Songs of Silence
- with CSEC Study Notes

Curdella Forbes

*Songs of Silence* is a new edition to the **Heinemann** Caribbean Writers Series and includes CSEC-specific study notes to help students to prepare for their exams.

The novel is a colourful patchwork of observations of life in 1960s rural Jamaica, as seen through the eyes of a young girl. Held together by the sure and simple voice of a child, this powerful narrative is interspersed with the whisper of adult reflection, rendering the accounts at once sensuous and disarmingly honest.

Inhabiting an elusive space between what is said and what is felt, what is conveyed and what is perceived, silence becomes a metaphor of rage and fear, of loneliness and contentment, confusion and clarification in these songs that explore social change and individual growth.

Joyce Stewart, author of the study notes, is a lecturer in English language and literature at the University of West Indies, Barbados. She has extensive experience in teaching, and authored the **CSEC** student edition of *The Chrysalids*.

“This is an outstanding collection. Curdella Forbes’s eloquent, often moving, stories…bear comparison with the best in West Indian literature.”

*Mervyn Morris*

For further information on the Caribbean Writers Series and on Pearson editions of the prescribed texts for the CSEC English B 2012-2014 examination, please visit [www.pearsoncaribbean.com](http://www.pearsoncaribbean.com).