



The Headhunter's Daughter

Tamar Myers

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Tamar Myers returns to Africa in *The Headhunter's Daughter*, the second book in her wonderful mystery series set in the Belgian Congo in the mid-twentieth century—a riveting and atmospheric follow-up to *The Witchdoctor's Wife*. Raised in the Congo herself, the child of missionaries, Myers uses her intimate knowledge of the people, the culture, and the landscape to add richness to this stunning story of an abandoned infant raised by a tribe of headhunters—a masterful mystery that fans of Alexander McCall Smith and *The #1 Ladies' Detective Agency* will adore.

The Headhunter's Daughter Details

Date : Published (first published January 1st 2011)

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Author : Tamar Myers

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From Reader Review The Headhunter's Daughter for online ebook

Judy says

Although I see this referred to as a mystery, it didn't strike me as a mystery, but just a good novel full of fascinating facts about the culture of the Belgian Congo of the fifties. The author has written another series (maybe more?) of mysteries set among the Amish, but the insights in this book goes back to her childhood as the daughter of missionaries living in this setting. I found it interesting to read, and loved the interplay between the different cultures, both tribal and racial. Now that I know it is the second in a series, I'll have to go back and read the first one for context.

Laurie says

The first book in the series was much better. This one dragged a bit and had an ending that felt a bit too tidy.

Jill says

Wow. Can't wait for the next book club to discuss this one! While the main plot was pretty straightforward, the minor themes make this a great book. I like the author's writing style; the way she vividly conveyed race, racism, tribal Africa, and the tremblings of burgeoning revolution and uprising in colonial Africa was amazing to me. And it was a quick read - she packs more into her 200-some pages of storytelling than some authors can put in their chunksters.

Leslie says

I'm not sure I'd really call this series mystery, but the descriptions of the country, racial conflicts and politics are very interesting. I like the characters a little better than I did in The Witch Doctor's Wife but the mystery part feels a little weak.

Debra says

The Headhunter's Daughter takes place in the Belgian Congo. An abandoned white infant is found and raised by a tribe of headhunters despite the color of her skin. The story discusses the differences between whites and blacks as well as the differences between tribes. Sometimes the book was hard to follow because Myers has different people narrating the story. I wasn't always sure at first who was talking. By the end of the story we learn the mystery surrounding the kidnapping of the infant. The book is a lesson that the color of one's skin does not make the person.

Tammy says

Cozy Mystery writer Tamar Myers grew up in Africa. Now she takes us all along for the journey in a mystery series set in the Belgian Congo in the mid-twentieth century. She uses her knowledge of the land and the people to describe the culture and the every day life. This adventure unfolds with the mystery of an abandoned white infant raised by a tribe of headhunters.

Sally Sugarman says

The story begins in the Belgian Congo in 1945 when the Mastermind's plans to kidnap a baby are foiled after the servant doing the deed is bitten by a deadly snake. The child is snatched up by a young warrior from the Bashilele headhunting tribe. He brings the pale infant to the tribe where she is adopted by the headhunter's wife and raised as a part of the tribe. Because her eyes are blue, she is known as Ugly Eyes. There is a mission within this territory as well as a Belgian company intent on exploiting the territory for its diamonds. There is also a police detail stationed in the area. The young white missionary, Amanda Brown hears about a white child living with the headhunters. She goes on a mission to rescue her. An older missionary couple, who are on their way to the United States having served their missionary time, are also involved. Ugly Eyes is now thirteen. The tribe is her only home and the other white people are as strange to her as they are to the natives. Several mysteries are resolved in the conclusion of the story. The reader learns the identity of the mastermind and the identity of Ugly Eyes. However, the strength of the story lies in observing the different worlds and how they misunderstand each other. The author was born in the Belgian Congo and depicts the physical and social setting with clarity. The whites are the least sympathetic since exploitation of the region and the people seems natural to the whites.

Barbara says

The intercultural dialogue is hilarious

Michelle says

A little dull. Interesting setting and cultural information but not an exciting story. I didn't connect to any of the characters really and there seemed to be extra people that really had nothing to do with the story. Overall not a book I would recommend.

Sandra says

Really enjoy it! The writing is fresh, the story is funny and interesting. Would love to read more books in the series.

Margalit says

It was alright- it took me a while to get all the characters straight, but then I enjoyed the mystery and the backdrop. It was funny at times, and it kept me on my toes long enough to be enjoyable, even if the ending didn't quite make sense to me.

CoffeeTimeRomance and More says

Step back in history. Be prepared to embrace a culture and attitude vastly different from your own. The Congo of the 1940's and 1950's holds a dark fascination that will alternately repel and excite. Under Belgium rule, the European attitudes and beliefs clashed frequently with indigenous practices. There are passages within this book that astounded me; descriptions of encounters with the ferocious Driver ants that chilled me; and humor that left me reeling, ruefully shaking my head. For me, the odd voice in this book took a while to get into, but I gradually adapted to the cadence, and the distinctive flow of the sentences. Reading this book, I felt the almost sedate ebb and tide of life and death in the jungle. Culture shock was immediate, but as the mystery unraveled, I found myself becoming entranced, almost against my will, in the unfolding drama of this ultimately uniquely mesmerizing narrative.

Laurie
Reviewer for Coffee Time Romance & More

Full Review: <http://coffeetimeromance.com/BookReview.aspx?BookID=100>

Cheryl says

The year is 1945 in the Belgian Congo.

Born-With-Cord-Around-His-Neck was just a young boy. Though if he wanted to be a man, he had to return to his village with the head of his enemy. While traveling along the river side, Born-With-Cord-Around-His-Neck comes upon a bear. The bear is looking at something. It is a baby girl...a white baby girl for that matter. Born-With-Cord-Around-His-Neck scoops up the baby and brings her back to the village.

While talking to one of the locals, Police Captain Pierre Jardin learns that there is a “white girl” living in one of the villages, whose parents are Bashilele r head hunters. Pierre does not believe that is possible. When his girlfriend and missionary, Amanda Brown hears the news, she instantly wants to pay a visit to the village. What she learns about Ugly Eyes will be more shocking than a white girl being raised by headhunters.

The Headhunter's Daughter is the first book I have read by author, Tamar Myers. While I did find this story fascinating, I never really connected with the characters. While I did like Ugly Eyes, I thought there was a mystery about her that was intriguing and the fact that she seemed so wiser. It was Amanda that had to warm up to. While I did appreciate her coming and trying to save Ugly Eyes, I felt that Ugly Eyes and the rest of the tribe should not have had interference from the "white people". Amanda's approach was just a little too pushy. As the story progressed, I was drawn into what was happened and could not wait to learn about where Ugly Eyes came from. You could by Mrs. Myer's writing that she did have detailed knowledge of the Congo

being raised there. Overall, I did think that this was a good read. The Headhunter's Daughter did peak my interest. I think I may check out Mrs. Myers's The Witch Doctor's Wife.

rosemarie galati says

A great informative read!

I chose this rating because although I ENJOYED IT VERY MUCH , the thriller element that I love in a book just wasn't there as much as I like. I still would recommend this book as a great read.

Danette says

I wanted to care about at least one of the characters, but I really didn't. I did enjoy the setting.
