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Running In Flip-flops: A Fictionalized Memoir Of Peace Corps Service In Senegal

Running in
Flip-flops



Abigail Fay



Synopsis

Fresh out of college, Shannon Wheaton signs up for two years in the Peace Corps and gets exactly what she expects: a mud hut, a boisterous host family, no running water or electricity, and endless days of shelling peanuts. What she didn't expect was to clash so intensely with Wolof culture. In her rural village in Senegal, West Africa, Shannon is challenged in ways she never could have imagined. She finds herself riding an emotional roller coaster. Moments of wonder and of frustration, tiny successes and multiple failures, American friends and village neighbors, all shape Shannon's new world - and her with it. Her story is an earnest chronicle of Peace Corps service, with the enduring question familiar to all volunteers: What does it mean to make a difference? This eBook version has been specially formatted for Kindle.

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Customer Reviews

I have truly enjoyed Abigail Fay's *Running in Flip Flops*. Her writing is very descriptive and she gets to the heart of the kind of angst we experience when adapting to and wanting to be useful in a very different culture. I'm grateful that she was able to capture those feelings the feelings of confusion, frustration, small victories, resignation, big breakthroughs and constant relationship building and

personal growth. I have lived and worked in Africa, so I also appreciate how well Fay has captured the sights and smells of the market, the strong sense of community, the humor and the pace. I recommend this to anyone going on overseas assignment or anyone who is in the process of adapting to and learning from a culture that is new and offers much in life's journey of discovery.

As a former Senegal Peace Corps Volunteer it brought back many memories both good and bad. I was in the Casamance region which is paradise when compared to a Wolof village in the Saloum. We didn't have internet and phones back in the 60's. We had to go through Kaolack to get to our post. The trash and smells are authentic. We referred to it as the world's largest fly farm. It may have been called fiction, but it was written by someone who had been there, done that, and had the t-shirt.

I didn't even realize it was a novel until the end. A rich little white girl being condescending to the natives, hating the experience, and patting herself on the back. Still, a good read. Doesn't say much for the Peace Corps, though.

Awesome read.....a little slow at first but I found myself not wanting to put it down....late night reading....makes you think

Enlightening book. Enjoyable read.

The book was an entertaining read putting a bright light on the habits of a culture. I felt embarrassed by the holiday carousing, drinking and sex. I hate to think peace corps volunteers actually behave like that.

Running in Flip Flops is an eye-opening novel by Abigail Fay about a Peace Corps volunteer who is trying to make a difference in the people of Senegal's lives. The novel follows the day to day trials and triumphs of Shannon Wheaton, a fresh faced volunteer, who lands in Senegal with her grasp of the French language and little or no knowledge of the people she will be living with for the next two years. Ms. Fay takes her readers on an incredible journey by describing the sights and sounds in such a way that you feel if you are on the same journey as Shannon Wheaton. I was given this book to read by the author in return for a fair and honest review.

A wonderful read with some very real feeling experiences, it gives you the feeling like you get a peek inside what it's like to be a Peace Corps volunteer

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