

Walcott's work gives us a glimpse of the making of contemporary Caribbean identities, and examining his work can help us understand the contemporary Caribbean dilemmas and struggles in identity-making in a context of a colonial legacy of global socio-economic and political inequalities.

For Walcott, past colonial and racial divisions constitute the crux of Caribbean identity, and the question of the divided nature of the postcolonial self is central to his intellectual quest. He has often quoted Jean-Paul Sartre's introduction to Franz Fanon's crucial text in postcolonial studies *The Wretched of the Earth*, where Sartre stresses the duality of the colonial world between the white colonizer and the black colonized: —They must have both. Two worlds; that makes two bewitching; they dance all night and at dawn they crowd into the churches to hear Mass; each day the split widens. Our enemy betrays his brothers and becomes our accomplice; his brothers do the same thing.

For Walcott, the Caribbean writer breathes two different traditions, namely the African and the European traditions. But Walcott is not the only Caribbean writer to invoke the cultural multiplicity created by colonialism as the springboard for the creation of a new and unique Caribbean identity. Contemporary French-Caribbean créolistes also emphasize a Caribbean identity that —embraces all strands that have contributed to the making of Antillea.

Themes of post colonial literature

Assimilation

The Colonized attempting to pass or assimilate to colonial culture

Appropriation

Colonizers taking on features of the colonized

Hybridist

The blending of culture of colonizer and colonized

Diaspora

Colonial citizen who emigrated from their own town. Their struggle for identity.

Subaltern identities

People without voice and power.

Clashes of cultures