



Tick Bite Fever

David Bennun

Download now

Read Online ➔

Tick Bite Fever

David Bennun

Tick Bite Fever David Bennun

Tick Bite Fever is the unconventional memoir of a very unconventional childhood. In the early Seventies, Dave Bennun's family transplanted themselves from Swindon to the wilds of Kenya. His father, who was a doctor, had lived in Africa before (but had felt it expedient to leave when the South African government realised he was carting explosives around in the boot of his car for the ANC). But for Dave, Kenya was bemusingly new. It would be his home for the next 16 years. In Kenya, the childhood memoir takes on a surreal tone. On the way home from school, closed because a pair of lions are padding around the playground, Dave is mugged by baboons. Meet Dave's favourite pet Achilles, the almost indestructible dog! Find out about 'Nairobi snow' - and the national radio station that only has three records. And read about Dave and his Dad spending happy Sunday afternoons being chased by a herd of elephants. Enchantingly funny, Tick Bite Fever is a tale of the fading innocence of childhood that is miles ahead of the competition.

Tick Bite Fever Details

Date : Published April 3rd 2003 by Ebury Press

ISBN : 9780091886899

Author : David Bennun

Format : Paperback 256 pages

Genre : Cultural, Africa, Nonfiction, Eastern Africa, Kenya, Autobiography, Memoir, Biography Memoir

 [Download Tick Bite Fever ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Tick Bite Fever ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Tick Bite Fever David Bennun

From Reader Review Tick Bite Fever for online ebook

Kathie says

David Bennun's memoir of his childhood in Kenya was highly entertaining. Tick Bite Fever takes place in Africa in the early 70s until David leaves to attend university in England, his original family home. This book provided a great way to lighten up a cold and dark winter weekend.

Elie says

I can only read so many books about children growing up in Africa, and this wasn't one of the good ones. Writing from the perspective of a child, as an adult, grows tired very quickly and there wasn't enough tension or comedy in this to move it along. Not a spectacular contribution to the genre--more like dinner party anecdotes than strong, confident writing. (Of course, since I read Jane Bussman's Worse Date Ever, my standards are through the roof.)

Becky says

I grew up in Kenya at roughly around the same time as the author (mid-seventies to late 80s), so much of the book is so familiar. It's like swapping stories with an old friend--except only one person is doing the talking. Though the book is sometimes disjointed and doesn't "flow," it lends to the charm of the "hey, let me tell you about this one time" feeling I got reading it. And Bennun is funny; I giggled more than once.

Bill Subalusky says

This is a well written book with considerable humor throughout. Unfortunately I had hoped to learn about Kenya from the book, and in that it failed. Only a few minor bits of information were scattered throughout the book. If you want to be entertained, read it. If you want to learn something, read something else.

Kamillz says

It was an interesting book, about David Bennun when he grew up in Africa: I think Zambia, and Kenya. He was near the death many times. Many nice stories about his neighborhood, safaris and from his school. If you don't know how it is growing up in Kenya/Zambia, you should really read this book. BTW, Bennun as one of the most hilariuos writers in Kenya!

Chelsea says

I've read a bunch of "white person in Africa" memoirs, and this was one of the better ones. Funny without being contrived, it also provides interesting snippets of life in 1970s Africa.

I think he overstated what a terrible child he was, and I could have done without an isolated, racist dig against the Middle East that was supposed to pass for humor. But by and large he is both funny and self-aware about his place in post-colonial Africa.

Sonia says

Most of it was amusing, except for the first chapters covering his toddler years. He was quite an annoying brat, something he appears to be proud of. The rest of the book is comprised of anecdotes of his childhood until he goes off to college. It's surprising to me that he has never returned to Kenya!

Laura says

This book has plenty of laugh-out-loud moments, that is for sure, however by the time I was a third of the way through, I found myself tiring of the author's self-deprecating humor and wishing for deeper character development. That said, it was a fun read with fantastic settings, and it put me right there in Kenya with the author.

Fiona says

Interesting view of growing up in Kenya.

Pete Sherrard says

Has to be the funniest autobiography I've ever read. Embarrassing to read in public as people stared at me the whole as I couldn't stop laughing. Not very informative about Africa, it's not that kind of book, it's just funny and about how a child feels growing up. I don't understand why people give a bad review of a book based on their own misunderstanding of what they should have expected to learn from it!

Rachel says

Highly disappointing account of growing up in Kenya. I'm not sure that Bennun had much to say that others before and more after haven't already spoken to about living/growing up in Africa. Parts were funny and I think as an individual Bennun is probably a fun person to speak with, but the book just wasn't that great.

Susie Kelly says

I really wanted to enjoy this book, especially as I lived in Kenya for twenty years and looked forward to taking a trip down memory lane.

The first part I did find amusing. David was the kid from hell, always getting into trouble. The family's camping trips were also a good read, and I loved his doctor father's enthusiasm for playing around with old vehicles and his ability to get the family out of some of the predicaments into which he got them.

However, I felt that the tone of the book changed dramatically after the divorce of his parents, and from then on it rather lost its zing and the writing became witty and less interesting. There are still occasional sparks of humour and a wry look at life in East Africa, but I found it finished on a flat note and was not as funny as I had expected it to be.

Speak Swahili Dammit, by James Penhaligon is in my opinion a far more entertaining book about an East African childhood.

Sonja Arlow says

I found the title very apt as I was finishing the book while trying my best not to scratch my gazillion bed bug bites complements of a short holiday in Mozambique.

The book contains stories of David's growing years in Zambia and Kenya

I think any memoir is a balancing act between stories that only YOU find interesting versus stories that others will find readable. The author does have a gift for taking little anecdotes and stretching them into amusing stories so some of the tales were genuinely funny, but there was also a fair amount that could have been omitted.

I think anyone who has grown up or traveled to an African country will have their own plethora of weird and funny stories (I know I do) so I think readers who has never set foot on this continent may find these tales more exotic.

A good reading choice for holiday but ultimately a little forgettable.

Jennifer says

Whimsical and light. But any "expat" growing up in Africa is going to have tons of quirky stories. If I were searching for a really funny, revealing story of being a kid in Africa, I would keep on looking past this one.

Leslie Vasant says

I found this book lying on the floor in my hayloft, so it looked interesting. In reading, I have not been disappointed, it's made me laugh out loud, even when I'm exhausted. David's stories about growing up, his family's dis-functions, combined with bits and pieces that are unique to Nairobi made it worthwhile. The experiences were funny, painful and regular. It's not a change your world type of book, but definitely makes you leave yours for a moment and laugh.
