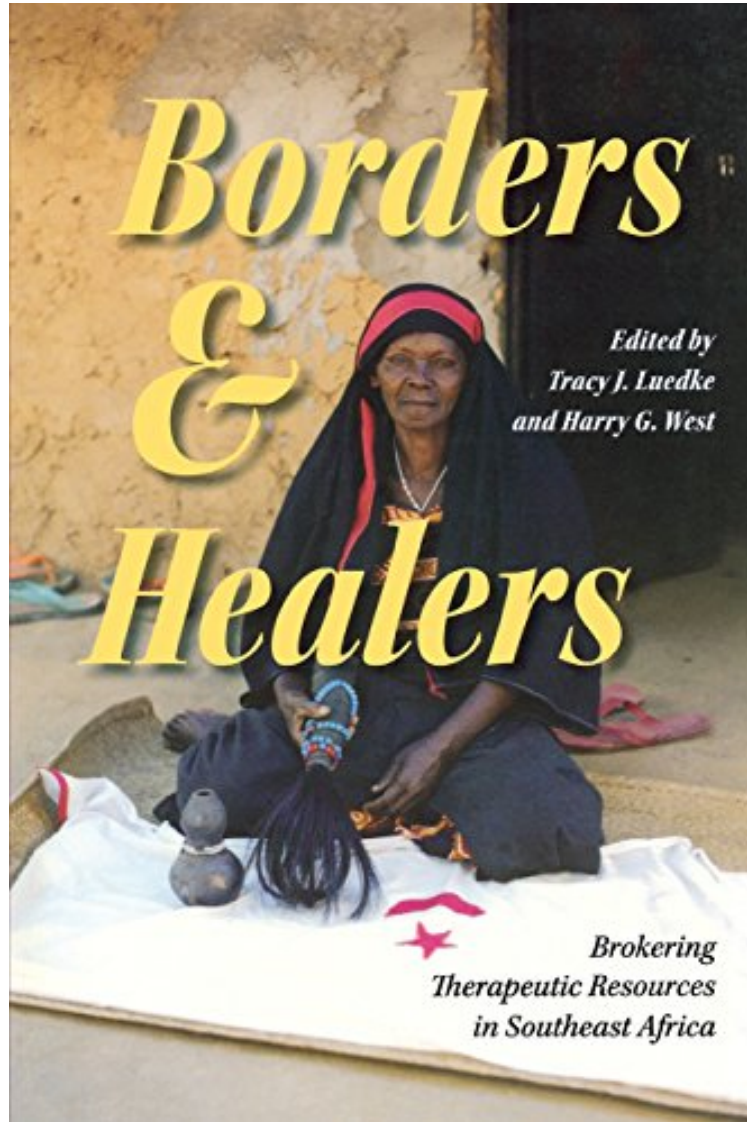


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Borders and Healers: Brokering Therapeutic Resources in Southeast Africa

From Tracy J Luedke

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From Tracy J Luedke : Borders and Healers: Brokering Therapeutic Resources in Southeast Africa before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Borders and Healers: Brokering Therapeutic Resources in Southeast Africa:

In southeast Africa, the power to heal is often associated with crossing borders, whether literal or metaphorical. This wide-ranging volume reveals that healers, whose power depends on the ability to broker therapeutic resources, also contribute to the construction of the borders they transgress. While addressing diverse healing practices such as herbalism, razor-blade vaccination, spirit possession, prophetic healing, missionary health clinics, and traumatic storytelling, the nine lively and provocative essays in *Borders and Healers* explore the creativity and resilience of the regions healers and those they heal in a world shaped by economic stagnation, declining state commitments to health care, and the AIDS pandemic. This important book contributes to understandings of the ways in which healing practices in southeast Africa mediate divides between the wealthy and the impoverished, the traditional and the modern, the local and the global.

Well-written, thought-provoking, and grounded in fieldwork, this volume is written for anthropologists and will also be useful for public health professionals. . . . it will be invaluable for those teaching upper-level undergraduate or graduate courses on African health, and for anthropologists interested in therapeutic pluralism and theories of healing. (*American Anthropologist*). . . serves as an excellent regional anthology . . . but also valuably and originally extends this literature. (*Journal of Southern African Studies*). . . this is a diverse set of ethnographic accounts that provides some rich insights into the work which goes on around the boundaries of 'traditional healing'. Vol. 14.3 Sept. 2008 (Hannah Brown University of Manchester). . . Luedke and West's book does indeed raise important issues; that in itself is what animates these concerns, and makes the book very interesting reading. 51, 3 Dec. 2008 (Karen Flint UNC-Charlotte) About the Author Tracy J. Luedke is Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Northeastern Illinois University. Harry G. West is lecturer in Anthropology at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. He is author of *Kupilikula: Governance and the Invisible Realm in Mozambique*.