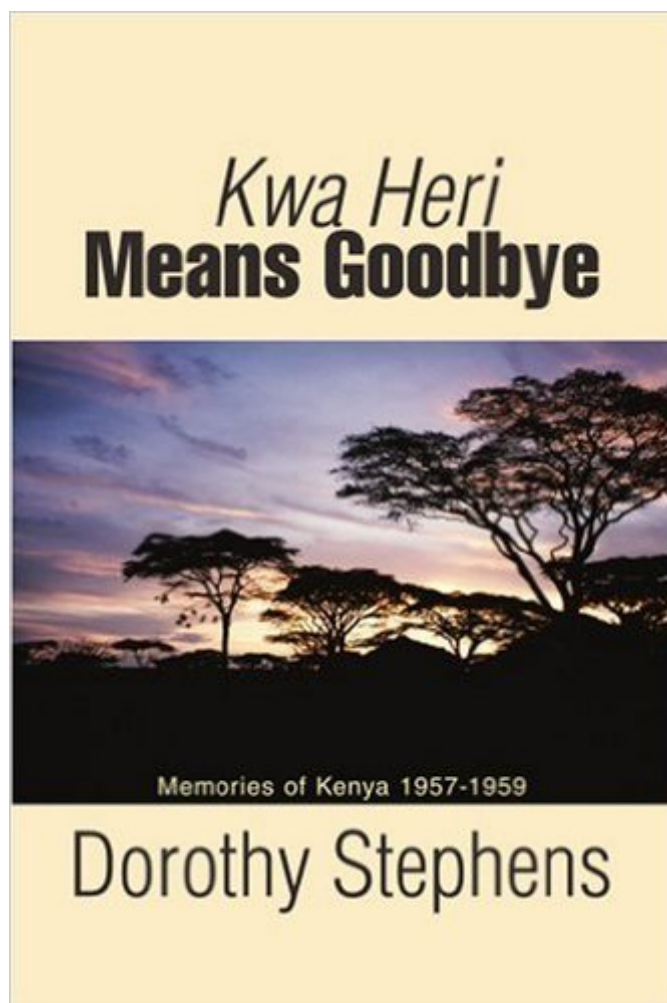


The book was found

Kwa Heri Means Goodbye: Memories Of Kenya 1957-1959



Synopsis

In 1953, when Dorothy Stephens and her husband lived in married student housing at the University of Michigan, she envisioned a safe, conventional life ahead. She never imagined living in Kenya toward the end of the Mau Mau uprising, plunged into an exotic new world, facing safari ants, wild bees, and a vicious monkey, and discovering a core of strength deep in her security-loving soul. See Kenya through her eyes in its last tumultuous days as a British colony and witness the transformative effect on her life. Meet the emerging young leaders of the independence movement and the fascinating women who became her friends. Travel to Murchison Falls in Uganda and to Ngorongoro Crater in Tanganyika. Accompany her, with her house servant and three young children, on a three-hundred-mile drive to the Kenya coast through desolate bush inhabited by big game, a trip that had a profound and lasting impact.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Kenya? As a new home, as a place to live while rearing three small children? For most of us whose knowledge of this African country consists of impressions gleaned from what we read and see on TV news these days, the very idea of moving there sounds way too scary. There's been so much news of violence and chaos in Kenya in recent months that I would be fearful, even, of visiting there, and Dorothy Stephens had similar reactions 50-some years ago when her husband announced that he was being posted by the United States Information Service (USIA) to Nairobi. Dorothy, 33 at the time, had just read a novel about a Mau Mau uprising against the British in Kenya when Bob, excited by this chance to serve and advance his career, proposed that they move there with their

children, two in grammar school and one only two years old."Kwa Heri Means Goodbye: Memories of Kenya 1957-1959" is one result of this family relocation, and it is a fascinating, richly detailed story of a three-year adventure that changed the lives of all five members of the Stephens family. The tale begins with reflections on what it took to screw up one's courage to make such a change. Then it moves on to the necessarily rushed preparations, to the emotions of leaving one's home country, and, in clear and colourful language, to what it was like to fly in at night, land, and begin experiencing a totally new culture. After many engrossing stories of difficulties and triumphs, the book ends with how hard it was for the Stephens family to say "kwa heri" to Kenya and its people. The children gained an education in world-awareness and cultural diversity that couldn't have been matched in Michigan or anywhere else, and so did their parents.

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