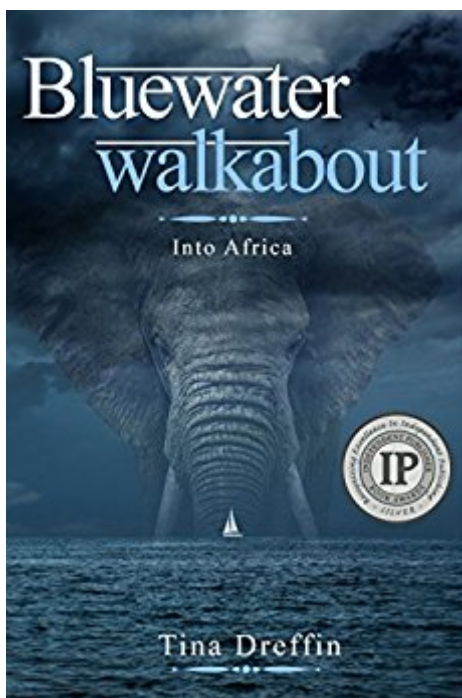


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Bluewater Walkabout: Into Africa



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Customer Reviews

If you like sailing, adventure, travel, and unique memoirs, you'll love *Bluewater Walkabout: Into Africa*. This book has it all: a journey of personal growth and healing related with a wonderful, personable, and easy-to-read writing style, a family story of sailing the high seas while home-schooling two precocious boys, and vivid descriptions of the places Tina and her family explored. Tina talks about her feelings in a way that I can relate, for example: "Tears came to my eyes. The dolphins' surprise visit was one reason we cruised: to experience life raw and hard, then high and bright. Like Tina, I'm a world circumnavigator who also experienced the tremendous highs and lows of cruising. I met and Tina, her family, and their yacht, *Scud*, in the small town of Uligan, Maldives. I can assure you that she is as curious, friendly, honest, and full of fun in person as she is in her books. Included in my third book, *In Search of Adventure and Moments of Bliss: The Long Way Back*, is a story of the astounding truths Tina and I discovered on that island. A word of warning: you'll not want to put this book down until you finish it! Not only is the book thrilling, it's inspirational and motivational as well. You'll want to find out what predicaments Tina gets into next, what she does to resolve the situation, and what she learns in the process.

I love this book -- the story of an adventurous woman and her family and their journey to South Africa to take delivery of their new catamaran, and their sometimes perilous ocean passage back. Threaded between the narrative of their sailing trip is the story of the author's journey and her own voyage of discovery. Her candor and her courage stand out on every page, along with the love and strength that bind their family together. Her descriptions of the different places they visit are vivid and colorful, and you gain a sense of their spirit and sense of exploring. She balances the trip events with just the right amount of introspection, philosophy, and musing about parenting. Full disclosure: I have known the author and her family for nearly 30 years. We met while we were liveaboard cruisers in the Bahamas raising our children on board sailboats. I would have enjoyed this book even had I not known the writer, but the fact that she is a dear friend made it special. Her unique and joyous outlook on life and her willingness to set off on new adventures is as real in the

book as it is in real life and I heard her voice and her laughter as I was reading. Their trip was an impressive one, and Tina's enthralling account of it is equally impressive. Join them on their passage, and you will be entertained, awed and grateful for sharing the experience.

I thoroughly enjoyed reading *Bluewater Walkabout*. Tina's flowing writing style made it easy to read. I followed her adventures with nostalgia. I take my hat off to Tina for sharing with the world her very intimate and painful experiences as well. It made her novel not only an adventure story but a inspirational and motivational book as well. I'm sure she is helping a lot of women combat their own demons. I didn't like the ending very much, it was too abrupt for me. I felt that there was a chapter missing between the last two chapters. I hope that there will be a sequel. *Bluewater Walkabout* is definitely a must read for anyone needing encouragement to be adventurous, for anyone who is suffering from painful past, and for anyone who want to spend a few enjoyable hours reliving someone else's adventures.

What an inspirational, emotional, spiritual, and physical journey of a woman faced with overwhelming life challenges and despite her despair, adversity, and grief, she had the determination and desire to transform these negative experiences into a life lesson that produced a powerful, confident, successful, joyful Mom, wife, woman, and advocate. The source of her strength and survival are effectively woven through her life adventures and are lessons we can all learn from.

Good travel writing has to be about more than "places" -- and that's exactly what makes *Bluewater Walkabout* such a solid read. Tina Dreffin leads a life many would dream about. Sailing the world is quite an adventure, but in the depths of it all the real adventure is that of life itself--new beginnings, new challenges, and the redemptive power of love. Tina shapes all of this into wonderful prose and a story all of us can relate to -- sailor or not. Good summer read!

What beautiful and loving descriptions of her husband, sons, and God's amazing creation! I felt I was part of the crew! The author saved me the expense and trouble of an African animal safari and the challenging passage from South Africa to Grenada! I would've given this book 5 stars except for the dreadful, bucket-of-ice-water ending! Be forewarned and stop reading when she leaves the boat to fly to the States!

I stumbled upon Tina's book while searching online for a friend's recently published book, *Love For*

the Journey. I met Tina at her wedding -oh so many years ago now...and realizing this was the same beautiful woman who was now documenting her vast adventures, I could hardly wait to get my hands on it. As an expat in Paris, it wasn't easy, but worth the wait. I read it in one sitting. It was an uncanny and wonderful experience to read about the passing years: love, spirit, family, healing and thrilling adventures in one seamless read that carried me right along through the highs and lows of travel. When I wasn't terrified, I was beaming in the joy of a committed family who crosses national boundaries and brings more soul into the world. For those of us who thrive as pilgrims crossing this wild and gentle planet, here's more inspiration to keep going!

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