

# THEY CALLED HIM **BROTHER GEORGE**

Portrait of a Caribbean Politician



**Anderson Reynolds**

with contributions by George Odlum, Peter Josie, Ralph  
Gonsalves, Peter Lansiquot, Tim Hector, Yasmin Odlum,  
David Hinds, Edsel Edmunds, Modeste Downes, & others

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# Praise for

## THEY CALLED HIM **BROTHER GEORGE** Portrait of a Caribbean Politician

A very engaging and excellent summary of our political history ... a wonderful reconstruction of George Odlum's life from the people who knew him best." —**Samuel Bowers, author of *Talking Truth to Saint Lucian Power***

"A historical and political masterpiece...visionary, most enlightening and superbly written...Brother George's standing in St. Lucian politics bared and amplified to great depths...I have learnt so much about Brother George. He is indeed a national hero!"  
—**Clive Sankardayal, author of *The Brown Curtains***

"A very comprehensive book on the life and times of George Odlum ... have captured everything worth noting about this truly great patriot and outstanding Saint Lucian and Caribbean Statesman par excellence."  
— **Cassius Elias, former cabinet minister & author of *Enough is Enough***

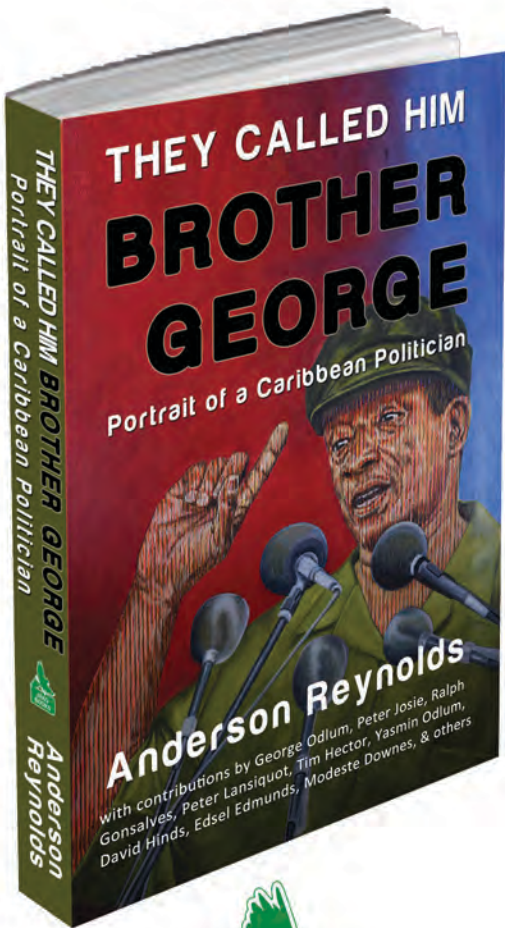
"A powerful yet humorous narrative of a Caribbean leader's epic journey of fighting for the economic empowerment of the working man and the eradication of political corruption." —**Verna Cyril, author of *Heart Of A Slave***

"A weighty book...a vast memorial of George Odlum ... a valuable collection of primary historical sources...adds several layers of critical analysis and hypothesis... a kind of communal catharsis...(above all) portrays the political coming-of-age of Odlum's cohort." —**Dr. Jolien Harmsen, author of *A History of St. Lucia, Rum Justice, & Sugar, Slavery and Settlement***

A reading feast, full of warmth, positively delightful  
**Allan Weekes, author of *Talk of the Devil***

# About

## THEY CALLED HIM **BROTHER GEORGE** Portrait of a Caribbean Politician



George William Odlum (1934-2003) was regarded as a colossal Caribbean leader, one of the region's best orators, and one of its most charismatic and controversial politicians. *They Called Him Brother George: Portrait of a Caribbean Politician* captures from multiple perspectives the political, artistic, and personal life of this Caribbean "hero."

The book highlights the public's fascination, mystification, love, hate, and appreciation of George Odlum, and their opinions on his place in St. Lucian and world history. It is a testament to how the nature and culture of Caribbean politics impact the region's social and economic development.

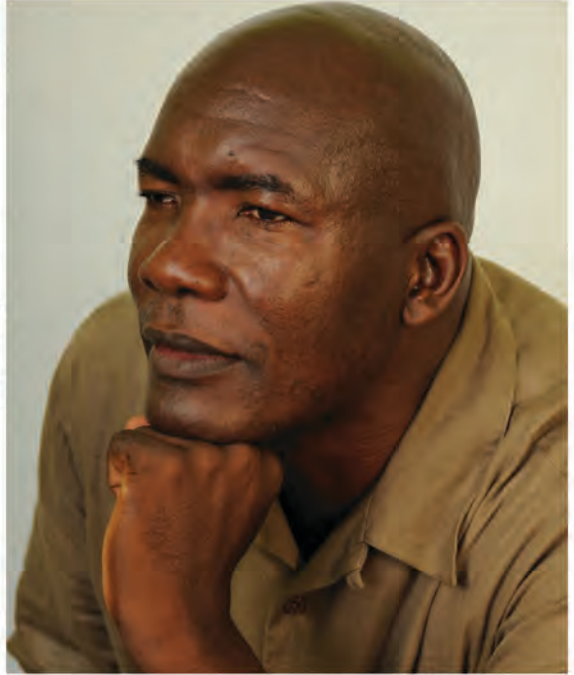


## About

# Dr. Anderson Reynolds

(<https://youtu.be/3loIPA71gQ>)

Anderson Reynolds was born and raised in Vieux Fort, St. Lucia, where he now resides. He holds a PhD in Food and Resource Economics from the University of Florida. Besides ***They Called Him Brother George, No Man's Land***, and the memoir, *My Father Is No Longer There*, he is the author of three award-winning and national best-selling books, namely the novels *The Stall Keeper* and *Death by Fire* and the creative nonfiction *The Struggle For Survival: an historical, political, and socioeconomic perspective of St. Lucia*.



Dr. Reynolds' books, blogs, and newspaper and magazine articles have established him as one of St. Lucia's leading public intellectuals and a foremost authority on its socioeconomic history.

His writings, be it fictional or nonfictional, have been described as a world in which a great drama unfolds, where history, geography, nature, culture, the supernatural, and socioeconomic factors all combine to seal the fate of individuals, communities, or for that matter the fate of a whole nation or civilization. In this crucible of a world, readers are provided with deep insights into where St. Lucians come from, who they are as a people, and how they became who they are.



# BUY

## THEY CALLED HIM **BROTHER GEORGE** Portrait of a Caribbean Politician

### Online Store

<https://amzn.to/36fxun5>

### M&C

Bridge Street  
Castries, St. Lucia  
758-458-8156

### Taste of St. Lucia

Point Seraphine  
Castries, St. Lucia  
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# About George Odlum

Mr. George Odlum deserves the nation's highest honour for his outstanding contribution to St. Lucia's social, cultural, economic, educational and political development...The nation should place 'Brother George Odlum' at the centre of Constitution Park as one of the greatest and most inspiring mobilizers and educators of the grassroots cohort of contemporary Saint Lucian society."

**Nicholas Joseph, Journalist**

George Odlum was a towering political leader...a Caribbean titan, (he) bestrode mightily the St. Lucian and Caribbean political landscape ...

**Dr. Ralph Gonsalves, prime minister of St. Vincent**

Everybody loved Brother George; Brother George just had to say walk, and everybody would walk; he would say strike! And everybody would strike. With Brother George at the helm, nobody was afraid of anything.

**Mary Bruce, journalist**

George was a colossus who bestrode the political, social and intellectual landscape of St. Lucia like a giant, compared to our own pygmy existence. He awakened and nurtured the political consciousness of those who are now today the leaders of this country.

**Jeff Fedee, journalist and political activist**

Bro. George stood shoulder-to-shoulder with Arthur Lewis and Derek Walcott. Three of St. Lucia's finest sons had mounted the world stage, looked Mankind in the face and proclaimed that we are amongst the greatest.

**The Crusader**

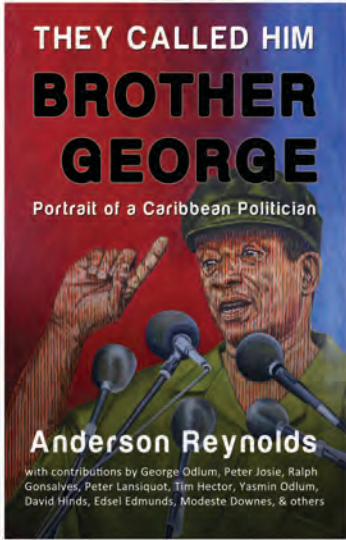
I honestly believe that George Odlum was a man many years before his time and the greatest leader this country has ever had...I give thanks and praises to the Almighty that I had the privilege and pleasure of having lived at the same time with this great man.

**Denis Dabreo, Author and Journalists**

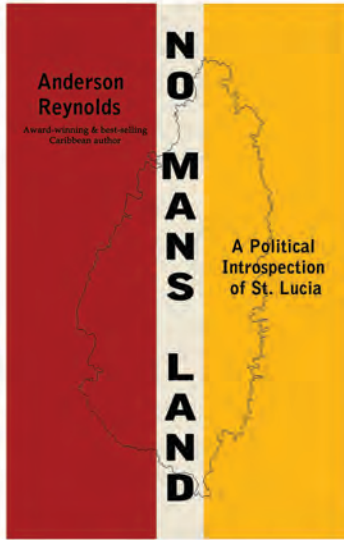


# The World of Anderson Reynolds

In Dr. Reynolds St. Lucia has produced another writer of the calibre, or of even deeper essence than Nobel Laureate V. S. Naipaul — **Peter Lansiquot, diplomat**



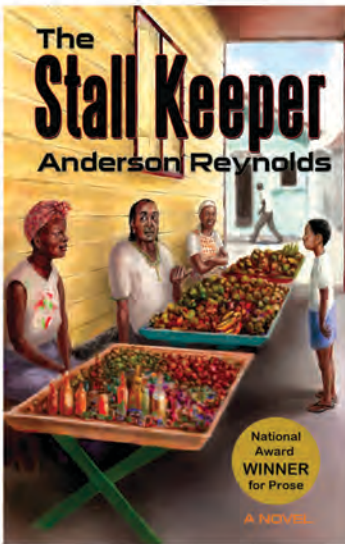
Visionary, most enlightening, and superbly written  
—Clive Sankardayal



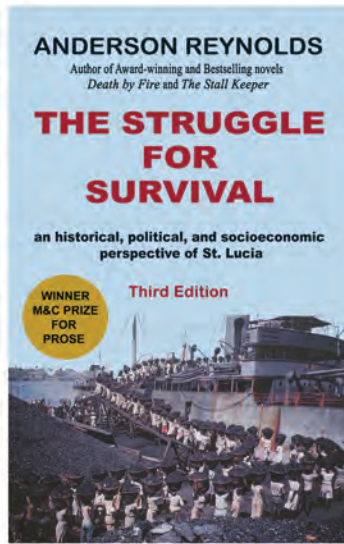
Awesome... profound, informative, and thought-provoking.  
—Dr. James Fletcher



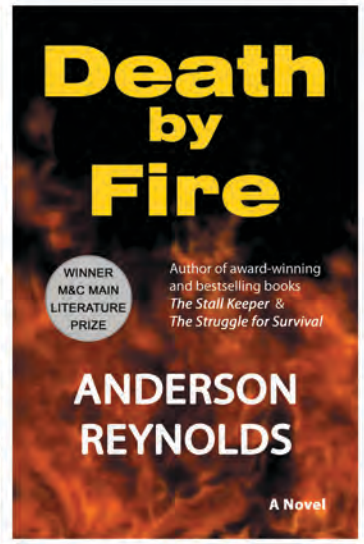
A love ballad, a joy to read and a privilege to be savoured.  
— Dr. Jolien Harmsen



Perhaps the Stall Keeper is the best novel to come out of St. Lucia  
—McDonald Dixon



Establishes the St. Lucian personality, the St. Lucian national and cultural identity  
—Jacques Compton

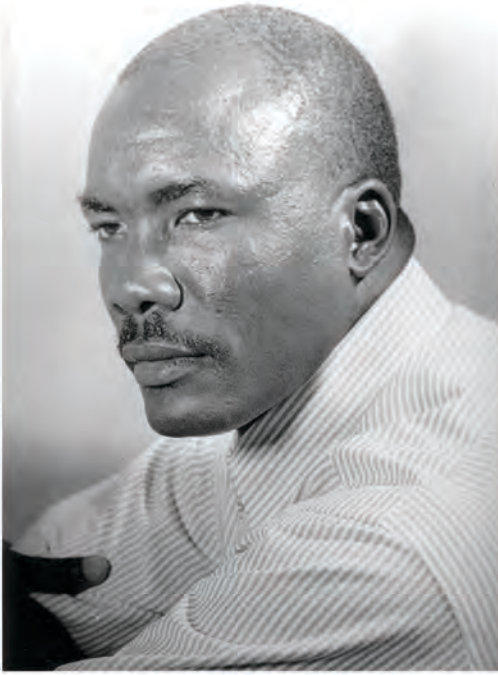


Easily one of the most compelling pieces of literature I have laid hands on in recent years.  
—Modeste Downes



## Awards

# Dr. Anderson Reynolds



**2015 November Laureate Chair**  
(Writers Forum)

**2012 CDF National Arts Award  
for Prose**  
(The Stall Keeper)

**2006 CDF National Arts Award  
for Creative Journalism**  
(The Jako Magazine)

**2003 M&C Prize for Prose**  
(The Struggle for Survival: an historical, political and socio-economic perspective of St. Lucia)

**2001 M&C Main Prize  
for Literature**  
(Death by Fire)

**2001 M&C Prize  
for Creative Journalism**  
(Newspaper articles)



# 2023 Book Tour

## THEY CALLED HIM **BROTHER GEORGE** Portrait of a Caribbean Politician

### St. Lucia

Vieux Fort Book Launch—**4PM Sun 5 March 2023**

Castries Book Launch—**6:30PM Sat 18 March 2023**

Secondary and Primary School Visits—TBA

Rodney Bay Book Signings—TBA

Castries Book Signings—TBA

Vieux Fort Book Signings—TBA

### Barbados

University of the West Indies —TBA

### North America

New York —TBA

Hartford Connecticut—TBA

Washington DC—TBA

Atlanta—TBA

Boston—TBA

Los Angeles—TBA

South Florida—TBA

New Orleans—TBA

Toronto—TBA

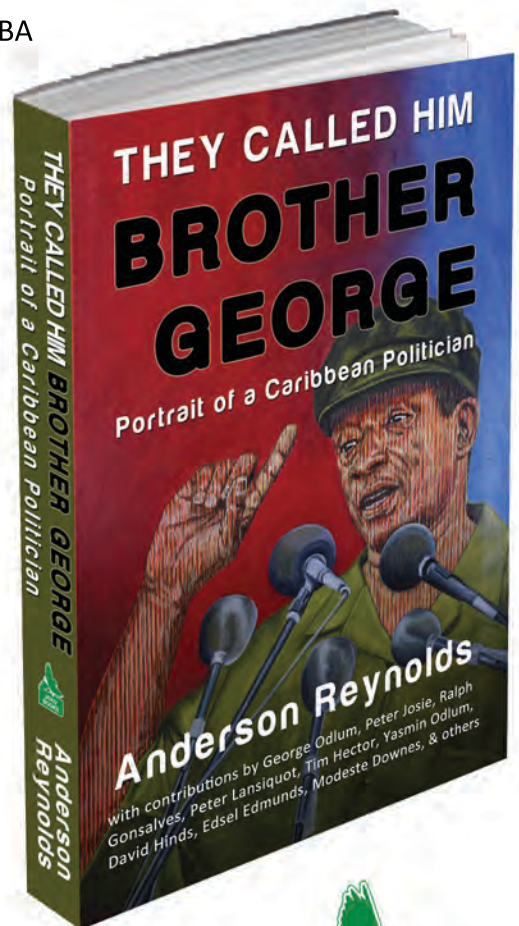
### Europe

London (St. Lucia High Commission) —TBA

Bristol University—TBA

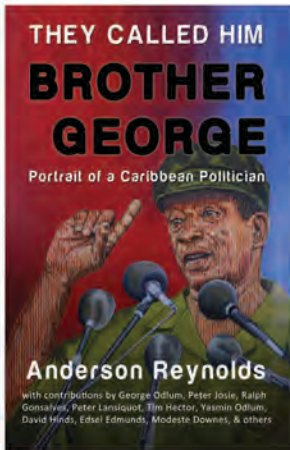
Birmingham—TBA

Manchester—TBA



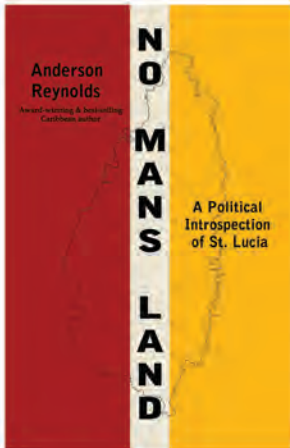
# The World of Anderson Reynolds

(<https://youtu.be/UYmbE0YVy20>)



Dr. Reynolds' writing, be it fictional or nonfictional, has been described as a world in which a great drama unfolds, where history, geography, nature, culture, the supernatural, and socio-economic factors all combine to seal the fate of characters, communities, or, for that matter, the fate of whole nations or civilizations. In this crucible of a world, readers are provided with deep insights into where St. Lucians come from, who they are as a people, and how they became who they are.

His first book, the novel, *Death by Fire*, presents a world plagued by supernatural malevolence, natural and manmade catastrophes, and the vagaries and unkindness of history. In the presence of these life-changing forces, the novel follows the lives of two boys being raised by single parents as they pursue a life of escalating crime. As such, the book presents a sociological contemplation on the root causes of poverty and deprivation and posits that sometimes the neglect of a child produces nearly the same fate as the hatred of a child.

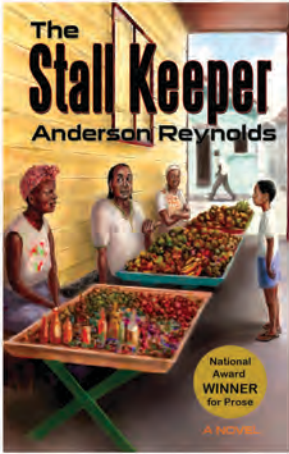


His second book, *The Struggle for Survival: an historical, political, and socioeconomic perspective of St. Lucia* retells the story of the tragic 1993 island-wide banana strike that culminated in the shooting death of two banana farmers. However, by going beyond the tragedy and delving into the island's history, farmers' struggles against droughts, hurricanes, falling prices, corrupt institutions, and multinational corporations are seen as a microcosm of the struggles of a people against slavery, colonialism, imperialism, dispossession, marginalization and natural calamities.



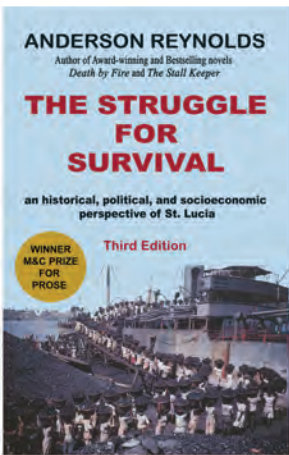
Against the backdrop of American World War II occupation of Vieux Fort and the damaged culture the occupation wrought, Dr. Reynolds' third book and second novel, *The Stall Keeper*, examines the lives of the town's inhabitants as they struggle to find love, acceptance, and material success. In so doing, the novel presents a meditation on the nature of fate and offers food for thought on why Vieux Fortians are the way they are.



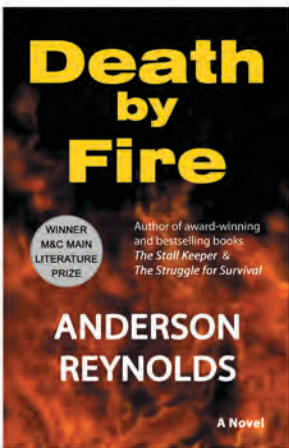


Dr. Reynolds' fourth book, the memoir, *My Father Is No Longer There*, was inspired by his father's accidental death. He said that the book was an attempt to reconcile himself to his father's sudden and premature death and to get to know him better than when he was alive. The book presents a meditation on the nature of death, the value of life, and the nature of art and creativity. It is an exploration of family values, the depths of parental love and sacrifice, and the importance of parent-child bonding.

In his fifth book, *No Man's Land: A Political Introspection of St. Lucia*, Dr. Reynolds dissects St. Lucian politics and so-ciety to pinpoint what is wrong with the country's political system and how to fix it. The book speaks to the hold histo-ry has on the country, and how race, partisanship, provincialism, and oppor-tunism cloud the political process. It is a meditation on issues of patrimony, sovereignty, nationhood, corruption, and political empowerment.



In his latest book, *They Called Him Brother George: Portrait of a Caribbean Politician*, Dr. Reynolds gives perspective to the life of George Odlum, regarded as a colossal Caribbean leader, one of the region's best orators, and one of its most charismatic, controversial, and tragic politicians. The book examines the forces, both internal and external, that aligned against George Odlum becoming prime minister and presents a testament to how the nature and culture of Caribbean politics impact the region's social and economic development.



In this world of Anderson Reynolds, is there any escape or any hope of rising above circumstances of birth and geog-raphy? Well, maybe. A hint of an answer is provided in *The Struggle for Survival*, where the narrator says, "But refus-ing to take a page from history, farmers went on a strike and history repeated itself." So, in the world of Anderson Reynolds, knowledge and understanding of one's history and culture represent the only possible means of escape from one's fate. In other words, "man know thyself and do thyself no harm." But, even so, there are no guarantees, for in *The Stall Keeper* Ruben was well equipped with a knowledge of his history and culture, yet this did not prevent his downfall.

