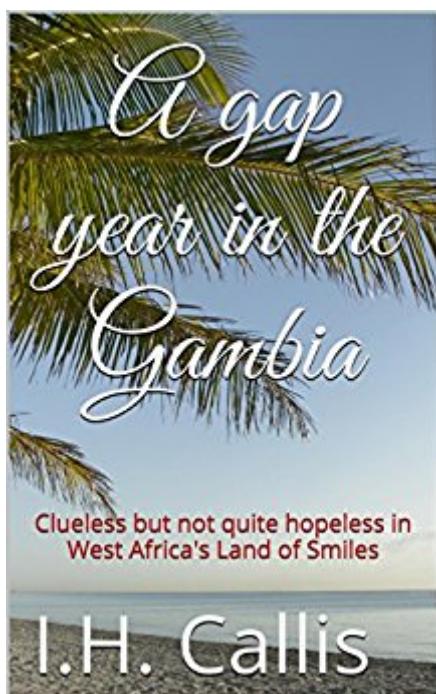The book was found

A Gap Year In The Gambia: Clueless But Not Quite Hopeless In West Africa's Land Of Smiles

Synopsis

In 1992 Liz Green sets off with eager optimism on a gap year in the Gambia. She naively wonders whether Ã¢â ¬Å"going to a random, small, African country to teach English, and to be paid a pittance, may turn out to be a bad decisionÃ¢â ¬Â•, but she has no idea quite how bad...She finds a rat in her bedroom, maggots in the living room and pigs in the street. Most of the kids she is teaching are older than her and her diet consists of fish heads in slime. She copes with extreme poverty, culture shock and sickness, but survives and eventually thrives.Elizabeth is clueless but not quite hopeless in this light hearted tale of adventure and triumph over adversity.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The book is in the form of a series of letters between the 17yr old Elizabeth and her family back home in the UK and as the gap year placement was back in the early 90s it was before the days of email. The writer was quite young and naive at the time but persevered through some tough times with a badly managed "volunteer" placement (or maybe I should say rip-off) The book was interesting to me for its view on teaching in Gambia but I liked the humour in her family's rather sardonic news updates. Very British

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