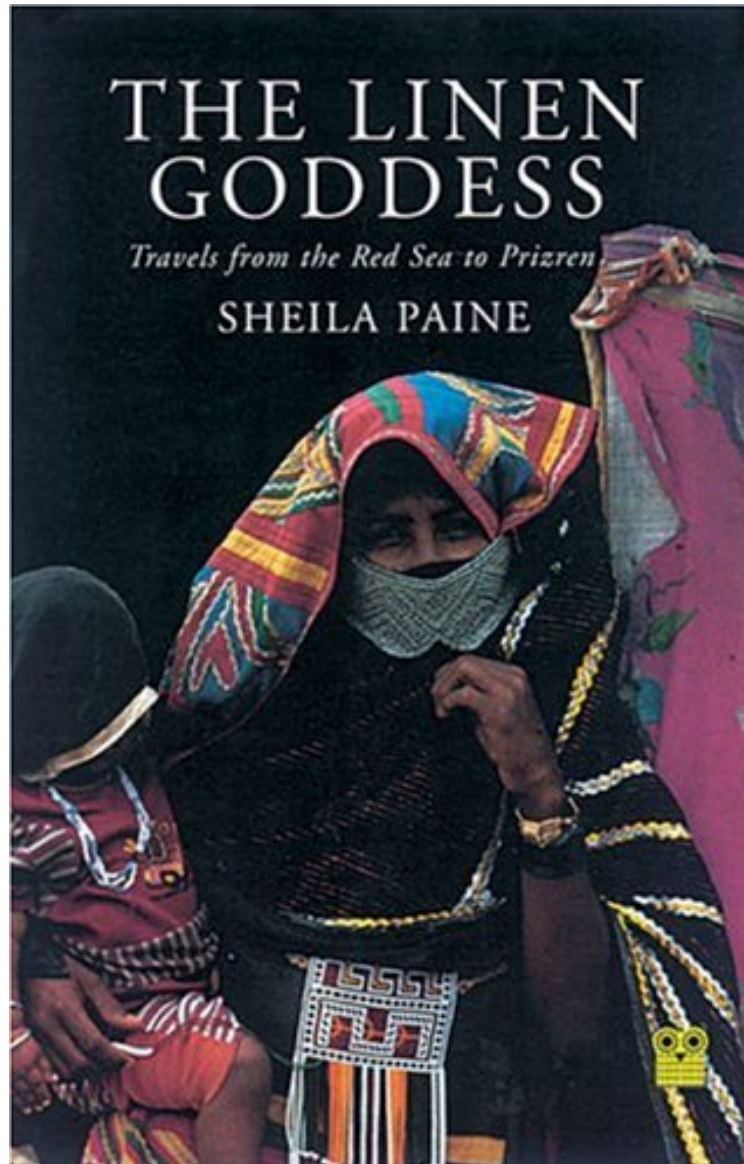


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## The Linen Goddess: Travels from the Red Sea to Prizren

*Sheila Paine*

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**Sheila Paine : The Linen Goddess: Travels from the Red Sea to Prizren** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Linen Goddess: Travels from the Red Sea to Prizren:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Looking for Love in Improbable PlacesBy LandgirlI bought Linen Goddess in a small independent bookstore in Kirkwall, Orkney Islands. It looked unprepossessing but I had asked for a book about textiles and felt obliged. This has been one of my best ever book buys. Sheila Paine is an engaging writer even if you are not interested in social history, textiles, women's history, or travel stories. The gist of the narrative is

looking for a particular motif, a relic of pre-Christian thinking, dubbed the Goddess motif. Along the way her adventures provide a testament to the power of an idea and a writer who can put them together so engagingly.

This third volume of Sheila Paine's odyssey takes her through war-torn Eritrea and Somalia, past the ancient rock churches of Ethiopia and the tiny pyramids of Sudan, through Egypt and across the Mediterranean to Greece, ending in the bandit land of Albania. It is an adventure across the fault lines of history and religion too, as the "Linen Goddess" fades and reappears from view. And after a journey through some of the least visited and most dangerous parts of the world, Paine finally catches up with the goddess surprisingly close to home.

This is an elegant work documenting one traveler's experiences in places most of us will never see. -- Library Journal  
About the Author  
Sheila Paine is a linguist by training and speaks five languages. She was a runner up in the 1990 Sunday Times and winner of the 1991 Independent travel writing competitions. Widowed in her early forties, she has spent the last twenty years travelling, researching tribal and peasant embroidery, and has written four books on the subject. She lives in Oxfordshire.