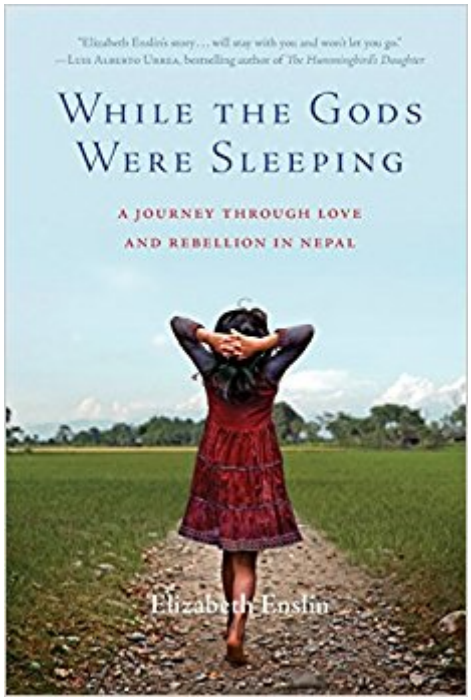
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While The Gods Were Sleeping: A Journey Through Love And Rebellion In Nepal



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Synopsis

Love and marriage brought American anthropologist Elizabeth Enslin to a world she never planned to make her own: a life among Brahman in-laws in a remote village in the plains of Nepal. As she faced the challenges of married life, birth, and childrearing in a foreign culture, she discovered as much about human resilience, and the capacity for courage, as she did about herself.While the Gods Were Sleeping: A Journey Through Love and Rebellion in Nepal tells a compelling story of a woman transformed in intimate and unexpected ways. Set against the backdrop of increasing political turmoil in Nepal, EnslinÃ¢â ¬â„¢s story takes us deep into the lives of local women as they claim their rightful place in society—and make their voices heard.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"I am fascinated and haunted by Elizabeth Enslin’s story. It will stay with you and won’t let you go."—Luis Alberto Urrea, bestselling author of Into the Beautiful North and The Hummingbird’s Daughter"If this fascinating, important story doesnÃ¢â ¬â„¢t draw you into EnslinÃ¢â ¬â„¢s telling of her time in Nepal, then the beautiful, moving prose will."—Kerry Cohen, author of Seeing Ezra"A fascinating memoir written with such clarity and honesty that itÃ¢â ¬â„¢s like taking a years-long trip through a little-known part of Nepal, far from the glamour and tourists of Kathmandu. Enslin’s story is utterly unique yet broadly representative of billions of humans in so-called marginal places all over the world caught between tradition, politics, idealism, human nature, the environment, the local economy, the decidedly mixed blessings of globalization, and the simple pleasures of food, family, and the natural world."—Pamela Olson, author of Fast Times in

Palestine"This finely written memoir transports the reader into a society on the cusp of social and political transformation. The barriers to gender, caste, and class equality that Elizabeth Enslin reveals continue to impede NepalÃ¢â ¬â„¢s quest for democracy today. This is an inspiring and challenging read for activists, rebels, and dreamers everywhere."—Manjushree Thapa, author of Forget Kathmandu"Elizabeth Enslin is a daring original, both in life and on the page. While the Gods Were Sleeping is a love story, an adventure narrative, and an anthropological study in one, written with a global awareness, free of the exoticism we associate with foreigners in Nepal. Sharply observant and full of wisdom.Ã¢â ¬Â•—Alden Jones, author of The Blind Masseuse

Elizabeth Enslin grew up in Seattle and went on to earn her PhD in cultural anthropology from Stanford University in 1990. While a graduate student, she married into a Brahman family in the plains of Nepal. Inspired by local women, especially her mother-in-law, she researched womenÃ¢â ¬â„¢s organizing, poetics, politics, and agroecology. Her academic essay, "Beyond Writing: Feminist Practice and the Limits of Ethnography," still inspires conversations about feminism and the ethics of research and activism.Enslin returned to the Pacific Northwest in 1995 and earned her living as a high school and college teacher, a grant writer, and an independent consultant. She has published creative nonfiction and poetry in The Gettysburg Review, Crab Orchard Review, The High Desert Journal, The Raven Chronicles, Opium Magazine, and In Posse Review and received an Individual Artist Fellowship Award from the Oregon Arts Commission and an honorable mention for the Pushcart Prize.She currently lives in a strawbale house in the canyon country of northeastern Oregon, where she raises garlic, pigs, and yaks. While the Gods Were Sleeping is her first book. Learn more at elizabethenslin.com.

Reading While the Gods Were Sleeping is like opening a door into a new, completely unfamiliar world. The experiences described by Enslin combined by her anthropological insights truly enriched this reader’s understanding of life in Nepal. One marvels at this story of a modern American woman whose academic interest and fortitude kept her in Nepal for the length of time she was there. Enslin undoubtedly has had other interesting and unusual life experiences and I hope she writes about them.

Fantastic read! I highly recommend it. The author brings you along on the wondrous journey across the world. Filled with insights into the Nepali culture, people, politics, and more.

I loved While the Gods Were Sleeping. I appreciated Elizabeth's honesty in recalling these stories and I especially loved her anthropological way of supplying information to the reader. I learned so much about Nepal, its many peoples and cultures, its politics, and its beauty.

Amazing book about culture, family and women's issues in Nepal. If you want to understand village life, family structure in Nepal and the struggles of finding your way in a new culture, then please read this wonderful book. It has helped me to understand much about Nepal.

I found that this book was a great addition to my trip to Nepal. We did meet and talk to a number of the local people, and it augmented that experience a lot.

This is a great read. It is a wonderful example of how we live our lives - making decisions without really knowing what we are doing. I enjoyed the adventures of Elizabeth Enslin and am happy she wrote her story.

I read this book overnight. What an amazing journey, and insight. I couldn't put it down, and plan on rereading it soon.

Highly recommend to anyone who is travelling to Nepal. This book helps us understand more about Nepalese culture.

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