

Reader's Comments on "A Bellyful of Tears"

"Wow! Simply wow! Amazing, Just finished reading. If I wasn't so tired I'd have read it in one day! It was a very emotional and heart-wrenching experience, worth every minute! Hoping for more books like this, and soon! Friends - "A Bellyful of Tears" - highly recommended!" Or Himmel

"Over the years you have served as an authentic and sensitive voice for the Ethiopian community, a one-person inter-cultural bridge. As such you have contributed greatly to the community in Israel. You are an example of someone bridging between the Ethiopian community and Israeli society. Your work is sacred. Be blessed."

Shoshana Ben-Dor, Director of NACOEJ Israel

"Dear Naomi! I could not stop reading and crying....this is a truly unique book, the first of it's kind I have ever read. There is an Ethiopian proverb: 'mothers belly is larger than the world' because it contains secrets, emotions, tears, etc. Naomi you have succeeded, by writing this book with the creative talent that God has given you, to touch many issues the Ethiopian immigrant families are dealing with. Amongst them you have revealed the inner contents of the Ethiopian woman's belly; her tears, her secrets, her innermost emotions. You have given her a voice, put her feelings into words, made her hidden experiences available for all to see. I want to say to you, with much emotion, thank you!" Ester Yishayahu, Social worker, Head of the Unit against violence in the family in Kiriyat Bialik.

"After you left I started reading the book you gave me and could not put it down until I finished it. The story is fascinating, revealing the life of a family of immigrants with all the problems that entails. You have told the story as an artist, fluently, interestingly, thank you!" Ayala Berkovitz, Deputy Director of the Institute for Educational Research at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

"A Bellyful of Tears" is compulsory reading for every course that deals with family, immigration, risk, trauma, coping methods & intervention... The family undergoing cultural transition represented in this book is described with respect, making the family dilemmas of transition accessible to all... "A Bellyful of Tears" is a good choice for anybody looking for a truly human experience. As is written in the judge's remarks for the Akum Prize: "The beauty of the book is in its modesty, its gentleness, like a water-color painting. Grief and pain are internalized to perfection, and alongside them, without exhortation, are the universal human values that we have almost forgotten; family commitment, parental respect, human dignity – including the

dignity of children and young people, the longing for love and the hope for good."

Professor Dorit Roer-Strier – Director of Nevet: The Greenhouse of Context-Informed Research and Training for Children in Need School of Social Work and Social Welfare Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel