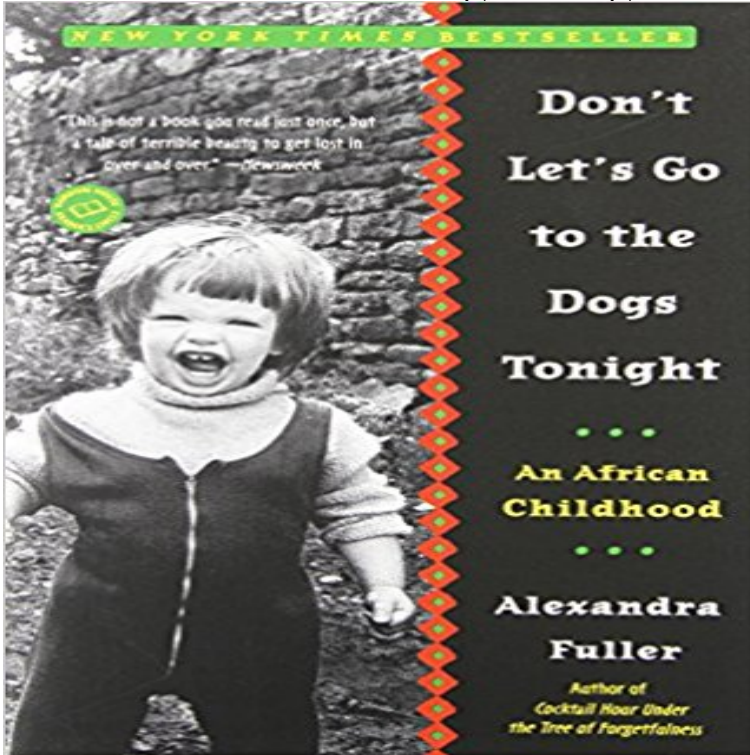


Dont Lets Go to the Dogs Tonight: An African Childhood



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thrilling. The New Yorker
In Don't Let's Go to the
Dogs Tonight, Alexandra Fuller
remembers her African childhood
with visceral authenticity. Though
it is a diary of an unruly life in an
often inhospitable place, it is
suffused with Fuller's
endearing ability to find laughter,
even when there is little to
celebrate. Fuller's debut is
unsentimental and unflinching but
always captivating. In wry and
sometimes hilarious prose, she
stares down disaster and looks
back with rage and love at the
life of an extraordinary family in
an extraordinary time. From 1972
to 1990, Alexandra
Fuller known to friends and
family as Bobo grew up on
several farms in southern and
central Africa. Her father joined
up on the side of the white
government in the Rhodesian
civil war, and was often away
fighting against the powerful
black guerilla factions. Her
mother, in turn, flung herself at

their African life and its rugged farm work with the same passion and maniacal energy she brought to everything else. Though she loved her children, she was no hand-holder and had little tolerance for neediness. She nurtured her daughters in other ways: She taught them, by example, to be resilient and self-sufficient, to have strong wills and strong opinions, and to embrace life wholeheartedly, despite and because of difficult circumstances. And she instilled in Bobo, particularly, a love of reading and of storytelling that proved to be her salvation. A worthy heir to Isak Dinesen and Beryl Markham, Alexandra Fuller writes poignantly about a girl becoming a woman and a writer against a backdrop of unrest, not just in her country but in her home. But Donâ€™t Letâ€™s Go to the Dogs Tonight is more than a survivorâ€™s story. It is the story of one womanâ€™s unbreakable bond with a continent and the people who inhabit it, a portrait lovingly realized and deeply felt. Praise for Donâ€™t Letâ€™s Go to the Dogs Tonight Â â€œThe Africa of this beautiful book is not easy to forget. Despite, or maybe even because of, the snakes, the leopards, the malaria and the sheer craziness of its human inhabitants, often violent but pulsing with life, it seems like a fine place to grow up, at least if you are as strong, passionate, sharp and gifted as Alexandra Fuller.â€•â€”Chicago Tribune Â â€œOwning a great story doesnâ€™t guarantee being able to tell it well. Thatâ€™s the individual mystery of talent, a gift with which Alexandra Fuller is richly blessed, and with which she illuminates her extraordinary

memoir... . Thereâ€™s flavor, aroma, humor, patience ... and pinpoint observational acuity.â€™”Entertainment Weekly Â â€™This is a joyously telling memoir that evokes Mary Karrâ€™s The Liarsâ€™ Club as much as it does Isak Dinesenâ€™s Out of Africa.â€™”New York Daily News Â â€™Riveting ... [full of] humor and compassion.â€™”O: The Oprah Magazine Â â€™The incredible story of an incredible childhood.â€™”The Providence Journal

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