

Seeking Salaam: Ethiopians, Eritreans, and Somalis in the Pacific Northwest By Sandra M. Chait  
News from home fuels historical grievances and perpetuates tensions within their communities delaying acculturation undermining attempts at reconciliation and sabotaging the opportunity to reach the American Dream. In conversations with forty East African immigrants living in Seattle Washington and Portland Oregon Sandra Chait captures the immigrants' struggle for identity in the face of competing stories and documents how some individuals have been able to transcend the ghosts from the past and extend a tentative hand to their former enemies. The East African history is unfamiliar to me and fairly daunting to get the drive by version all at once but I enjoyed the interviews and wide variety of ways people tell and retell stories in order to move forward. However the book falters in its organization and structure often getting bogged down in details and leaping back and forth between Ethiopian Eritrean and Somali narratives within paragraphs. It's enough to make my eyes cross from vertigo! Would that this book were an anthology compiled by an actual East African but I respect Chait's desire to use her privilege as a former UW professor to pour her energies into bringing this community's stories to the masses. Contains page after page of fair and unbiased information about the immigrants from the Horn of Africa (the northeastern corner of the continent) and their many struggles: struggles to fit into a new land and not lose their identity while attempting to live in 'Salaam' or peace with neighbors who were previously enemies in their homeland. Tribal clan language or simple notions of national identity keep people from recognizing their commonality and are the bane of inter-group cooperation even in their diaspora surviving in an alien country,

Prolonged violence in the Horn of Africa the northeastern corner of the continent has led growing numbers of Ethiopians Eritreans and Somalis to flee to the United States: Despite the enmity created by centuries of conflict they often find themselves living as neighbors in their adopted cities with their children as class-mates in school. In many ways they are successfully navigating life in their new home; however they continue to struggle to bridge old ethnic divisions and find salaam or peace with one another. Seeking Salaam: Ethiopians Eritreans and Somalis in the Pacific Northwest I love how this book looks at identity and history through how people tell stories about their experience: English This book is definitely timely and really helpful for people who have little knowledge of the history of the Horn of Africa: I appreciate Chait's decision to include the lesser-known narratives of women Eritreans Oromos as well as the bi/multicultural/lingual generation-y: English A must-read for folks who work with members of these groups. However it's a bit too thorough for general readership unless one has a strong interest in the Horn of Africa as a region, English An interesting book but not an easy read by any means. The reader definitely has to think and pay attention with this one: Not a book to devour but to chew slowly in order to be able to digest all the information contained in its pages, Heart-wrenching accounts from these peoples who have already had so many struggles in their lives due to famine and war. The author did her research for this book and knows of what she writes. Chait (herself an immigrant from south Africa) interviewed more than forty East African Immigrants living in Seattle Washington and Portland Oregon for this book: \*Disclosure of Material Connection: I received this book free through Goodreads: (Thank you Rachael Levay and University of Washington Press for the opportunity to read this book): I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR Part 255: "Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and Testimonials in Advertising." English A good analysis of the conflicts between the African ethnic groups that they have carried over with them after immigrating here. Ms. I was not required to write a positive review. The opinions I have expressed are my own. English good book. learned a lot about the cultures English

