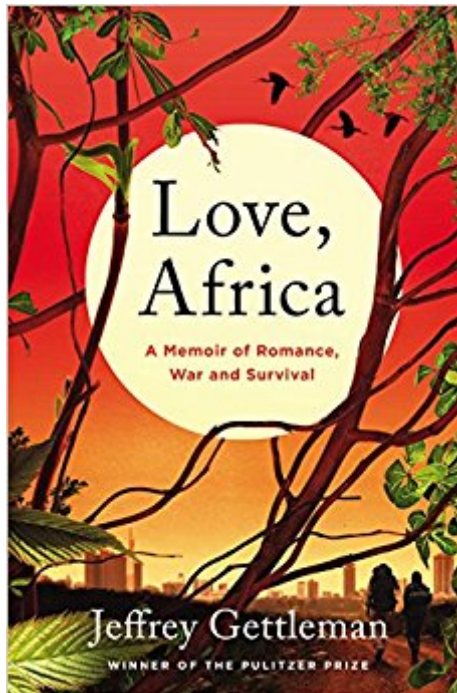


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# Love, Africa: A Memoir Of Romance, War, And Survival



## Synopsis

From Jeffrey Gettleman, a Pulitzer Prize-winning New York Times journalist, comes a passionate, revealing story about finding love and finding a calling, set against one of the most turbulent regions in the world. A seasoned war correspondent, Jeffrey Gettleman has covered every major conflict over the past twenty years, from Afghanistan to Iraq to the Congo. For the past decade, he has served as the East Africa bureau chief for the New York Times, fulfilling a teenage dream. At nineteen, Gettleman fell in love, twice. On a do-it-yourself community service trip in college, he went to East Africa— a terrifying, exciting, dreamlike part of the world in the throes of change that imprinted itself on his imagination and on his heart. But around that same time he also fell in love with a fellow Cornell student— the brightest, classiest, most principled woman he—,d ever met. To say they were opposites was an understatement. She became a criminal lawyer in America; he hungered to return to Africa. For the next decade he would be torn between these two abiding passions. A sensually rendered coming-of-age story in the tradition of *Barbarian Days*, *Love, Africa* is a tale of passion, violence, far-flung adventure, tortuous long-distance relationships, screwing up, forgiveness, parenthood, and happiness that explores the power of finding yourself in the most unexpected of places.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

—“A passionate debut memoir bears witness to political turmoil—| A stark, eye-opening, and sometimes horrifying portrait by a reporter enthralled by the —Öpower and magic— of Africa.— (Kirkus)— “[Gettleman—] beautifully written memoir

is about many kinds of love. The path to love is not always straight, but when Gettleman discovers his true passions, he grabs hold and doesn't let go. Love, Africa offers a key to understanding humankind's past and future and a key to understanding our hearts. (Sheryl Sandberg) "Rarely do you read such beautifully rendered honesty: witness the eyes and heart of Jeffrey transform into a remarkable person and writer for our time. (Ishmael Beah) "Gettleman's memoir of his life, his love, and the excitement and perils of journalism is a page-turner. The portrait of Africa that emerges is disturbing, tender, and harsh. A tremendous read. I couldn't put it down. (Abraham Verghese) "Jeffrey Gettleman's memoir is truly, in all its complicated tragic beauty, a love story made up itself of inextricably intertwined love stories. I was mesmerized. (Alexandra Fuller) "To feel the fear, sinfulness, and rapture of being a foreign correspondent, read this book! Using self-lacerating truth and high velocity prose, Jeffrey Gettleman has written a compulsively readable new story about what it means to be our man in Africa. (Blaine Harden) "Jeffrey Gettleman has true grit. That's why he was in my book, and why you have to read his. (Angela Duckworth) "Gettleman takes readers... into the most terrifying and beguiling continent in the world. Gettleman is a rare combination of dogged reporter and very fine writer. I kept catching myself wondering whether it was too late to go back and lead his life rather than my own. (Sebastian Junger) "[An] exciting, harrowing memoir that aptly displays why [Gettleman] is a Pulitzer Prize winner and a New York Times bureau chief. there's a thrilling immediacy and attention to detail in Gettleman's writing that puts the reader right beside him. Gettleman's memoir is an absolute must-read. (Booklist (starred review))

A seasoned war correspondent, Jeffrey Gettleman has covered every major conflict over the past twenty years, from Afghanistan to Iraq to the Congo. For the past decade, he has served as the East Africa bureau chief for the New York Times, fulfilling a teenage dream. At nineteen, Gettleman fell in love for the first time twice. On a do-it-yourself community-service trip in college, he went to East Africa a terrifying, exciting, dreamlike part of the world in the throes of change that imprinted itself on his imagination and on his heart. But at around the same time he also fell in love with a fellow Cornell student the brightest, classiest, most principled woman he'd ever met. To say they were opposites was an understatement. She became a criminal lawyer in America; he hungered to be in Africa. For the next decade he would be torn by two dueling

obsessions. A sensually rendered coming-of-age story, *Love, Africa* is a tale of passion, violence, far-flung adventure, tortuous long-distance relationships, screwups, forgiveness, parenthood, and happiness that explores the power of self-discovery in the most unexpected of places.

I cannot find enough superlatives to honor this journalistic exploration into the life and struggles of the peoples of Africa. Jeffrey Gettleman is one brave hombre. He also is a very good man struggling to remain objective against all odds. You will be so sad once this book has ended. In fact, I think I will start all over again. His Pulitzer Prize is a small trophy weighed against his heroic efforts to record the truth of the war zones he covers. It's non fiction that seems like fiction given his film-like encounters with the warlords and rebels in the various countries of Africa. He also does a bang up job of covering the war in Iraq. You may be unsurprised to learn the destructive impact of U.S intervention in many of these conflicts. This is not for the weak of heart or stomach. But it rings true and ultimately is a revelation of all you didn't know and would never know about the burning beauty of East Africa. Deserves 10 Stars!!

Well written, but very very raw in the war experiences aspects. It was hard for me to read them. I did enjoyed tremendously what Mr. Gettleman had to go through in order to meet professional and family satisfaction both at the same time. It was interesting to see how his priorities changed once children came to the family. Well don Mr. Jeffrey you know exactly where your priorities are. I also love Kenya and lived there for 6 years (before your arrival) so I was able to relate quite well. Thank you for the book

East Africa, War and Romance are the themes. Great blending of his own story and attraction for both Africa and the woman he loves with the trials and tribulations of East Africa. He combines memoirist and news reporter in an engaging way. He also deals with the tensions and challenges of being an outsider and a person of privilege. He open expresses his self-doubts. And he conveys his deep appreciation for and love of East Africa.

This is a love story, a memoir about finding a partner for life in the context of discovering and learning to love Africa, especially Africans. Jeffrey Gettleman has saved exciting anecdotes from his reporting days as a journalist in East Africa for the New York Times. He now relates these stories with insight and passion. You will feel right with him when as a young man he begins a journey which finally takes him through a dozen countries. You will follow his story as he and his family settle

in Nairobi, Kenya, a microcosm of African tribalism and white privilege . This is not a sociological study of modern Africa. it's an exciting narrative with plenty of real-life conflict and exciting twists and turns. Buy this book for your son or daughter who is off to college and likes to read compelling writing. But, first, read it yourself.

Darn that Jeff Gettleman. I started reading his new memoir just before bedtime, part of my "ease myself to sleep" routine. Four hours later, I was still reading, captivated by his stories of covering current events in eastern and central Africa for the New York Times. For anyone who has lived in Africa, who loves Africa, who is puzzled by Africa or who knows little -- but wants to know more -- about Africa, Gettleman's "Love, Africa" is a must read. And, subject matter aside, his prose and his storytelling abilities are superb. Buy this book!

There are few books that hit home in the way that "Love, Africa" does. Gettleman harnesses his own stories and frames them in a way that makes his experiences accessible to even those who have never set foot beyond the limits of their own hometown. For every confused college student or aimless young professional, this book is a testament to the fact that life is not partitioned into clean cut boxes of work, family, ambitions, and the other. Gettleman's writing shows that people are messy and experiences tend to bleed and blend into one another. This memoir is a refreshing reminder that there will always be questions, there will always be setbacks, and that there will always be another story that is still yet to come.

A lively, engaging memoir that beautifully describes how Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Jeffrey Gettleman came under the spell of both Africa and the woman he loves. His narrative takes us along the dusty and dangerous path of a compassionate journalist in an often war torn region. His love of Africa is deep and can be felt even when he describes hopeless and tragic situations. A must read.

I started this book during the memorial day holiday and couldn't put it down. I was traveling with family and the book kept missing as my brother moved from his book to mine. I finally had to give it to him and order a new copy for me and for a few others. Its a wonderful read that takes you there and experience events with Jeffrey! a fun read, a great way to have a taste of Africa, love and life beyond the norm. I wanted to be Jeff for a little while. I can't wait to get my second copy and to have friends read this book. Thank you so much Jeffrey for all your work to make the world a better place

and bravo!!!

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