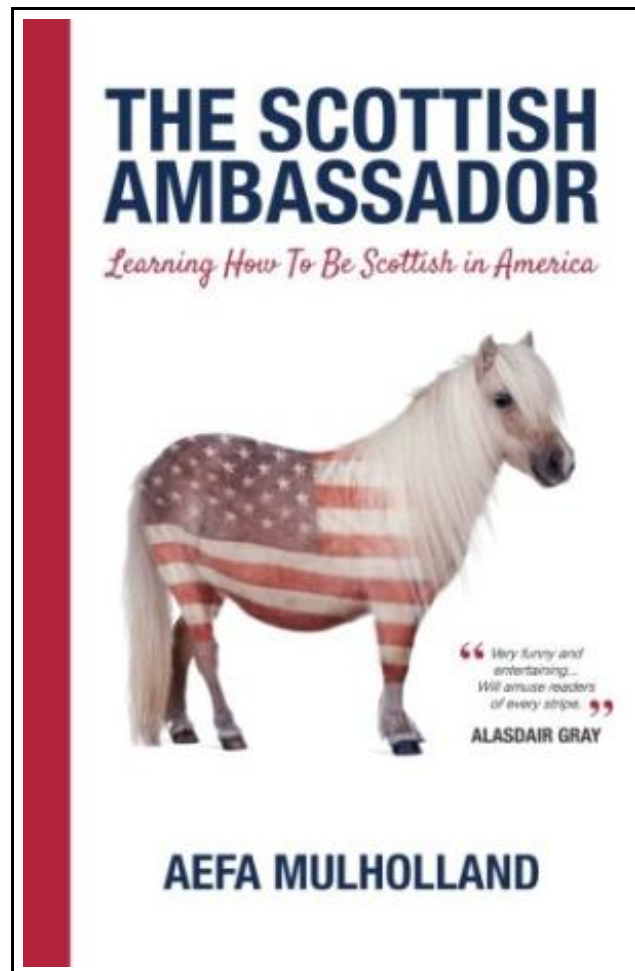


The Scottish Ambassador: Learning How to be Scottish in America (Paperback)



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Reviews


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(Ahmad Heaney)

THE SCOTTISH AMBASSADOR: LEARNING HOW TO BE SCOTTISH IN AMERICA (PAPERBACK)



Ponies + Horses Books, United Kingdom, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 210 x 148 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.When she moved from Scotland to America, Aefa Mulholland had never gone to a Highland Games, spoken Scottish Gaelic or played golf. Or worn a kilt or feather bonnet. Or thought about swapping the grumpy old tabby for a Scottie dog, gone Nessie-spotting or played bagpipes. Or done so many things so often expected of Scots overseas. Growing up in Glasgow was entertaining, but her antics and outfits tended not to feature tartan or have a bagpipe soundtrack. Aefa's Scotland was grittier. It was down-to-earth. It threw pizzas into deep-fat fryers. And she never felt it lacking. until now, 20 years later, when she realises that she's been away so long that her Scottishness is fading. She sets out immediately to shore up her Scottishness, facing her fear of bagpipes and dread of organised social dancing as she travels from Florida to Washington State, New York City to Honolulu, meeting the kind, the compelling and the kooky characters that inhabit America. She struggles through a Gaelic immersion weekend on a ranch full of cats in Texas, attempts Scottish country dancing in Honolulu, plays golf on a rattlesnake-infested sand course in Arizona and is bemused by proliferations of cloaks and dragon puppets at her first Highland Games in Oregon. She visits Chicago's Scottish Retirement Home to learn secrets of The Scottish Way, has tea with Hawaii's freshly elected Scot of the Year and is as confused as the passing New Yorkers by the Tartan Day parade. She catches caber tosses, Scotch tastings and sheepdog demonstrations from the Pacific to the Mississippi, tries to claim Elvis for the Scots and finds herself deep...

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