



The Ogress and the Snake: and Other Stories from Somalia (Folktales from Around the World)

By Elizabeth Laird

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For millennia, Somalia has been crossed and recrossed by camel caravans of merchants bringing stories with them. Elizabeth Laird heard most of these oral retellings in Jigjiga, the capital of Ethiopia's Somali region, in gardens, bars, small huts and beautiful old Harari houses. Some of them are written down here for the very first time. This wonderful collection of down-to-earth tales makes a perfect introduction to a fascinating and little-known country.

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Editorial Review

Review

A wonderful collection of eight desert tales from Somalia. Wicked stepmothers, gold, snakes, why dogs are a man's best friend - it's all here in these beautifully retold stories.

About the Author

Elizabeth Laird is the author of *Red Sky in the Morning*, *The Garbage King*, *Crusade* and *Lost Riders*. She has been shortlisted five times for the Carnegie Medal. She has traveled extensively throughout the Middle East, and her son lived for four years in Iran. She met her husband while travelling in India and they lived together in Iraq, Lebanon and Austria. Her other books for Frances Lincoln are *A Fistful of Pearls: Stories from Iraq*, *Pea Boy*, and *The Ogress and the Snake: Stories from Ethiopia*. Laird divides her time between London and Edinburgh. Shelley Fowles was born in South Africa. She is currently working on her M.A. in Illustration at the University of Brighton, specialising in folk and fairy tales. Her first book was *The Bachelor and the Bean* (Farrar, Straus & Giroux)

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