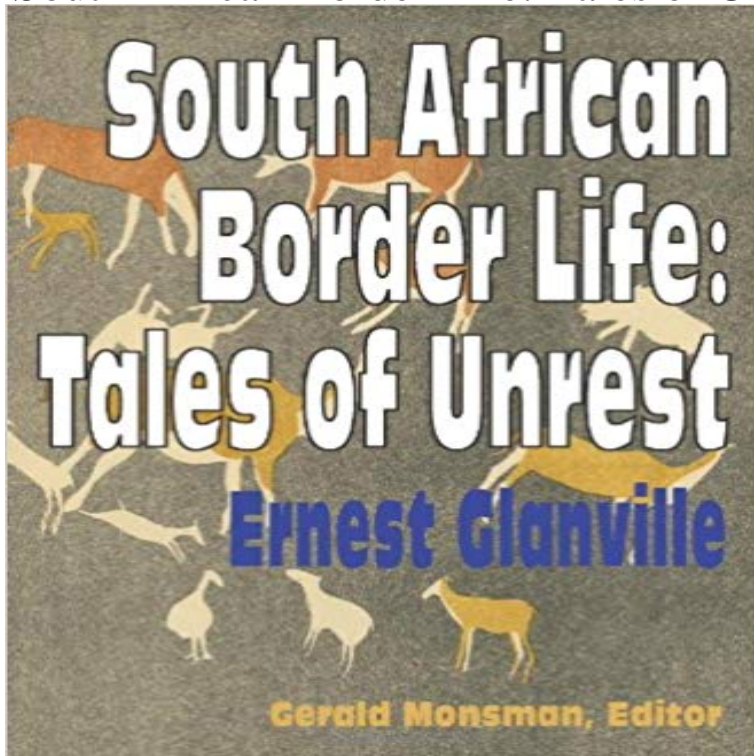


South African Border Life: Tales of Unrest (1800-1920 British Authors)



The life of the Anglo-African writer Ernest Glanville (1855-1925) was the stuff of fiction. As a young colonist he took long, lonely treks in the border country of the Eastern Cape, absorbing the superstitions and folklore of the Xhosa. He served as a war correspondent for the *London Daily Chronicle* in the Zulu War, riding with Basutos, Boers, colonials, mounted infantry, and regular cavalry scouts. After the war the venturesome Glanville wrote for and edited several London-based and South African publications, most notably the oldest newspaper in that part of the British empire, the *Cape Argus*. Throughout his seventeen adventure novels and several collections of short fiction he wrote of what he had seen, done, or heard from eyewitnesses. Historical facts are mixed with supernatural elements of local myth and magic not merely to give his tales a powerful exoticism but to explore the borderland spaces of his time and place. *South African Border Life: Tales of Unrest* reintroduces Glanville's work with a selection of short stories, a novella, and two novels. Among these is *Ukutwasa*, a surprising story that combines exciting Anglo-African adventure and romance with serious issues of cultural confrontation, is Glanville's breakthrough novella set in the Eastern Cape of his boyhood, a tale based on the African superstition of *Ikanti*, the malignant lord of ancestral spirits who takes the form of a sacred python. The second work, *The Lost Heiress*, weaves adventure, romance, magic and myth, history and conjecture into an unforgettable tale graphically describing both the terrible cruelty and the awesome beauty of the lush and fraught landscape of the Blood River borderland. Professor Monsman carefully edits and illuminates the texts with helpful notes to explain unusual allusions to South African culture, folklore, and customs. This scholarly edition continues Monsman's reconsideration and revitalization of

Anglo-English writers such as Olive Schreiner, H. Rider Haggard, and Bertram Mitford.

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