

Elise Tykkyläinen

Return to the desert



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Elise Tykkyläinen

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PREFACE

This book is a sequel to my first book “The seed of new life”. In this book, the characters are mostly the same as in my first book. Thus, it is easier to understand the background, if you have read “The seed of new life” first.

I tell about my experiences on two “levels”: some chapters are about our lives in Finland, after we had moved back to Finland from Egypt. Some chapters tell about our trip to Egypt in 2007, when I decided to go with my daughter to meet my daughter's family in Egypt, even though we had already settled in Finland permanently.

I'm telling about my life in Hanko (my old hometown) where I lived with my little baby-Mona and also briefly about my life in Turku, where we moved later.

We had a life in Turku which could be described as a “Finnish family idyll”. This contained cohabitation with a peaceful and calm Finnish man. We had just bought a house and it was located in a beautiful and quiet area. I was enormously afraid of losing all that, but I had a great need to travel to Egypt. Simply, according to my moral point of view, a child should know her background and who her biological father was. A child should have a chance to contact with both of her parents' relatives. I also wanted to offer Methad, Mona's father, a chance to be my friend and to keep in touch with his child.

The life in Turku was to me a pacifying and harmonious experience after the wild years of my youth. The time when I lived in Egypt was very wild time and living in Turku healed my wounds. That is why I did everything I could to return to Finland from a trip, which became a nightmare. On that trip I counted off the days, eventually hours, from the first day, to our flight back to

Finland. Our destiny was about to change completely during those days.

(Some names of the characters on this book have been changed to protect privacy.)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I want to thank all those friends, family members, acquaintances, colleagues and relatives who helped me to cover the printing expenses of my first published book “The seed of new life”, by buying it. Thanks to you, my book was published. I deeply thank you for your support on self-published art.

For me, writing was and still is an important way to unleash my experiences about Egypt and thus I’m putting them into covers. In this way they will remain as only a legend, which I don’t have to go through again.

I would also like to encourage all those writers, whose texts the major publishers have refused to publish, and thus may have made them feel as they would be worthless as writers. I’m saying: “Dear writers! Do not ‘bury’ your texts in your desks. Use small publishers; consider the possibility of self-publishing. There is always a way for a book to get published. Major publisher’s negative response does not necessarily mean that the text would be bad. Modern digital printing houses offer many new opportunities for new writers. Use them!”

Return to the desert is a sequel to the book "The seed of new life". On this book a child faces her father and this child's mother has to face her past. They have to go for a journey to Egypt in order to remain their connection with their Egyptian family.

"I have come to visit Cairo. Now I have come back. Over three years have passed since I moved away from Egypt with my little baby Mona. Over two years have passed since the last time I had visited in Egypt with my daughter.

I have come to face my fears. I have come to size up my strength. I have come to find out, what kind of attitude the relatives have towards me, and whether it is still possible for Mona to keep in touch with them. I have come to realize that I have been blind."

