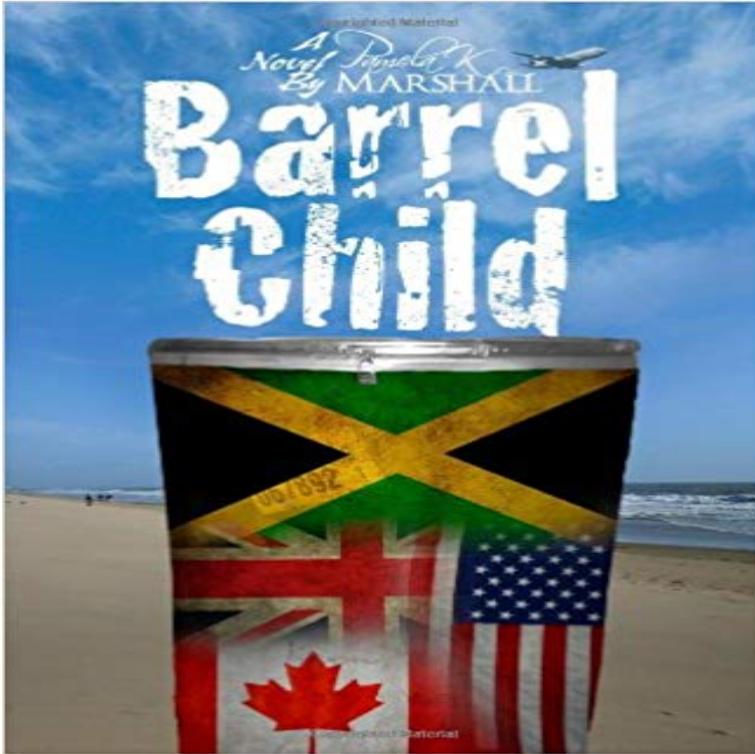


Barrel Child



What happens when mothers are forced to emigrate in search of economic opportunities to provide a better life for their children? What happens to the child? Feelings of abandonment... longing... anger... *Barrel Child* by Pamela K. Marshall is a fictional account of the struggles a family must overcome when circumstance forces proof of a mother's love to be sent via airmail, and the ripple effects of material things taking the place of a mother's presence. While the term barrel child is not widely known, the phenomenon's devastating effects on children and familial ties have long plagued Jamaica. With economic prospects declining in the country and almost half of Jamaican households headed by women, many mothers are forced to emigrate to the United States, Canada or Europe in search of employment and better economic opportunities to support their children. Sadly, these mothers must leave their children behind with close friends or relatives until they can amass the financial means to have their children join them overseas. Often, mothers are separated from their children for years, only able to send barrels of food, clothes, money and other sustenance to show their love. Such is the fate of Sara Lewis, a young woman left under her aunt and uncle's care while her mother ventures to America to set up a better life for them. The novel tells Sara's story from adolescence to young adulthood, with her thoughts and feelings interjected by the perspectives of others in her life, and details her search for love from the man in her life and the people around her. This story of love, expectations, parent-child conflict, cultural clash and family secrets is virtually impossible to put down once you start reading and become immersed in the protagonist's struggle to find herself and her place in the world, overcoming the psychological and emotional toll of being a

barrel child to become a good mother to her own children.

For almost a decade during her childhood, Melissa Elias communicated with her mother mainly through phone calls or she'd hear from her. Barrel Child is the term which refers to the child whose parent -frequently the mother- makes the decision to leave their young offspring and homeland in search of a better life. A look into the complexities of parental migration from the Caribbean, barrel children and the affect separation can have on children - 5 min - Uploaded by Campus Movie Fest. The ultimate test of nature versus nurture - will the barrel child survive? Created by Vieux Vino. Last week, Family and Religion featured a young woman who defied the odds and withstood the negatives that accompany the barrel children. The mission of the Barrel Stories Project is to record and share the stories of Caribbean families affected when parents migrate without their children, leaving home. Shop Crate and Barrel for high quality kids furniture including kids bedroom furniture, Accent your child's spaces with designs, colors and patterns that fit their style. Generally, a barrel child is a term most often used to label children who are a product of stepwise migration. They are children who are left behind. Exploring the Barrel Children Cycle: Parent-Child Separation Due to Migration. Mala Jokhan The University of the West Indies, Trinidad & Tobago. Breaking The Cycle follows the couple's path to overcome the lingering effects of being barrel children as issues of abandonment and commitment continue to affect them. Buy Barrel Child by Pamela K Marshall (ISBN: 9780983313403) from Amazon's Book Store. Everyday low prices and free delivery on eligible orders. LIFE HONESTLY. My mother became a barrel child of 1960s Jamaica. This is her story. 7 min. Kuba and her mother, Everine Shand (Photo: 