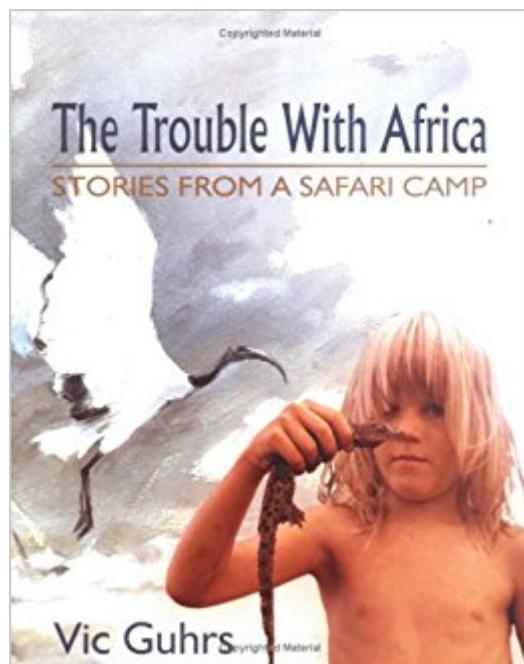


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# The Trouble With Africa



## **Synopsis**

This title refers to the frustrations and vexations we experience when we try to judge Africa from our Western perspective. It also alludes to the notion that although we may be confused and impatient with it, we are in Africa's spell. Once Africa is in our blood, it is hard to let go. The author uses paintings accompanied by anecdotes and stories of his experiences in the bush and the people he met there to portray the magic of Africa, while simultaneously exploring the mystical connection between wild animals and man. The author also makes mention of one of Africa's great conservationists, Norman Carr, as well as the splendour and beauty of Zambia, both of which he feels have not received the attention they deserve.

## **Book Information**

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Average Customer Review: 3.3 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

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## **Customer Reviews**

Though this artist is, first and foremost, a talented painter; much to my delight, he is also an excellent writer. His writing is vivid, thoughtful, and candid; his stories, fascinating. Lucky for us that this painter tried his hand at writing and shared the Africa he knows with us!

I have read several non-fiction books that have to do with Africa, mostly about the wildlife there. ( All of the Born Free series, Cry of the Kalahari and others by the Owenses, Soul of A Lion, The Elephant Whisperer, etc.) and I guess I was expecting for this book to be along the lines of the ones I just mentioned. Not quite. It is a volume of several short stories of life in the bush, at a safari camp in Zambia. The author is also a painter and includes several of his paintings in the book, and they are very lovely. However, I found myself becoming a little upset at some of the things he wrote

about and decided to include in this book. There was one chapter in particular that I found somewhat offensive; the chapter where he tells the reader about a guide named Cliff. I found myself thinking if I ever do go on another safari, I would not want to stay at this camp. I also didn't like the section where his wife tries to travel across the border with a wild Civet ( her newly aquired pet ) hidden in her bag. She gets away with it, but once they reach the destination of a family member's house, the Civet is killed in one bite by the family's Great Dane. I found myself shaking my head a bit too much while reading this book. After reading books by Mark and Delia Owens, George Adamson, Lawrence Anthony, I suppose I was hoping for more of that genuine, bona fide animal lover/conservationist thing. I didn't feel that with this book. However, perhaps it wasn't meant to be that kind of book in the first place. Just a collection of stories from life in the African bush; some interesting, and some not so interesting. I wish I could give it more than 2 stars, but I don't think I can.

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