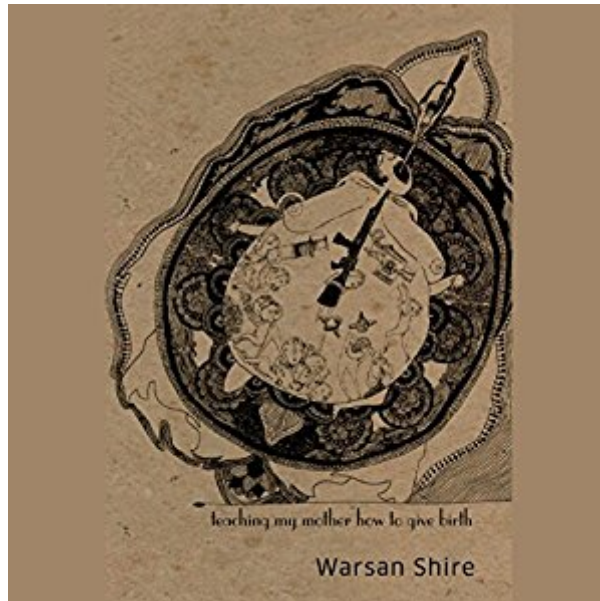




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Teaching My Mother How To Give Birth



Synopsis

What elevates *Teaching My Mother How to Give Birth*, what gives the poems their disturbing brilliance, is Warsan Shire's ability to give simple, beautiful eloquence to the veiled world where sensuality lives in the dominant narrative of Islam, reclaiming the more nuanced truths of earlier times - as in Tayeb Salih's work - and translating to the realm of lyric the work of the likes of Nawal El Saadawi. As Rumi said, "Love will find its way through all languages on its own"; in *Teaching My Mother How to Give Birth*, Warsan's *dāf* but, we witness the unearthing of a poet who finds her way through all preconceptions to strike the heart directly.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 30 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Random House Audio

Audible.com Release Date: April 18, 2017

Language: English

ASIN: B06XWGR7HH

Best Sellers Rank: #54 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Regional & Cultural > African
#160 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Fiction & Literature > Poetry #870 in Books > Literature & Fiction > British & Irish > Poetry

Customer Reviews

Warsan Shire's poems are poignant, beautiful, and resonant. She voices the pain of being imbricated in cultures, the rejection of the adoptive culture and the sense of displacement. She torques language and brings the reader to new understanding of the immigrant's experience. I'll be using this book in my Critical Thinking class.

This is a great collection of poems from a talented young writer. I stumbled across one of her poems online and immediately sought out her chapbook here. Warsan Shire's writing is elegant, powerful, and makes me uncomfortable in the best ways. On rare occasions, I find art that fills me up. Sometimes, it is with rage, at others it is with guilt, or joy, or inspiration. This is one of those books that makes me feel. All of those things. And more. Read this book. Read these poems.

To understand yourself and where you are, you must first start at the beginning. This artist can take a situation and make it every woman's story. If you are looking for a good read, read this. It could help you understand yourself or possibly someone else.

I gave my kids (adults) this book and the DVD Taylor Camp and said, "Now don't give me anymore grief about the way you were raised." This lady makes simple words and statements profound. My daughters love her work.

The M O V E M E N T in this book is LOVEly. It's like LIFE: full of the good, the Bad & the UGLY. BUT a whole LOT of good is in this.

This little book is packed with intense, raw poetry. It's hard to explain the way she conveys feelings. Her word choices are surprising and weird, in a good way. They don't make sense in the grammatical sense, but they make sense in your heart. You understand fully somehow. It's magical. I recommend this to anyone who wants to read and feel something real and beautiful.

I did not anticipate such a small sliver of a book of poems, but Ms. Shire's poetry so dramatically dark that it packs an emotional punch. One is left both stunned by her powerful imagery and relieved to have reached the book's last page.

Such powerful writing. It covers both wonderful and horrifying events in women's lives. It reminds us that refugees would prefer to be at home.

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