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'An important contribution to both historical and social science scholarship on South Africa, this account of white labour politics, with particular emphasis on Afrikaners, shows that white society was never fully unitary, but always reflected class divisions. This outstanding work combines innovative archival scholarship with the author's remarkable fieldwork study on the Solidarity movement of recent years.'

Jonathan Hyslop, Colgate University and University of Pretoria

'Meticulously researched and rigorously analytical, this is a rich, perceptive and sensitive study of a neglected strand in the history of modern South African society – white workers. Vivid and instructive, as a clear-eyed exploration of how white labour dealt with its ambiguity in a country riven by race and class, there really is nothing quite like it in the field. This story of mixed human fortunes is summed up perfectly by its deliciously snappy title.'

Bill Nasson, University of Stellenbosch

'An insightful and original historical analysis of the multi-layered politics and subjectivities of white workers from the early 20th century into the democratic era. Importantly, the book lays bare the Solidarity Movement's contemporary project to create a 'state-in-state' particularly in the interests of white Afrikaans-speakers.'

Noor Nieftagodien, University of the Witwatersrand

'Working on intersections between race and class, past and present, and archival research and remarkable oral interviews, *Privileged Precariat* helps to mark the emergence of Southern Africa as a leading site for the study of whiteness. An elegantly written and closely argued demonstration of the role of the state in racial formation.'

David Roediger, University of Kansas

Van Zyl-Hermann

Privileged Precariat

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*White Workers and South Africa's
Long Transition to Majority Rule*

Danelle van Zyl-Hermann

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Cover image: Miners emerge from their eight hour shift underground working on the gold-bearing ore at Anglo Gold's Savuka mine (formerly western Deep Levels East), southwest of Johannesburg, the world's deepest mine. 23rd May 2000. Photo © Greg Marinovich.

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