



A Fish out of Water: An Odyssey through Gay Tel Aviv (Big Mama stories)

Cecilia Tzukim

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Presenting an inside look at the gay community of Tel Aviv, this book reveals a woman's perspective on a thriving Israeli counterculture. Arriving alone in Tel Aviv at the age of 54, the author quickly assimilated into the city's gay community—one that was not accustomed to seeing a middle-aged woman in a predominantly male society. By revealing the lives and tender stories of the people she met and their contributions to society, the author captures moments of happiness, despair, and friendship in rich, compassionate, amusing, and poignant detail.

Cecilia Tzukim arrived in Tel Aviv alone in search of freedom and full of trepidation about the future. She was quickly assimilated in the gay community of the city, a community that was not accustomed to seeing a middle-aged woman among the predominantly male gay society. In this community, she met wonderful people who shared their moments of both happiness and despair with her. This helped her continue her personal quest.

A Fish out of Water contains the stories of people Cecilia met along her way - people who spoke openly and freely to her, opened their hearts to her, and allowed her to enter their rich inner worlds. The members of the community became her family, and she became their "Big Mama."

The lives of the characters are revealed in rich, compassionate, amusing, and poignant detail, engulfing the reader in a warm embrace of friendship and understanding.

Cecilia Tzukim, "Big Mama", was born in Argentina, and lived in the USA for many years, until immigrating to Israel at age 54. She is an outstanding figure in the gay community in Tel Aviv and is deeply involved in gay individuals' problems. She teaches English and prepares pupils for the proficiency examinations required by universities in the USA.

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