

[Mobile pdf] A Month with Starfish: Volunteering with refugees on the Greek island of Lesbos (English Edition)

## **A Month with Starfish: Volunteering with refugees on the Greek island of Lesbos (English Edition)**

*Von Bev Jackson*

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**Von Bev Jackson : A Month with Starfish: Volunteering with refugees on the Greek island of Lesbos (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Month with Starfish: Volunteering with refugees on the Greek island of Lesbos (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. An inspiring, humorous and exciting glimpse into volunteering to help refugees.Von MarincaBecause Bev Jackson's writing is so honest and open, and she has such a keen eye for the humorous and the thoughtprovoking in each situation, reading this book is a true pleasure. A Month with Starfish brings very close what it's like to be out there, on a small island where thousands of refugees first set foot in Europe. The book vividly illustrates the perils of these people's journey, as well as the tireless work of volunteers to provide food, shelter, and dry clothes. Bev was one of them, doing her level best to provide what she could to people who, hungry and exhausted, are only at the start of a long trek to a safe place to stay. A Month with Starfish is level-headed, keenly observant, and profoundly interesting, with its heart firmly in the right place. It's a gem.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Why not go to Lesbos?Von CustomerFeel cynical about life? Feel inadequate in view of all the current crises - financial or humanitarian? Why not read Bev Jackson's A Month with Starfish, an honest account of her experiences in the Oxy refugee camp on Lesbos helping refugees who managed to cross the sea in unsafe rubber dinghies or leaky wooden vessels? Her book is a wonderful antidote against giving up on life. With humour and self-scrutiny she describes the days in which she plastered hundreds of slices of processed white bread with processed cheese (the turkey variety had to go because refugees mistook it for pork), handed out bananas and sometimes apples, if available, and water and milk for the children. Long shifts during which she came to work with other volunteers from many different countries whose characters and routines sometimes jarred on her, but who all became cherished friends, and who gave her "a crash course in human possibilities and her own limitations". Making friends with the refugees, many of them in shock after an often hazardous sea crossing, having fled from bombed homes, having seen loved ones killed, often penniless - their last money paid to the Turkish boat mafia - was no option. All the refugees welcomed at Oxy are in transit. They receive dry clothes, food and medical care, if necessary, and are put on buses that bring them to Mytilene where they could register and start on their journey into Europe, if Europe is willing to help them. But even the few exchanges with refugees who had to wait for buses and had to stay the night in tents provided for by UNCHR made a lasting impression on Jackson. The first few days she reacted emotionally, but she realized that it would not serve anyone if that kept her from providing the necessary practical aid and thus she threw herself into all kinds of activities that could not have been in greater contrast with her everyday life in Amsterdam as a translator, mother and grandmother and wife of Heleen, who shared her volunteer work on Lesbos. Reading A Month with Starfish makes you enter a world full of hardship and misery that is counteracted by immense compassion for people in need. The volunteers working for Starfish or other organizations are evidence that the way the media and politicians present the refugee crisis is not only cruel, but untrue. It is not Europe that has a refugee crisis, "It is the people in war-torn countries, people who have been forced to flee for their lives, who are in crisis", Jackson writes. And the book also shows that it is not impossible to go there and help.Bev Jackson donates the proceeds of A Month with Starfish to the Starfish volunteer organization and she will return to Lesbos.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A month with Starfish / Bev JacksonVon KundeBev Jacksons Ferienplne fr den Herbst 2015 platzen. Sie beschliet, anstelle dieser Reise, zusammen mit ihrer Frau beim Empfangen der tglich auf der Insel Lesbos ankommenden Flchtlinge aktive Hilfe zu leisten.Ihr Bericht von der Insel liest sich wie ein Brief an Freunde, in dem sie ber den Schock der Situation, die Alltglichkeit des Momentes und immer wieder ber die Weltpolitik aus der Sicht der Schutzbedrftigen und der freiwilligen Helfer aus aller Welt erzht.Massenhaftes Butterbroteschmierern, Tickets fr Busse herstellen und austeilern und den Faden nicht verlieren in der Organisation. Erschpften Menschen und Familien das Gefhl geben, dass ihre lebensgefhrliche Flucht nicht sinnlos war, bestimmen den Tagesrhythmus in der Zeltstadt Oxy an der Kste: Vertrauen vermitteln auf das Erreichen eines sicheren Ortes. Jacksons Buch berichtet ber das Erlebnis, spontan die eigene Komfortzone in Amsterdam zu verlassen, sich allem Kommentar der Relativitt ihrer Unternehmung bewusst. A month with Starfish ist ein Brief - an Freunde adressiert.

KurzbeschreibungWhat is it like to spend a month working with refugees in the most complicated patch of land in the world? When Bev Jackson's holiday to India is cancelled, in October 2015, she feels an odd sense of relief. She has spent months watching the arrivals of refugees in Greece and is dismayed at the lack of support from the European Union for people fleeing war zones. In 2015, a million refugees, most of them from war-torn Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan, arrived in Europe. Well over half of them passed through the small Greek island of Lesbos. Bev and her wife decide to spend their month's holiday volunteering with refugees on Lesbos as members of Starfish, one of the volunteer groups helping to receive and care for people who have crossed the Aegean Sea from Turkey in search of safety. A Month with Starfish is a largely light-hearted account of a trip to a kaleidoscopic world. In these surroundings, Bev finds that her professional talents are of little use and instead she needs to learn how to register dates of birth for people who use a different calendar and how to draw a decent tortoise on a bus ticket. Volunteering with refugees proves an astonishingly joyful experience: Bev meets some of the most compassionate and resilient people in the world, volunteers and refugees alike, and makes many new friends. Amid this varied cast of characters,

she finds herself on a crash course in human possibilities and her own potential for change. Kurzbeschreibung What is it like to spend a month working with refugees in the most complicated patch of land in the world? When Bev Jackson's holiday to India is cancelled, in October 2015, she feels an odd sense of relief. She has spent months watching the arrivals of refugees in Greece and is dismayed at the lack of support from the European Union for people fleeing war zones. In 2015, a million refugees, most of them from war-torn Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan, arrived in Europe. Well over half of them passed through the small Greek island of Lesbos. Bev and her wife decide to spend their month's holiday volunteering with refugees on Lesbos as members of Starfish, one of the volunteer groups helping to receive and care for people who have crossed the Aegean Sea from Turkey in search of safety. A Month with Starfish is a largely light-hearted account of a trip to a kaleidoscopic world. In these surroundings, Bev finds that her professional talents are of little use and instead she needs to learn how to register dates of birth for people who use a different calendar and how to draw a decent tortoise on a bus ticket. Volunteering with refugees proves an astonishingly joyful experience: Bev meets some of the most compassionate and resilient people in the world, volunteers and refugees alike, and makes many new friends. Amid this varied cast of characters, she finds herself on a crash course in human possibilities and her own potential for change. ber den Autor und weitere Mitwirkende Bev Jackson was a founding member of the UK Gay Liberation Front. She then moved to Amsterdam, where she raised two daughters, worked as a teacher and translator, and now lives with her wife and two dogs.