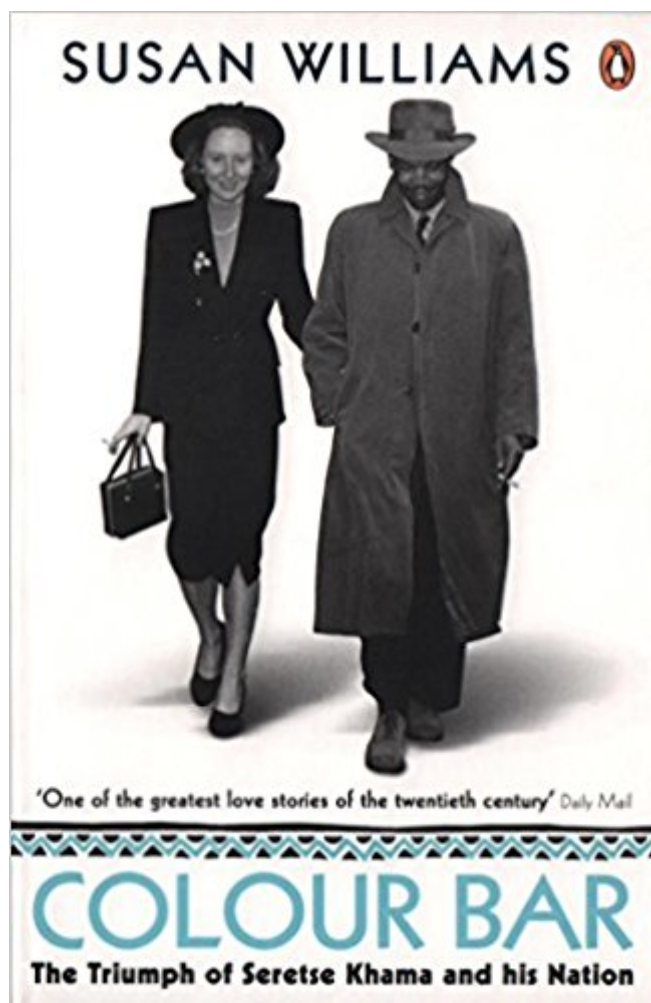


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# Colour Bar: The Triumph Of Seretse Khama And His Nation



## Synopsis

Sir Seretse Khama, the first President of Botswana and heir apparent to the kingship of the Bangwato people, brought independence and great prosperity to his nation after colonial rule. But for six long years from 1950, Seretse had been forced into exile in England, banned from his own country. His crime? To fall in love and marry a young, white English girl, Ruth Williams. Delving into newly released records, Susan Williams tells Seretse and Ruth's story – a shocking account of how the British Government conspired with apartheid South Africa to prevent the mixed-race royal couple returning home. But it is also an inspiring, triumphant tale of hope, courage, and true love as with tenacity and great dignity Seretse and Ruth and the Bangwato people overcome prejudice in their fight for justice.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"A story of forgiveness and healing . . . as relevant today as when the whole drama was being played out." [Alexander McCall Smith](#)"A gripping, heroic and darkly comic story of fading imperium." [Sunday Times](#)"Elegantly written . . . Williams has done a masterly job." [Guardian](#)"An inspiring story ... [an] excellent and shaming book." [Literary Review](#)"Wonderful . . . Deeply researched and grippingly written." [Independent](#)"A splendid book." [Spectator](#)"A pacy but judicious writer . . . her portrait of a love affair exposes the madness of the racial bar more effectively than a thousand anti-apartheid pamphlets." [Tablet](#)"A hugely readable book. I couldn't put it down." [Saturday Independent](#)"As exciting as any detective story." [Art Beat](#)"A fantastic love story of modern

times, one that is almost Shakespearian in its drama, intrigue and pathos." •Tonight --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

Susan Williams is the author of many books, most recently *The Children of London*, *Ladies of Influence*, and *The People's King: The True Story of the Abdication*. She is a senior research fellow at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies, University of London.

This was marketed as a love story, but it was really a history book. The history of how Bechuanaland became Botswana, and how African countries were ruled under the British empire was very interesting, but that's not what you thought you were getting when you bought the book. You never felt the deep love they had for each other, and thus understood why they went through what they did. I believe it was the writing, that it never captured you and never fully let the reader into their relationship. It was very historical with lots and lots of names and dates and events leading up to Botswana's independence, but that's not what you thought by reading the jacket cover.

The book is better than the movie. However, in both instances the story could have been told better. I enjoyed the read, and learning about a part of history that isn't talked about here in The States.

The moral arc of the universe is long but it bends toward justice. Wonderful book. I buy extra copies as gifts.

Excellent book. Found it very interesting and enjoyable. The patience of Seretse was incredible through his unfair treatment by others.

Really interesting piece of history. The British were so hypocritical.

What a challenge, what a life. So interesting. I learned some history and enjoyed reading it

AN EXCELLENT TREATMENT ON THE EARLY DAYS OF BOTSWANA.

Excellent...more a british colonial history book than a love story...and that part is great too!

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