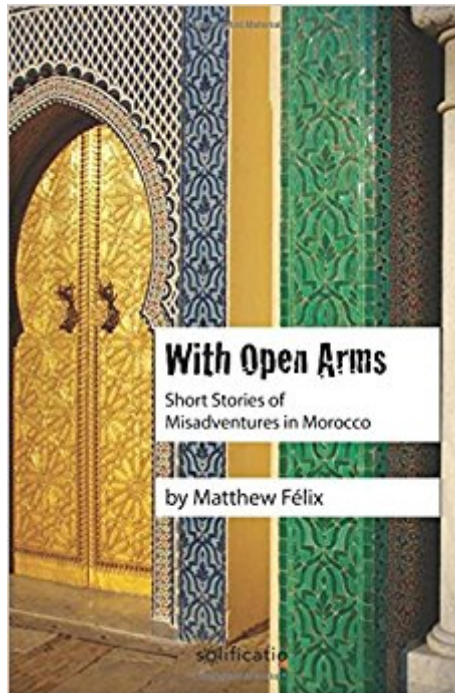




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With Open Arms: Short Stories Of Misadventures In Morocco



Synopsis

"Sometimes hilarious, sometimes horrifying, always entertaining." - T. Holland
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"I'm a great fan of Bill Bryson's books...Matthew, however, added a bit of suspense that kept me awake reading into the night." - reviewer
Excerpts "My reflexes belatedly kicking in, I couldn't help but flinch. The children cheered, relishing having reduced me to their plaything." [o] "Our little spectacle having brought the night market to a standstill, we were now surrounded by about fifty men. I was living the chaotic mob scene from so many movies, and it was every bit as nightmarish as it had always looked on-screen." [o] "As I was about to let out a desperate cry that would require no translation, the giant finished...leaving me flinching on the floor like a bug that's been smashed but isn't quite dead." [o] "Amidst astonishingly beautiful, unsullied waves of sand, a lone figure squatted, holding a roll of toilet paper. It was a peculiar, paradoxical sight." When Matthew had to renew his European visa, his point of exit was obvious: he was going to Morocco. Memories of his previous trip filled him with anxiety. What was he thinking? After everything that had happened, did he really want to go back? Scams. Altercations. Mishaps. But also humor and beauty. His curiosity overcoming his fears, his second trip would prove as unforgettable as the first.
An .com best-selling collection of travel writing as entertaining for the armchair traveler as indispensable for anyone interested in adventure in North Africa.
Excerpts, video, and more at: matthewfelix.com/open-arms

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"I found myself captivated by these stories which immersed me in unfamiliar landscapes with

poignancy, humor and admiration for the bravery of Matthew Félix to embrace the unknown. The writing is vivid and engaging. It's a fresh take on travel writing. A wonderful read!" - Sarah Bee "With Open Arms is a tasty and intriguing combination of grit, charm and snark. Matthew Felix captures the beautiful, the wild, the bizarre and the mundane with equal skill." - Neal Szpatura "Throughout this short book, the author's love of life, love of humanity, and sometimes startling and almost childlike innocence is on full view, and illuminated by Felix's near poetic phrasing and delight in the use of language." - reviewer

A longtime resident of San Francisco, Matthew Félix has also lived in Spain, France, and Turkey. Adventure, spirituality, and humor infuse his work, which often draws on his time living in the Mediterranean, as well as his travels in over fifty countries. * His .ca best-selling debut novel, *A Voice Beyond Reason*, is the story of how a young Spaniard's awakening to his intuition gets him out of his head, so he can follow his heart. * Matthew's best-selling collection of Moroccan travel stories, *With Open Arms*, was described by one reviewer as "sometimes hilarious, sometimes horrifying, but always entertaining." matthewfelix.com

What a fun book! I've enjoyed reading Matthew's blogs on occasion and watching podcasts/videos of his travels, so being able to read this book of misadventures was a special treat. Well, I admit that it was hard to hear about some of the more challenging situations he endured (no Turkish baths, sand dunes or big spiders for me), but like other readers, I couldn't wait to finish "With Open Arms". In fact, we had a tornado-like storm that left us without power for 31 hours. Having already gotten hooked on the book, I thought, "I'll be darned if an electric outage is going to stop me from hearing what else happened to him in Morocco." With a stand-up flashlight to my left, and a handheld to my right, I felt like a teenager reading under the covers after mom had already told me lights out. Matthew has a knack for writing as if he were talking to you, and that's my preference. Special thanks for helping me spend \$10 for a great book that will save me thousands of travel dollars--I will definitely NOT be planning a trip to Morocco in THIS lifetime!

I found this to be an incredibly enjoyable read - misadventures is a great description as the author brings you along a host of experiences that will have you bursting into laughter - many of the stories contain themes universal to most international travelers - the awkward and challenging arrival, the unforgettable train journey, harassment by locals - it goes on. Reading this makes me want to get up and travel to another country and experience adventure all over again although based on

Matthew's experience - I'm not sure whether I'm quite ready for Morocco! A great read - I'd highly recommend this to anyone visiting a new country and travelling a little into the unknown. A great way to get you ready and psyched for a new adventure or misadventure!

I found myself captivated by these stories which immersed me in unfamiliar landscapes with poignancy, humor and admiration for the bravery of Matthew FÃ©lix to embrace the unknown. The writing is vivid and engaging. It's a fresh take on travel writing. A wonderful read!

I couldn't put this down!!! Matthew's descriptions of events are so vivid that I felt like I was there with him. Despite some tense situations and his strong apprehensions, I was pleased to see his feelings about this amazing country and its people.

I found myself not being able to put down the book. Each story has its own feelings and experiences which kept me hooked throughout the whole book. Events and emotions are well described. My heart was racing multiple times while reading because I could feel what the author must have felt. I highly recommend this book to those who like crazy con artist stories and a good sense of humor.

I had an exciting trip to Morocco through the detailed descriptions Matthew wrote in his book, *With Open Arms*. I could feel his heart pounding in many of the situations he had to deal with. I have heard of Turkish baths but never knew what actually happened to a person. Matthew's story of his "bath" took care of any idea I had of ever enjoying one! Well written, enjoyable, filled with suspense, and educational. Write on Matthew.

Beautifully written account of Matthews' amusing and often unbelievable experiences traveling throughout Morocco. It seems a bit insensitive to laugh at these accounts, but I'm guessing humor is the only thing that got the author through them! Mr. Felix's writing is phenomenal, providing incredibly vivid depictions of the scenery and sounds that I felt like I was right there with him. I highly recommend this book to anyone looking for a brief and rollicking escape from the ordinary.

I really enjoyed this book. I don't read too often and get bored easily but this book really captivated me. Each story was vivid and told in a way that was engaging without dragging on or with too many words. Some of the stories could easily be turned into movies.. I finished the book with enjoyment, wanting more and wondering how the characters are doing now - if they will be traveling to Morocco

again. I can feel the vibrancy of this culture and am interested to know more about it. Well done!
Looking forward to more books by Mathew. Two thumbs up. Susan - Redwood City CA

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