

Description

Book Review: With Two Souls by Indie McDowell and Atsede Kidane

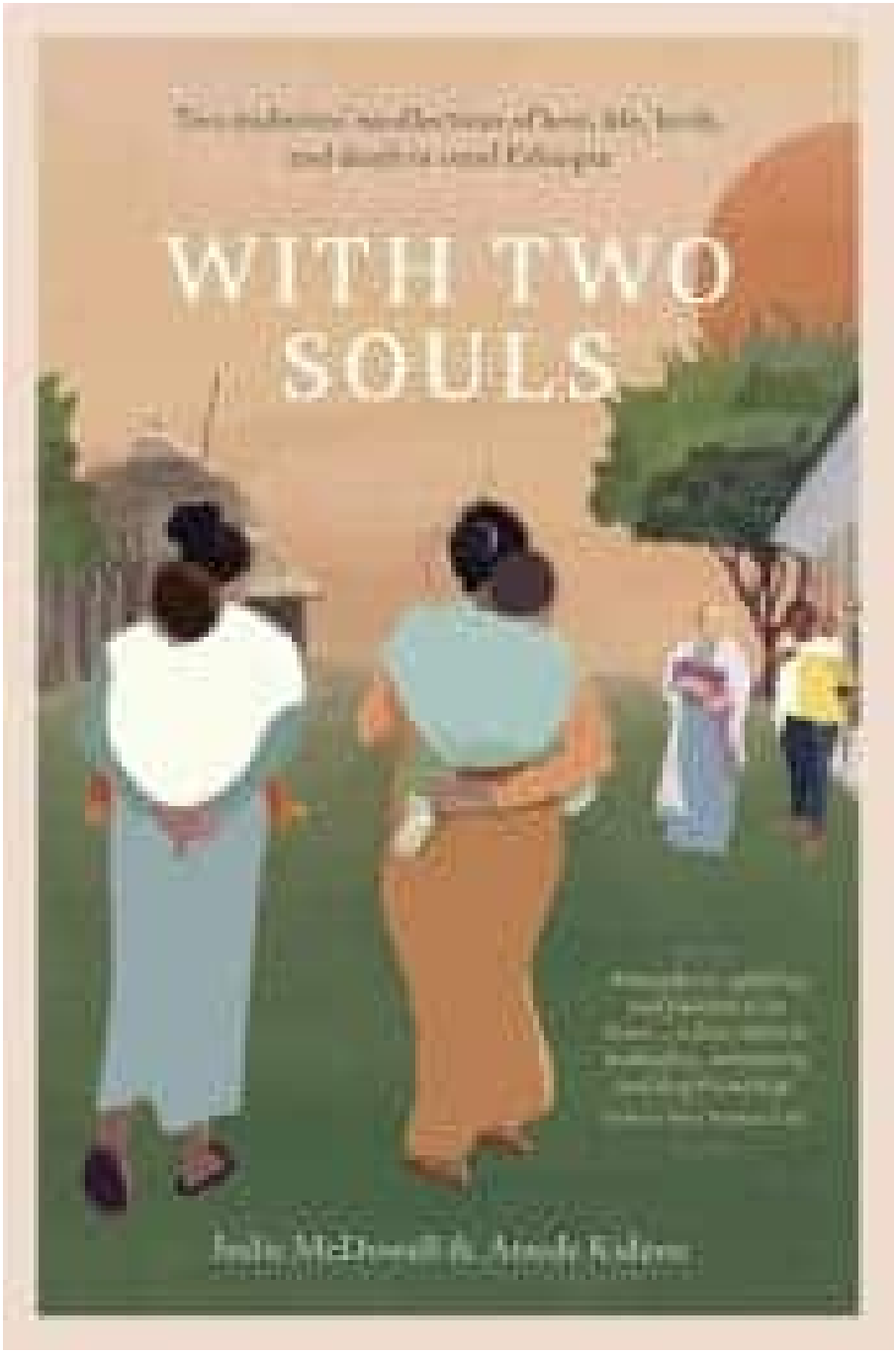
Published by Pinter & Martin

Publication date: 15th September 2022

Format: paperback

RRP: £11.95

ISBN: 978-1780667706



This is one of the most powerful books I have ever read and, as a midwife, a mother, a bereaved parent and a woman, I have been incredibly moved by this interwoven narrative. Told in two voices, Indie's and Atsede's, this is a deeply-affecting description of midwives' work, thoughts and feelings, and of their deep friendship and love for each other and the women they care for.

Hearing the same stories from two different perspectives really brings into focus the lessons that the book offers us all, particularly to Western-trained midwives. With detailed descriptions of the language, culture and lived experiences of the Gurage women, and with courage, compassion, skill and professionalism, not to mention humility and humanity shining through on every page, this is a book that you will not want to put down.

Offering detailed descriptions of the realities of childbearing and midwifery care in a setting with limited resources, and using beautifully-crafted language, it demonstrates the true nature of midwifery as relational, as skilled and autonomous

practice, and as a form of pure love for women and families.

The differing perspectives show the growth of wisdom through the shared work of midwifery, and the detailed insight into customs and practices of Gurage women around and after birth provides an insight into a culture of deep care and nurturing for mothers. It is an account of the heart, soul and spirit of true midwifery. You will be changed by reading it. I certainly was. The book itself is, to quote the last page, is “a reminder of… why what we do matters”. **TPM**

Dr Alys Einion FRCM, BSc(Hons), MA, MA, PhD. Midwife and Associate Professor

Category

1. Book reviews
2. News & Views
3. TPM Journal

Tags

1. 2023
2. midwifery care
3. relationships

Date Created
1st March 2023