

## Eritrean Fictions In Tigrigna

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Understanding Religion and Social Change in Ethiopia  
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The Making of Elite Women

### I Didn't Do It for You

“I read Stubborn Archivist in a ravenous gulp. It’s stunning: so articulate about what it means to live between two languages and countries, tenderly unraveling

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the knots of unbelonging.” —Olivia Laing, author of *The Lonely City* and *Crudo For fans of Chemistry and Normal People*: A mesmerizing and witty debut novel about a young woman growing up between two disparate cultures, and the singular identity she finds along the way But where are you really from? When your mother considers another country home, it’s hard to know where you belong. When the people you live among can’t pronounce your name, it’s hard to know exactly who you are. And when your body no longer feels like your own, it’s hard to understand your place in the world. In *Stubborn Archivist*, a young British Brazilian woman from South London navigates growing up between two cultures and into a fuller understanding of her body, relying on signposts such as history, family conversation, and the eyes of the women who have shaped her—her mother, grandmother, and aunt. Our stubborn archivist takes us through first love and loss, losing and finding home, trauma and healing, and various awakenings of sexuality and identity. Shot through the novel are the narrator's trips to Brazil, sometimes alone, often with family, where she accesses a different side of herself—one, she begins to realize, that is as much of who she is as anything else. A hypnotic and bold debut, *Stubborn Archivist* is as singular as its narrator; a novel you won't soon forget.

## **The Essential Guide to Tigrinya**

Famine in the Horn is both a tool and an aspect of ethnic conflict, with the

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Ethiopian Amharas of the central highlands pitted against the Eritreans and Tigreans of the north. The overwhelming majority of U.S. journalists have reported on Ethiopia from one side only-that of the Amharas in Addis Ababa. The author wants to show the story from the other side, in order to redress a grievous imbalance in news coverage. To get people excited, you sometimes have to light a fire, and that was the author's intention. This book covers the period from late 1984 to the early part of 1987. In late 1987, the famine returned, mainly for the very reasons cited inside.

## **Amarigna and Tigrigna Qal Hieroglyphs for Beginners**

Gebts is the ancient name of Egypt. Now you can properly read the hieroglyphs properly for yourself in the Amarigna and Tigrigna languages. These two languages are of the Amara and Akele-Gezai merchants, from today's regions of Ethiopia and Eritrea, who founded ancient Gebts 5100 years ago. After 20 years of research, this book corrects Egyptologists' hieroglyphic pronunciation and spellings mistakes. These corrections have allowed the hieroglyphic language to finally be matched to these two languages. The Tigrigna-speaking ancient Akele merchants traveled to Gebts via the Red Sea, entering Gebts in the north. The Amarigna-speaking ancient Amara merchants, entered Gebts from the southern end of Gebts. When Gebts was divided into the "Two Lands," 5100 years ago, the northern Nile Delta was divided for the Akele to administer and the southern Nile Valley for the Amara merchants.

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This division is told of in the famous "Shabaka Stone" inscription. Over the following years, the Akele and Amara would mostly jointly rule ancient Gebts. This was until the so-called "New Kingdom" period of King Tut's Akele family line, which exclusively ruled Gebts from about 1500 BC to 1069 BC (Akele kings have a falcon in their names). Shortly following, around 900 BC, hieroglyphs suddenly appear in Akele-Guzay, Eritrea (the "Akele-Guzay script," which has been improperly labeled "South Arabian script" - not having been found in South Arabia for another 100 years after). The ancient Akele merchants having co-developed hieroglyphs with the Amara merchants, it is not surprising to see hieroglyphs in Akele-Guzay shortly at the end of the exclusive Akele rule - possibly a sign that many Akele returned home after thousands of years. Travelers to Egypt and students will especially benefit from this book. Background: Modern Egyptologists, unlike their ancient Greek historian counterparts, did not know how to read hieroglyphs until after they discovered the so-called "Rosetta Stone" in 1799, which helped them learn to decipher the hieroglyphs. But Greek historians did know the history of ancient Gebts, including that of the hieroglyphs origin and their connection to the people of today's Ethiopia and Eritrea. Ancient Greek historians, such as Diodorus Siculus of 100 BC, knew without prejudice that the ancient Ethiopians founded ancient Gebts and that hieroglyphic writing was of Ethiopian origin. As Diodorus writes, "They say also that the Egyptians are colonists sent out by the Ethiopians and the forms of their letters are Ethiopian." But modern day Egyptologists, beginning in 1799 with the discovery of the 197 BC Rosetta Stone, mistakenly assigned so many wrong

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sounds to various hieroglyphic letters, though mostly subtle, that they rendered the hieroglyphic language unable to be matched to any Ethiopian or other language, calling it a "dead" language. This was partly due to the ancient Greek military rulers of ancient Gebts who, in 197 BC, had the propaganda message of the Rosetta Stone inscribed by their own priests. The Greeks, foreigners to Gebts, as well as to the Amarigna and Tigrigna languages, could not properly pronounce ancient Gebts words properly. And since proper spelling completely relied on proper pronunciation prior to spelling, the Greek military unknowingly transferred their pronunciation mistakes to the hieroglyphic portion of their propaganda message. Nearly two thousand years later, when modern day Egyptologists found the stone tablet and began translating the hieroglyphic message on the stone, they were already handicapped by the earlier Greek military spelling mistakes. Therefore, this book is an important part of the evolution in accurate hieroglyphic translation. More importantly, reading the hieroglyphs in Amarigna and Tigrigna provides the student, researcher, or traveler a fuller understanding, and in proper cultural context, of what the hieroglyphs can reveal about ancient Gebts, its people, and its culture

### **King of Kings**

Written by experts with extensive first-hand knowledge of the city's architectural heritage, this is the first book to be published on the architecture of Asmara. It

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contains new photography and an extraordinary range of previously unpublished archival material, including original plans and drawings.

### **Enoch, the Ethiopian**

Eloquent and thought-provoking, this classic novel by the Eritrean novelist Gebreyesus Hailu, written in Tigrinya in 1927 and published in 1950, is one of the earliest novels written in an African language and will have a major impact on the reception and critical appraisal of African literature. The Conscript depicts, with irony and controlled anger, the staggering experiences of the Eritrean ascari, soldiers conscripted to fight in Libya by the Italian colonial army against the nationalist Libyan forces fighting for their freedom from Italy's colonial rule. Anticipating midcentury thinkers Frantz Fanon and Aimé Césaire, Hailu paints a devastating portrait of Italian colonialism. Some of the most poignant passages of the novel include the awakening of the novel's hero, Tuquabo, to his ironic predicament of being both under colonial rule and the instrument of suppressing the colonized Libyans. The novel's remarkable descriptions of the battlefield awe the reader with mesmerizing images, both disturbing and tender, of the Libyan landscape—with its vast desert sands, oases, horsemen, foot soldiers, and the brutalities of war—uncannily recalled in the satellite images that were brought to the homes of millions of viewers around the globe in 2011, during the country's uprising against its former leader, Colonel Gaddafi.

### **Dangerous Liaisons**

A sensuous, textured novel of life in a refugee camp, long-listed for the Orwell Prize for Political Fiction. On a hill overlooking a refugee camp in Sudan, a young man strings up bedsheets that, in an act of imaginative resilience, will serve as a screen in his silent cinema. From the cinema he can see all the comings and goings in the camp, especially those of two new arrivals: a girl named Saba, and her mute brother, Hagos. For these siblings, adapting to life in the camp is not easy. Saba mourns the future she lost when she was forced to abandon school, while Hagos, scorned for his inability to speak, must live vicariously through his sister. Both resist societal expectations by seeking to redefine love, sex, and gender roles in their lives, and when a businessman opens a shop and befriends Hagos, they cast off those pressures and make an unconventional choice. With this cast of complex, beautifully drawn characters, Sulaiman Addonia details the textures and rhythms of everyday life in a refugee camp, and questions what it means to be an individual when one has lost all that makes a home or a future. Intimate and subversive, *Silence Is My Mother Tongue* dissects the ways society wages war on women and explores the stories we must tell to survive in a broken, inhospitable environment.

### **The Conscript**

## **Surrender Or Starve**

A serious introduction to the use of nonviolent action to topple dictatorships. Based on the author's study, over a period of forty years, on non-violent methods of demonstration, it was originally published in 1993 in Thailand for distribution among Burmese dissidents.

## **Eritrea at a Crossroads**

## **Conversations with Eritrean Political Prisoners**

History of Eritrea & the different cultural influences that shaped the development of the population.

## **Menghedi**

## **The Battle of Adwa**

Ethiopia trounced the Italians in 1896 in the greatest African victory over Europe

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since Hannibal, but failed to prevent the loss of Eritrea. The event was a powerful constitutive force in the rise of modern Africa and pan-Africanism and resounds in the shared memory of Africans and Black Americans even today.

### **Red Tears**

War, Famine and Revolution in Ethiopia

### **The Native Peoples of Eritrea**

An American woman struggles with the genital mutilation she endured as a child in Africa in a New York Times bestseller “as compelling as *The Color Purple*” (San Francisco Chronicle). In Tashi’s tribe, the Olinka, young girls undergo female genital mutilation as an initiation into the community. Tashi manages to avoid this fate at first, but when pressed by tribal leaders, she submits. Years later, married and living in America as Evelyn Johnson, Tashi’s inner pain emerges. As she questions why such a terrifying, disfiguring sacrifice was required, she sorts through the many levels of subjugation with which she’s been burdened over the years. In *Possessing the Secret of Joy*, Alice Walker exposes the abhorrent practice of female genital mutilation in an unforgettable, moving novel. This ebook features an illustrated biography of Alice Walker including rare photos from the author’s

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personal collection. Possessing the Secret of Joy is the 3rd book in the Color Purple Collection, which also includes The Color Purple and The Temple of My Familiar.

### **Asmara**

This is the startling story of Abeba Tesfagiorgis' experience in the hands of Ethiopians in Asmara and her subsequent escape.

### **Possessing the Secret of Joy**

On a quest to avenge her riven family and murdered friends, Timneet Melke leaves behind a burgeoning romance to join the Eritrean liberation effort. Covert operations and guerilla warfare transform her into a warrior woman until a chance reunion with an old love forces Timneet to reconsider her path. Orphaned Ma'arinet Neguse may have escaped war when swept away to America, but the turmoil of her past locks her into a brutal battle of her own. Engulfed in distress after her second miscarriage, Ma'arinet flees for her life again-this time from a volatile relationship. The end of the war brings Ma'arinet back to her homeland where her world collides with Timneet's. It takes Almaz, the nurse with the memory of an elephant, to unlock the secrets of their pasts. Will the encounters bring Ma'arinet closure, or will they leave her stranded with no resolve? In her debut novel, Gebre

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invites us on a journey, or mengheddi, [men-ge-dee]. Offering an inspiring message, "Mengheddi" reminds us that when the soul suffers, no damage is ever too grand for the healing powers of hope.

### **The Struggling State**

In this bold study of modern ethno-regional nationalism, the author examines the divergent paths taken by the nationalist insurgencies in Tigray and Eritrea. The author argues that Tigrayans, south of the Mereb River, and Kebessa (highlands) Eritreans, north of the Mereb, are ethnically one people, tied by common history, political economy, myth, language and religion. Both fought against a common enemy, an oppressive Amhara ethnic state, for a period of seventeen and thirty years, respectively. In the process of the armed struggle, however, each evolved separate political identities and, after jointly marching to military victory in 1991, they followed separate political paths - Eritreans created the newest state in Africa and Tigrayans remained within the Ethiopian body politic.

### **A Painful Season & a Stubborn Hope**

A 2003 law in Eritrea—a notoriously closed-off, heavily militarized, and authoritarian country—mandated an additional year of school for all children and

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stipulated that the classes be held at Sawa, the nation's military training center. As a result, educational institutions were directly implicated in the making of soldiers, putting Eritrean teachers in the untenable position of having to navigate between their devotion to educating the nation and their discontent with their role in the government program of mass militarization. In her provocative ethnography, *The Struggling State*, Jennifer Riggan examines the contradictions of state power as simultaneously oppressive to and enacted by teachers. Riggan, who conducted participant observation with teachers in and out of schools, explores the tenuous hyphen between nation and state under lived conditions of everyday authoritarianism. *The Struggling State* shows how the hopes of Eritrean teachers and students for the future of their nation have turned to a hopelessness in which they cannot imagine a future at all.

### **Eritrea and the United Nations and Other Essays**

The most secretive, repressive state in Africa is hemorrhaging its citizens. In some months as many Eritreans as Syrians arrive on European shores, yet the country is not convulsed by civil war. Young men and women risk all to escape. Many do not survive - their bones littering the Sahara; their bodies floating in the Mediterranean. Still they flee, to avoid permanent military service and a future without hope. As the United Nations reported: 'Thousands of conscripts are subjected to forced labor that effectively abuses, exploits and enslaves them for

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years.' Eritreans fought for their freedom from Ethiopia for thirty years, only to have their revered leader turn on his own people. Independent since 1993, the country has no constitution and no parliament. No budget has ever been published. Elections have never been held and opponents languish in jail. International organizations find it next to impossible to work in the country. Nor is it just a domestic issue. By supporting armed insurrection in neighboring states it has destabilized the Horn of Africa. Eritrea is involved in the Yemeni civil war, while the regime backs rebel movements in Somalia, Ethiopia and Djibouti. This book tells the untold story of how this tiny nation became a world pariah.

### **The Adventures of Noah and Sabu**

The Essential Guide to Tigrinya is a 150+ pages of grammar, phrases, and vocabulary for the language of Eritrea and Northern Ethiopia. All translations are spelled phonetically, as well as in the Tigrinya alphabet. The vocabulary section is organized by topic; greetings, foods, furniture, politics, occupations etc. There are over 200 verb definitions with simple conjugation. The grammar section includes in-depth information on how to conjugate verbs in the past, present and future; using adjectives, pluralizing words, asking questions, punctuation, and much more.

### **Identity Jilted, Or, Re-imagining Identity?**

### **English-Tigrigna Dictionary**

A quarter of a century ago, Alemseged abandoned a promising academic career to join the fledgling Eritrean Peoples Liberation Front to fight for Eritrea's freedom. This book, a translation of an earlier account in Tigrinya of the Battle of Afabet, the most important battle in the Eritrean fight against its Ethiopian occupation, shares with readers a searing eyewitness account of bravery and valour in the face of death.

### **A History of Tigrinya Literature in Eritrea**

Scarred by decades of conflict and occupation, the craggy African nation of Eritrea has weathered the world's longest-running guerrilla war. The dogged determination that secured victory against Ethiopia, its giant neighbor, is woven into the national psyche, the product of cynical foreign interventions. Fascist Italy wanted Eritrea as the springboard for a new, racially pure Roman empire; Britain sold off its industry for scrap; the United States needed a base for its state-of-the-art spy station; and the Soviet Union used it as a pawn in a proxy war. In *I Didn't Do It for You*, Michela Wrong reveals the breathtaking abuses this tiny nation has suffered and, with a sharp eye for detail and a taste for the incongruous, tells the

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story of colonialism itself and how international power politics can play havoc with a country's destiny.

### **An Incomplete Education**

Religiosity is one aspect without which Ethiopian society cannot be fully understood. This book aims to map out the terrain of the discourse in religion-social change nexus in Ethiopian using the notion of covenant as an interpretive tool.

### **From Dictatorship to Democracy**

I congratulate Andebrhan Welde Giorgis on his high quality and extremely informative book that has not only the merit to be an update on the political situation in Eritrea but also asks the pertinent questions on the future of his marvelous country. He does it with tact and success, based on his long experience as freedom fighter, as senior public servant, as Ambassador and his rich experience of Africa. Each country in Africa must be able to determine its own future. Freedom, responsibility, control over its destiny, and solidarity, are the key ideas of the new vision for international cooperation that will help ensure the sustainability of the development process. The urgent need to create a democratic

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government resonates throughout the book. Good governance, respect for human rights, principles of democracy, and rule of law are essential universal values underpinning it. Andebrhan is one of those men, visionaries, and open to dialogue, reform and change. Eritrea at a Crossroads is key to understanding the challenges facing Eritrea and Africa. It is an eye opener on a complex and little understood crisis that is festering in Africa and holding the continent back. The book provides a solid intellectual foundation to understanding the region and will give anyone who wants to build a better future for Africa a great starting point. I congratulate him on this most valuable book which finds its place among all the lovers of Africa. Louis Michel Member of European Parliament, European Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid (2004-2009) and Foreign Minister of Belgium (1999-2004) Freedom fighter, scholar, central banker, diplomat, and now unhappy exile, no-one could be better placed than Andebrhan Welde Giorgis to trace Eritrea's distressing slide from triumph to tragedy. It's a harrowing story, but the author tells it comprehensively, objectively and lucidly in this excellent study. The future can be rescued, as Andebrhan makes clear, but only if the past is understood, and the present confronted -- by decent, concerned Eritreans, acting with the moral, political and economic support of the wider international community. May his voice be heard. Gareth Evans Chancellor, Australian National University; President, International Crisis Group (2000-09) and Foreign Minister of Australia (1988-96)

## **Silence Is My Mother Tongue**

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Haile Selassie I, the last emperor of Ethiopia, was as brilliant as he was formidable. An early proponent of African unity and independence who claimed to be a descendant of King Solomon, he fought with the Allies against the Axis powers during World War II and was a messianic figure for the Jamaican Rastafarians. But the final years of his empire saw turmoil and revolution, and he was ultimately overthrown and assassinated in a communist coup. Written by Asfa-Wossen Asserate, Haile Selassie's grandnephew, this is the first major biography of this final "king of kings." Asserate, who spent his childhood and adolescence in Ethiopia before fleeing the revolution of 1974, knew Selassie personally and gained intimate insights into life at the imperial court. Introducing him as a reformer and an autocrat whose personal history—with all of its upheavals, promises, and horrors—reflects in many ways the history of the twentieth century itself, Asserate uses his own experiences and painstaking research in family and public archives to achieve a colorful and even-handed portrait of the emperor.

### **Harlem in Montmartre**

In 2001, after a devastating war with Ethiopia, a huge debate erupted within Eritrea regarding government policy. This book revisits that debate through interviews with five critics - top government officials and former liberation movement leaders - shortly before they disappeared into the Eritrean gulag. As

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these conversations reveal, the speakers knew what was in store for them - arrest and indefinite detention. This book not only opens a critical window into that seminal moment, it also signals the persistent dream of a democratic future yet to be fulfilled.

### **Understanding Eritrea**

This book captures the intriguing stories of different generations of women within the Eritrean nation building process. Theoretical analyses of political and social change are combined with extensive field research to provide a comprehensive picture of modernisation processes in Eritrea.

### **Sign and the Seal**

A completely updated, revised edition of the classic, outfitted with a whole new arsenal of indispensable knowledge on global affairs, popular culture, economic trends, scientific principles, and modern arts. Here's your chance to brush up on all those subjects you slept through in school, reacquaint yourself with all the facts you once knew (then promptly forgot), catch up on major developments in the world today, and become the Renaissance man or woman you always knew you could be! How do you tell the Balkans from the Caucasus? What's the difference

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between fission and fusion? Whigs and Tories? Shiites and Sunnis? Deduction and induction? Why aren't all Shakespearean comedies necessarily thigh-slappers? What are transcendental numbers and what are they good for? What really happened in Plato's cave? Is postmodernism dead or just having a bad hair day? And for extra credit, when should you use the adjective continual and when should you use continuous? An Incomplete Education answers these and thousands of other questions with incomparable wit, style, and clarity. American Studies, Art History, Economics, Film, Literature, Music, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, Religion, Science, and World History: Here's the bottom line on each of these major disciplines, distilled to its essence and served up with consummate flair. In this revised edition you'll find a vitally expanded treatment of international issues, reflecting the seismic geopolitical upheavals of the past decade, from economic free-fall in South America to Central Africa's world war, and from violent radicalization in the Muslim world to the crucial trade agreements that are defining globalization for the twenty-first century. And don't forget to read the section "A Nervous American's Guide to Living and Loving on Five Continents" before you answer a personal ad in the International Herald Tribune. As delightful as it is illuminating, An Incomplete Education packs ten thousand years of culture into a single superbly readable volume. This is a book to celebrate, to share, to give and receive, to pore over and browse through, and to return to again and again.

### **Modern Abyssinia**

### **Stubborn Archivist**

Yemen, 1935. Jama is a "market boy," a half-feral child scavenging with his friends in the dusty streets of a great seaport. For Jama, life is a thrilling carnival, at least when he can fill his belly. When his mother—alternately raging and loving—dies young, she leaves him only an amulet stuffed with one hundred rupees. Jama decides to spend her life's meager savings on a search for his never-seen father; the rumors that travel along clan lines report that he is a driver for the British somewhere in the north. So begins Jama's extraordinary journey of more than a thousand miles north all the way to Egypt, by camel, by truck, by train, but mostly on foot. He slings himself from one perilous city to another, fiercely enjoying life on the road and relying on his vast clan network to shelter him and point the way to his father, who always seems just a day or two out of reach. In his travels, Jama will witness scenes of great humanity and brutality; he will be caught up in the indifferent, grinding machine of war; he will crisscross the Red Sea in search of working papers and a ship. Bursting with life and a rough joyfulness, *Black Mamba Boy* is debut novelist Nadifa Mohamed's vibrant, moving celebration of her family's own history.

### **Messengers of Satan**

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This book analyses the European border at Lampedusa as a metaphor for visible and invisible powers that impinge on relations between Europe and Africa/Asia. Taking an interdisciplinary approach (political, social, cultural, economic and artistic), it explores the island as a place where social relations based around race, gender, sex, age and class are being reproduced and/or subverted. The authors argue that Lampedusa should be understood as a synecdoche for European borders and boundaries. Widening the classical definition of the term 'border', the authors examine the different meanings assigned to the term by migrants, the local population, seafarers and associative actors based on their subjective and embodied experiences. They reveal how migration policies, international relations with African, Middle Eastern and Asian countries, and the perpetuation of new forms of colonization and imperialism entail heavy consequences for the European Union. This work will appeal to a wide readership, from scholars of migration, anthropology and sociology, to students of political science, Italian, African and cultural studies.

## English Tigrinya Dictionary

As a journalist and activist in the 1940s and '50s, Woldeab Woldemariam is acclaimed by Eritreans as the father of their national movement. Surviving numerous assassination attempts, he not only fashioned Eritreans' agenda for

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liberation but also became the finest writer of Tigrinya, the country's leading language. Woldeab's persistent and principled appeals to the Eritrean leadership for unity, tolerance and democracy enhanced his popular standing but led to his unjust neglect by the national authorities. Dawit Mesfin's biography at last extends Woldeab the recognition he has long deserved.

### **Woldeab Woldemariam**

The English-Tigrinya Dictionary is meant to be a bridge between Tigrinya and English languages. It enhances basic communication skills by pronouncing and describing English terms in Tigrinya. It can be a road leading towards understanding and using the English language. It helps those in need of using English in their daily activities. It has included basic English words with their Tigrinya pronunciation and meaning. Therefore; it is very helpful to those who can read and understand Tigrinya and want to learn English.

### **Border Lampedusa**

One day, a bus from the Sudan enters Eritrea and discharges a man who is obviously very sick. He is barely able to stand, he is vomiting and bleeding, but still he will not let go of his briefcase. Kindly strangers take him to the hospital in an

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attempt to help, but they don't know what they're getting themselves into. At the same time, Samuel, a retired national hero, is working on his farm. He has given up the life of excitement he once had, foiling terrorist plots and saving lives, to concentrate on raising his family and living the peaceful life away from all the danger. However, all this will change if Fatma gets her hands on him. She is also in Eritrea, and you can bet she's not on a mission of mercy. After teaching a couple of reluctant compadres a lesson, she forges on with her mission, like the well-trained, disciplined woman she is. And behind it all sits Humed. Or does he? He has his own backers somewhere, somehow, and they have priorities all of their own, priorities important enough for them to pay him handsomely and fund his trips abroad. These people are obviously very important. This tense, fast-paced thriller explores the possibilities of terrorist attack, chemical warfare and kidnapping, combining all this with conspiracy, betrayal and fearless fighting. The search for the briefcase is on, and the good guys absolutely need to find it first.

### **Black Mamba Boy**

A pioneering study tracing the history of Tigrinya literature in Eritrea, a barely explored field, principally using original sources and framing it against the country's colonial history. Rather than treating oral and written literary traditions separately, Negesh treats them as one literary system, breaking new ground within the field of Eritrean studies and taking to the mainstream this largely unknown

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body of African literature.

### **Two Weeks in the Trenches**

A revealing look at the Paris in the prewar period sheds light on the community of African-American artists and musicians who found an oasis of relative freedom and prosperity in the French city.

### **Understanding Religion and Social Change in Ethiopia**

The boy who became Saint Yared grew up in the ancient kingdom of Axum. According to legend, he struggled as a student, just as this story shows, but eventually triumphed and went on to invent Ethiopia's system of musical notation. His work drew on local traditions and the church concept of the Holy Trinity, while his hymns had four parts based on the four seasons of the year, winter, summer, spring, and autumn. Hundreds of years before European composers developed a seven-note system of writing music, Yared wrote music using dashes, curves, and dots to represent ten different notes. Ready Set Go Books, an Open Hearts Big Dreams Project, is focused on increasing the literacy rate in Ethiopia through giving readers books with stories in their heart languages, full of colorful illustrations with Ethiopian settings and details. Profits from books sales will be used to create, print,

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and distribute more Ready Set Go Books to kids in Ethiopia, Africa's second most populous country. Ethiopia's population is 44% children, ages 0-14 (43 million out of 97 million total). Only 5.5% of children attend pre-school or kindergarten, and the adult literacy rate is 49%. Our books are based on wise Ethiopian sayings that often rhyme in Amharic. If an adult says the first half, many children can chant the second half. Sometimes the meaning of these sayings is clear. Sometimes it has to be puzzled out and argued over. But sayings and idioms and proverbs help people express truths and beliefs in unusual ways. Open Hearts Big Dreams Fund (OHBD) is a 501(3)(c) not for profit organization that believes the chance to dream big dreams should not depend on where in the world you are born. Our focus is to support nonprofit organizations and their programs that provide literacy, K-12 education, and leadership as well as that support the parents and communities where the kids live, in Ethiopia

### **The Boy Who Never Gave Up**

"Twin siblings Noah and Sabu take you on their exciting adventures as they explore the world around them. As children of immigrant parents, their world is full of exciting traditions, language and culture. Together with their grandmother, each day is an adventure filled with playful curiosity and obstacles that require the twins to work together as a team. In Book 1, Noah and Sabu's plan to spend the day at the park is disrupted by a rainy day. Grandma comes up with a plan to keep the

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twins occupied by allowing them to participate in her daily ritual of a traditional coffee ceremony."--

### **The Making of Elite Women**

A journalist tells of his quest to find the Ark of the Covenant, how he traced it to a remote corner of war-torn Ethiopia, and the significance of the Ark and its mysterious disappearance

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