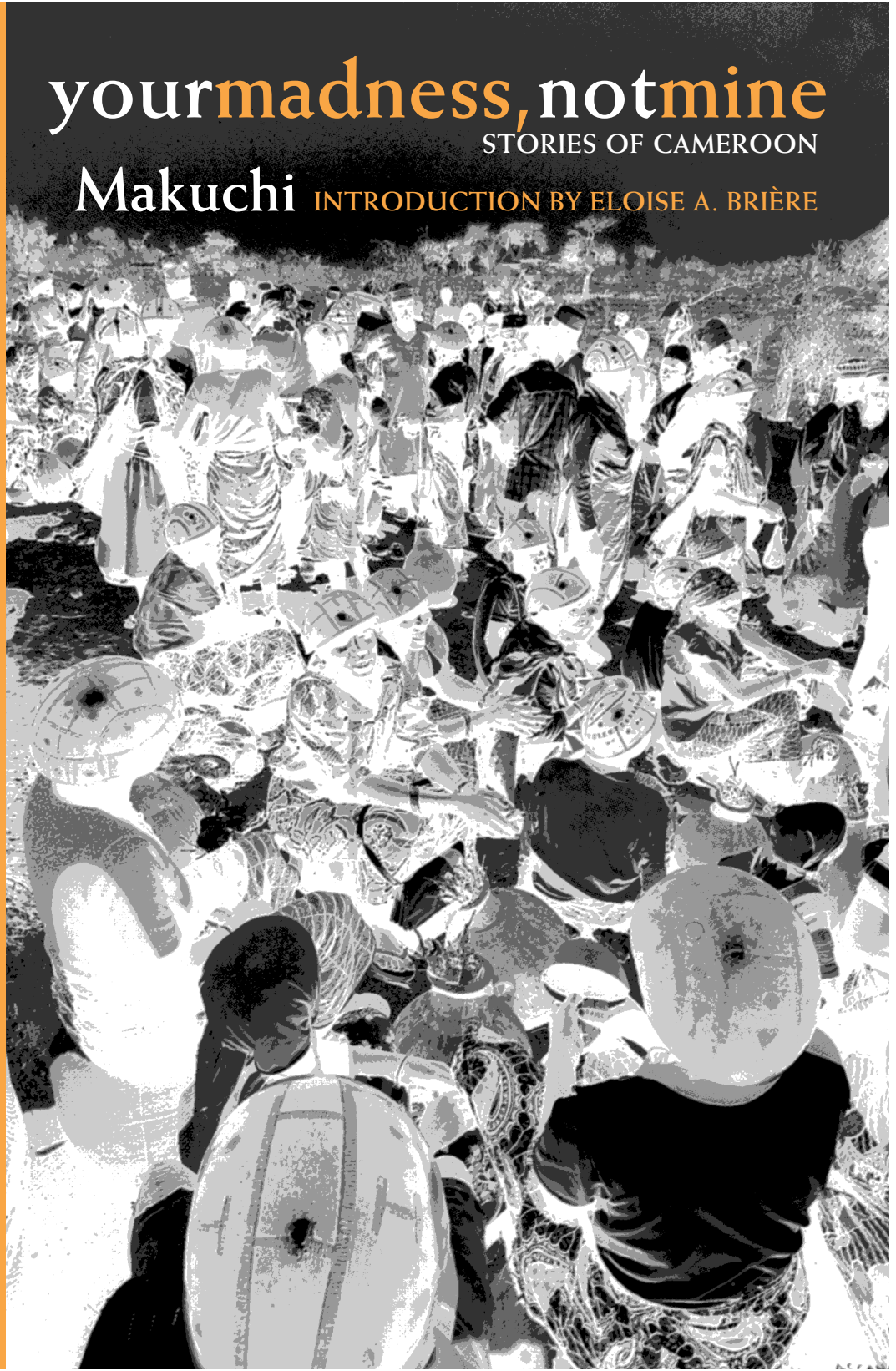
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STORIES OF CAMEROON

Makuchi INTRODUCTION BY ELOISE A. BRIÈRE