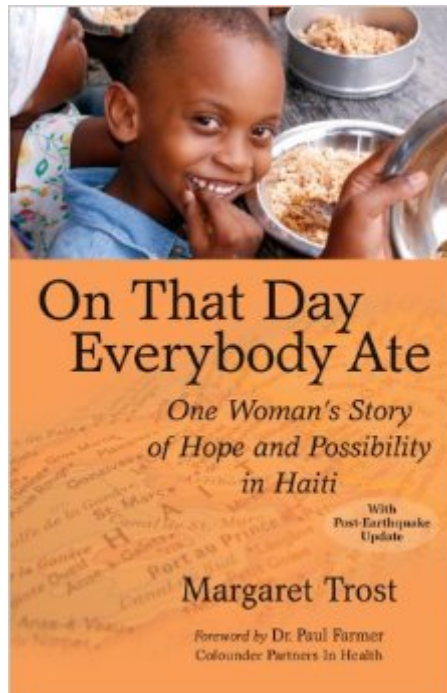


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On That Day, Everybody Ate: One Woman's Story Of Hope And Possibility In Haiti



Synopsis

Following her husband's untimely death, Margaret Trost visited Haiti to heal her broken heart through service. Struggling to make sense of the extreme poverty and touched by the warmth and resilience of those she met, she partners with a local community and together they develop a program that now serves thousands of meals a week to those in need. *On That Day, Everybody Ate* tells the story of her remarkable journey.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Here is a book of great beauty in the truest sense, a brave story with a big heart. Responding to a passing invitation to visit Haiti, the author's "heart spoke and said yes." Her heart had already been blown open by tragedy, which frames this deeply honest and vivid journey into the roots of compassion, and the balance between giving and receiving, as she puts it. The author is called not haunted, and this makes all the difference. Her heart "leaps at [Fr. Gerry's] vision of a food program," which she brings to fruition. The concept of a "reverse mission" is powerful, since helpers often feel that they have better answers to the big questions than those they are helping. It seems one's heart must be open to appreciate the wisdom in the full range of the human condition, and Margaret's heart truly is. She has a rare gift to see from different perspectives, with an eye for vivid detail. Sometimes her images are heartbreaking and indelible, like all the scenes from *Son Fils*, like Cit  Soleil mothers giving clay biscuits to their children, like the child playing peek-a-boo amidst chaos and hunger. Some images convey most forcefully the differences between our culture of

abundance and waste and the Haitians' respect for their scarce resources: the cotton ball split into quarters, the single jellybean "licked and carefully chewed," the humble paintbrush broken in two used to paint the mural of Christ. Other images are just lovely, like her brother Paul's renaissance-style paintings, the jewel-like fruit salad, and for that matter, all the descriptions of food preparation (what better name for a dessert than *poudre d'amour*?). In my favorite scene, the women are dancing under the stars.

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