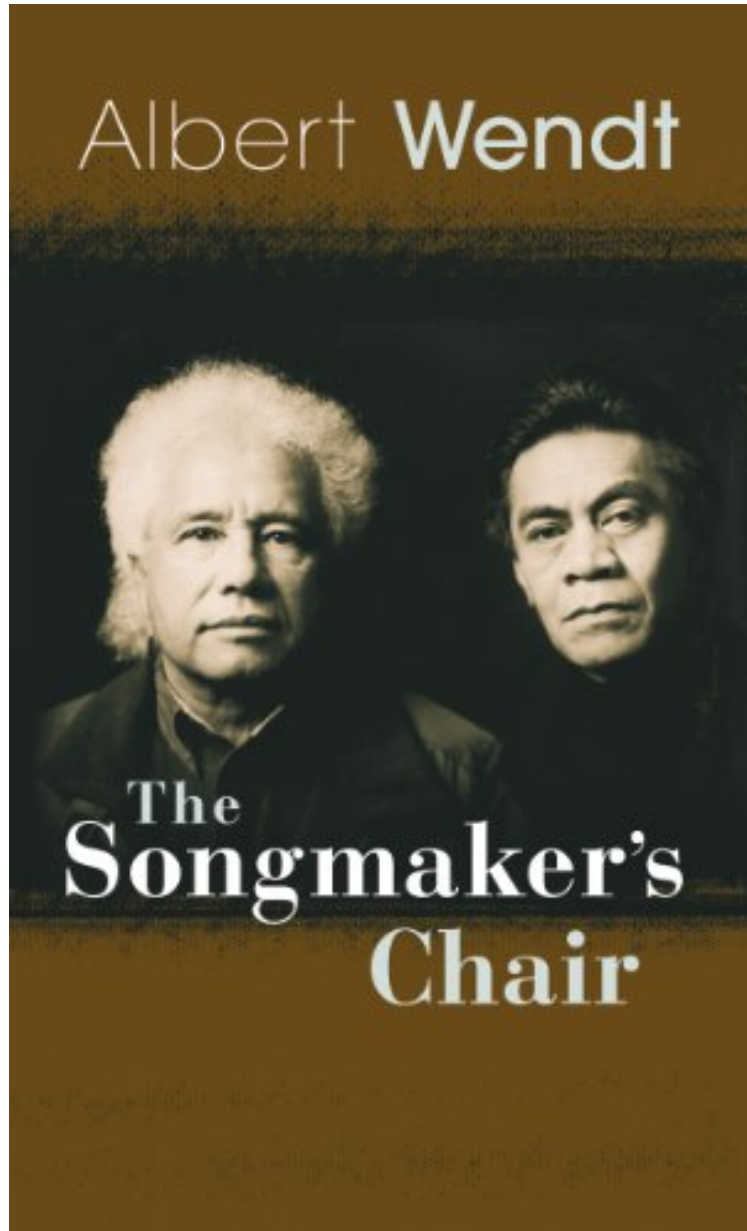


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The Songmaker's Chair

Albert Wendt

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Albert Wendt : The Songmaker's Chair before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Songmaker's Chair:

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The Songmaker's Chair tells of a Samoan family, the Aiga Sa Peseola, who have been in Auckland since the 1950s. Over three generations the family have intermarried with Maori and Pakeha to develop what they refer to as the Peseola Way. Central to that Way is the magnificent Polynesian exploration and settlement of the Pacific, and a songmaking tradition which Peseola Olaga, the family patriarch has inherited from his father. At the heart of the play is the love between Peseola Olaga and Malaga, his wife, and how they've struggled to give their children a good life in Aotearoa. For theirs is the Peseola Way: defiant, honest and unflinching even in the face of death.

About the Author Albert Wendt has been an influential figure in the developments that have shaped New Zealand and Pacific literature since the 1970s, writing numerous works of fiction and several volumes of poetry, and editing notable anthologies of Pacific literature. He is a professor of New Zealand literature at the University of Auckland. The Songmaker's Chair is his first full-length play.