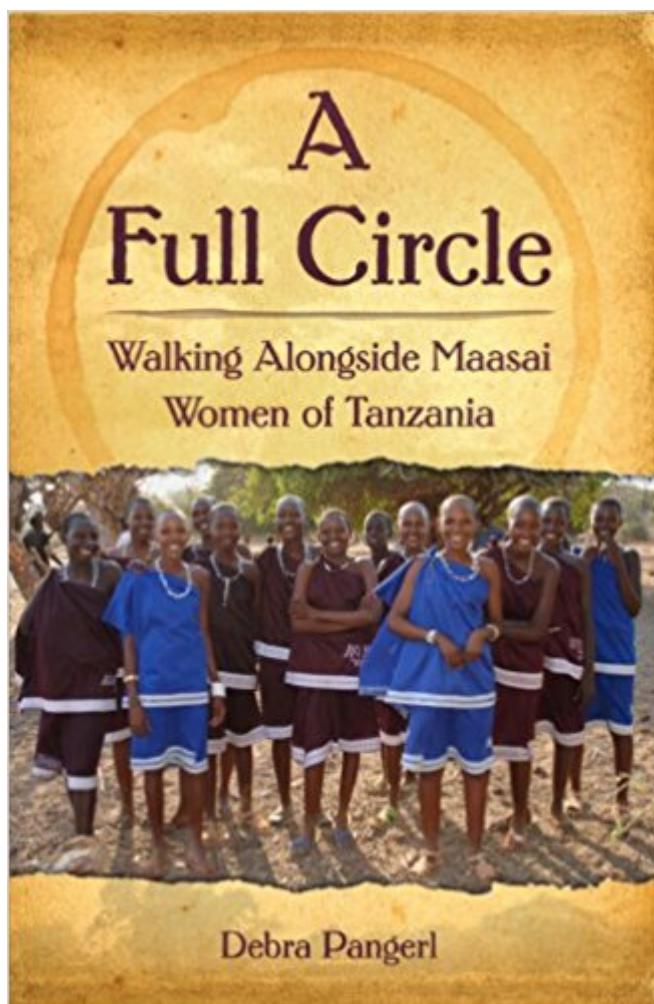


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A Full Circle: Walking Alongside Maasai Women Of Tanzania



Synopsis

The women of the Maasai tribe in East Africa lead difficult lives with few freedoms. For Maasai girls, the prospect of attending secondary school is often unrealistic and unattainable. Their culture is one that grants women only limited power and discourages them from thinking independently. And even today, a girl can be as young as twelve years old when she is wed in exchange for a dowry of cows for the girl's family. Through her determination to find her life purpose, a Minnesota woman embarks on a search that leads her again and again across the world to a small region in Africa. As the story unfolds, she discovers that a seemingly small part of her past leads her into a deep, personal involvement with the lives of Maasai women in Tanzania. Together, they find power and ability to change their lives forever.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Debra Pangerl's passion in life is to speak for those who have no voice. She graduated with a bachelor's degree in sociology from Mankato State University. She currently works as a paralegal and devotes her life to empowering Maasai girls and women in Tanzania. She is the cofounder and executive director of The IMAGE Project, a Minnesota nonprofit organization whose mission is to empower Maasai girls and women in Tanzania through education and economic opportunities. She has been traveling to Tanzania since 1989. Debra lives in Rush City, Minnesota, with her husband Gary, two horses, lots of stray cats, and a busy border collie named Jack.

I just read this book in one sitting. It's very compelling and interesting. I knew the author more than

30 years ago in high school, but knew nothing of her life since. It was fascinating to discover what she'd done and achieved in those years, all starting with a single small step and then letting the path she started on take her onward. One person can change the world, and if she isn't changing the entire world, she is helping change the world for a number of people who would be otherwise be shuffled to the side, unknown and forgotten. The writing is good, smooth and flowing. As I read, I would have liked more, more description of the scenes and settings, but ultimately I was satisfied that I was given a good view of the world of the Maasai women in Tanzania. Not only was it a good view, it was a respectful, comfortable view in that it wasn't written as an outsider looking disapprovingly at an alien world, but as a guest among people she liked and admired, listening and learning rather than imposing any preconceived ideals.

This is a great book! I read it before our trip to Tanzania. Very informative, with information in the back on how to help out the girls' school. It is a good book to read alongside "Facing the Lion."

Deb is a woman who was searching for her identity and worth in the world. She feels called to go to Tanzania and there experiences the compassion of God's heart towards the Maasai women. Although Deb didn't set out to change a culture, she simply followed God's leading step by step. First by helping to raise money for some girls to attend school and eventually building schools for hundreds of girls to attend; helping women to start agricultural projects to raise money for their families and, yes, even changing the people (both men and women) to value education for women.

Debra Pangerl shares her experience of finding and following her dream to help change lives. The relationships built with the Maasai during her visits strengthen her passion as she sees women and girls discover their own dreams for education and self-worth; and witnesses the Maasai men begin to support a culture-change that values females.

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