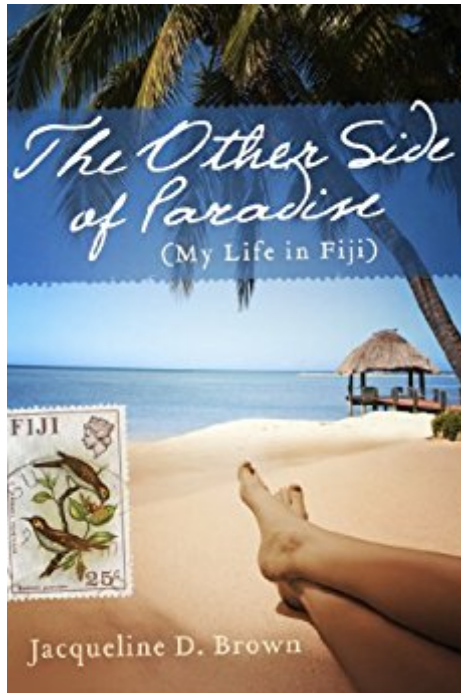




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The Other Side Of Paradise (My Life In Fiji)



Synopsis

It has always been my dream to live on a tropical island and after spending years in dull gray county buildings, I decided to take off and live my dream. So now, I sit on the sand leaning against a long lean palm and looking into the clearest bluest water I've ever seen. Two herons, one black, one white, skim over the water looking for fish and near the horizon, more dreams, a freighter going by.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

If looking for a clear picture of the people or the country, this is not the book to read. I had been very much looking forward to a recap of the lush lands and amazing people I had experienced during my own time in Fiji. Instead what I found was a self absorbed woman's ethnocentric tale filled with hypocrisy and judgement. For example, she is deeply offended when one of her Fijian friends takes her toothpaste, but sees nothing wrong with her own theft of toilet paper from a local resort when her funds run low. She criticizes the local people who expect well off family to support them. Yet by her own admission, she lives in Fiji for four years depending on monthly checks from her mother back in the USA. She is extremely judgemental of many aspects of local culture, such as getting

upset when people talk about her behind her back. This is despite the fact that she blatantly disregards the mores of the community by engaging in late night drinking parties with men and having sex with some of them, at least one of whom was married to someone else. Beyond all that I found offensive in the content, I was annoyed by the MANY spelling & grammar errors - it was just plain sloppy writing. If you are going to charge money for a book doesn't the author at least have a responsibility to carefully proofread the text? There were a few passages that showed appreciation for the beauty of Fiji, but they often got lost in the comments about the unattractiveness of individuals she met. I get it that she had some difficult experiences during her time on the island. I did not expect only positive descriptions. However the repeated references to people there driving on the "wrong" side of the road (rather than simply the OTHER side from what she was used to) and her blame of those who are curious about her when she comes into their village showed a complete inability or unwillingness to adapt to the culture she chose to be in. In my opinion, this book was not worth the read

Not of interest to anyone thinking of living in Fiji. Shallow and a bit silly.

I liked the subject since I'm familiar with the area and am debating a similar move. Spelling errors are common but may be do to the format. A good read about some good people.

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