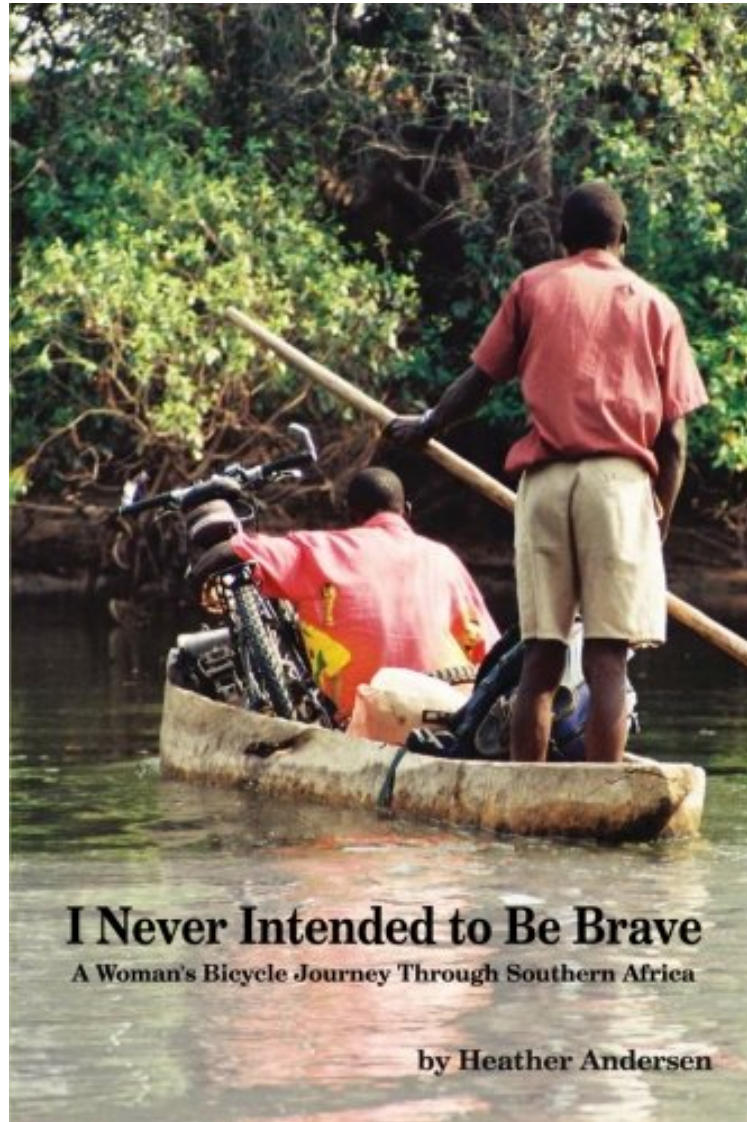


[E-BOOK] I Never Intended to Be Brave: A Woman's Bicycle Journey Through Southern Africa

# I Never Intended to Be Brave: A Woman's Bicycle Journey Through Southern Africa

*Heather Andersen*

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**Heather Andersen : I Never Intended to Be Brave: A Woman's Bicycle Journey Through Southern Africa**  
before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised I Never Intended to Be Brave: A Woman's Bicycle Journey Through Southern Africa:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good ride, good readBy MM GrantIt takes a certain amount of grit to bike alone as a woman almost anywhere. Anderson writes honestly about the challenges and rewards of riding in

unfamiliar territory by herself. She ably describes the geography and culture of the African countries she rides through and offers sensitive and personal insights drawn from her conversations with locals. For those who love adventure travelogues, this one is a gem. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Charles Phelps Great book, if you are interested in bicycle touring. She is a very brave lady. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Big Disappointment By Donna I was so excited to read this book especially after all the positive reviews but was so disappointed. The author doesn't seem to be able to look beyond her own nose. Her endless complaining and reiterated desire to be alone/away from people doesn't engage.

Not yet ready to return to the States after her service as a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer, Heather Andersen sets her dream of exploring southern Africa by bicycle in motion. Her group dwindles to just two before the trip even starts and she finds herself traveling with a man she's never met before. Tension between them builds until the inevitable split, and Heather continues on alone through unfamiliar lands. With great appreciation and understanding, she vividly describes her surroundings, the colorful people she encounters, and the adventure of traveling in foreign cultures as a solo woman on a bicycle. With the question of whether it's safe never far from her mind, she forges her own path through southern Africa and life. Along the way, she trusts her intuition and the kindness of strangers, appreciates the rhythm of an unscheduled life on the road, and rediscovers her commitment to leading the life she wants. If you've ever wanted to go somewhere completely unknown to you, or just want to experience it through someone else's eyes, *I Never Intended to Be Brave* will take you there.

"If you want to see the world, there are few better ways than by bicycle...a very interesting and highly entertaining read very much recommended for those looking for a memoir of true adventure." -Midwest Book Small Press Bookwatch  
"Heather Andersen...blends the best aspects of travel writing with memoir...Her descriptions of Southern Africa bring culture and landscape to life...while her own personal story of endurance, hardship, forgiveness, and wonder unfolds unexpectedly. A marvelous tale." -Ana Maria Spagna, author of *Potluck: Community on the Edge of Wilderness*  
"If you have a dream that seems beyond the possibility of manifestation Heather will take you on a journey of awakening. When you finish this inspirational book, you won't hesitate to go on your own journey." -Nancy Slonim Aronie, author of *Writing From the Heart*  
"If you've ever wondered what it would be like to do the thing you're most afraid of and come out wiser, softer, and yet more courageous, reading Heather Andersen's debut will satisfy your curiosity." -Susan Piver, author of *The Wisdom of a Broken Heart*  
"I am in awe of Heather's nerve, verve and vigor...This book really brings home the beauty, joys and frustrations of both the bicycle and the formerly dark continent that now intrigues us so much." -Peter Harnik, co-founder, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy  
"truly an adventure to read. Follow along with Heather as she takes a journey of discovery through the external landscape of Southern Africa and the inner landscape of her heart to uncover the opportunity that exists within every challenge." -David Surrenda, CEO, Kripalu Center for Yoga Health  
"a fun story of humble triumph show[ing] us that the things we're told to fear can often be overcome with courage, compassion and understanding." -Mike Greehan, former Publisher, *Bicycling Magazine*  
"an inspiring story that will encourage you to dream big, overcome your fears, and strive to reach your potential" -Susan Heim, *Chicken Soup for the Soul* editor  
About the Author For Heather Andersen, bicycling is a lifestyle. Its recreation, transportation, vacation, and sometimes work. A traveler at heart, she has cycled on six continents and in all fifty states. She's led three tours across the U.S. and biked over 100,000 lifetime miles. Before starting her African journey, she served as a Peace Corps volunteer in the tiny country of Lesotho.