

Osie Gabriel Adelfang

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Introduction by **Cindy Sheehan**

Forward by **Amira Hass**

Includes essays by

Jen Marlowe (*Darfur Diaries*), **Anna Baltzer**
(*Witness in Palestine*), **Starhawk & Hedy Epstein**



Shifting Sands—*Author Bios*

Osie Gabriel Adelfang is an Israeli-American writer and editor, part-time marketing director for her husband's design-build firm, and full-time mom of three. In a previous life, she wrote and was a copy editor for various trade magazines, corporations, nonprofits, and other clients. She also taught writing to elementary and community college students. Osie holds a BA in Journalism from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and an MFA in creative writing from Antioch University LA. This book and other projects can be found on her website: www.OsieOnline.com

Anna Baltzer is a Jewish-American Columbia graduate, former-Fulbright scholar, the granddaughter of Holocaust refugees, and an award-winning lecturer, author, and activist for Palestinian rights. As a volunteer with the International Women's Peace Service in the West Bank, Baltzer documented human rights abuses and supported Palestinian-led nonviolent resistance to the Occupation. Baltzer has appeared on television more than 100 times and lectured at more than 300 universities, schools, churches, mosques, and synagogues around the world with her acclaimed presentation, "Life in Occupied Palestine: Eyewitness Stories & Photos," and her full-color book: *Witness in Palestine: A Jewish American Woman in the Occupied Territories*. For information about Baltzer's book, DVD, speaking tours, and eye-witness reports, visit www.AnnaInTheMiddleEast.com

Over the past four decades, **Sandra Butler** has written, taught and participated in political organizing in the fields of sexual assault, breast cancer, the Jewish underpinnings of political activism, building lesbian community, Israel/Palestine, and the realities of aging. Author of *Conspiracy of Silence: The Trauma of Incest*, and co-author with Barbara Rosenblum of *Cancer in Two Voices*, Butler is the co-producer of the award-winning documentaries *Cancer in Two Voices* and *Ruthie and Connie: Every Room in the House*. She is the co-founder of Bay Area Women in Black.

Tomi Laine Clark is a wildly irreverent San Francisco-based writer who tempers her coverage of controversial topics with humor and frank honesty. Her work has appeared in *Ms. Guided* magazine, Hackwriters.com, Pology.com, *Matador Abroad*, and *Xploited*.

Born to a family rooted in the early history of the Jewish "yishuv," **Linda Dittmar** grew up in Tel Aviv, 1939-1960. She served in the military and studied at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem before coming to New York City. Having earned her Ph.D. from Stanford University, she taught literature and film studies at the University of Massachusetts/Boston for 40 years. Her publications include *From Hanoi to Hollywood: The Vietnam War in American Film* and *Multiple Voices in Feminist Film Criticism* as well as many articles and book chapters. She is also long-time member of the editorial board of *Radical Teacher* magazine. Much of her activism occurred in tandem with her academic work, focusing on local (US) issues such as civil rights, anti war, and gender and class struggles. In Israel she has been working with "Zochrot"—an organization devoted to commemorating the *Nakbah*. She is currently collaborating with a photographer on a photo-text that documents traces of Palestinian villages and the transformation of Palestinian urban life inside Israel's "green line" borders. Now Professor Emerita, she lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Hedy Epstein is a Holocaust survivor, lifelong activist, and author. She has lived in the United States since 1948 and has been politically active and outspoken on the critical issues of her times, ranging from civil rights and the Viet Nam war to, more recently, the Israel/Palestine conflict. In 1999, she published her autobiography, *Erinnern ist Nicht Genug* (Remembering is not enough; Unrast Verlag, Germany). Since 2003, she has made five visits to the Israeli occupied West Bank and has spoken to various audiences in the U.S. & around the world about her experiences. Most recently, she has become involved with the Free Gaza Movement (www.freegaza.org), attempting to break the siege by bringing Gazans humanitarian aid by boat. Hedy lives in St. Louis. She has one son and two granddaughters.

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Maia Ettinger was born in Warsaw and immigrated to the United States with her mother and grandmother in 1967. A graduate of Yale College and NYU Law School, she currently is working on a novel and holds the position of legal counsel at Working Assets. She has been published in the *Berkeley Women's Law Journal* and her essay "The Pocahontas Paradigm" appeared in *Tilting the Tower*, (Routledge Press).

Kim Goldberg is the author of *RED ZONE: poems of urban decay* and five other books. Her work has appeared in numerous magazines and anthologies in North America and abroad including *The Progressive*, *Columbia Journalism Review*, *New Internationalist*, *Istanbul Literature Review*, *Voices Israel* and elsewhere. Originally from Oregon, Kim came to Canada with her family during the Vietnam War years and has lived in Nanaimo, BC, ever since. Visit: www.pigsquashpress.com

Susan Greene is an artist, educator and clinical psychologist. Her practice straddles a range of cultural arenas, new media, and public art, while focusing on borders, migrations, decolonization and memory. Greene has led or participated in more than 30 public art projects worldwide and has a research practice looking at the relationships between creativity, trauma and resilience. Greene is one of four Jewish American women artists who formed Break the Silence Mural Project in 1989. The goal of BTS is to be a "window onto Palestine," bringing stories of life on the ground back to the USA through culture. Break the Silence artists have returned to Occupied Palestine numerous times to facilitate community mural projects, conduct arts workshops, create sculpture, make films and more. BTS' latest project is the "Olympia-Rafah Solidarity Mural Project"—an inter-disciplinary, interactive, multi-site public art project that will make use of new media and social networking technologies to increase the strength and visibility of movements organizing for social change in Palestine, Israel, the USA and the world—www.olympiarafahmural.org, www.breakthesilencearts.org. Originally from New York City, Susan has been a resident of the Bay Area for 25 years. She teaches and directs the Learning Center at the San Francisco Art Institute and has a private psychotherapy practice.

Jen Marlowe, a human rights activist, filmmaker and writer, is the founder of donkeysaddle projects. Her most recent film about South Sudan is called "Rebuilding Hope". As part of a three-person team, Jen traveled to Northern Darfur and Eastern Chad to make the documentary film "Darfur Diaries: Message from Home" and wrote the accompanying book "Darfur Diaries: Stories of Survival", which was included in the 2007 Best American Non-Required Reading edited by Dave Eggers. Jen is currently writing a play and a book about Palestine and Israel. The book is slated to be published by Nation Books in June 2010. Jen serves on the board of directors of Friends of the Jenin Freedom Theatre. Her writing can be found online at The Nation, Tomdispatch.com, Altnet, Counterpunch and CommonDreams.org.

Hannah Mermelstein is an activist and aspiring radical librarian based in Brooklyn, NY. She has lived in Palestine for more than two of the past six years, and is co-creator of Birthright Unplugged and Re-Plugged, Needle in the Groove, and Students Boycott Apartheid. In Brooklyn, Hannah works primarily with the New York Campaign for the Boycott of Israel (NYCBI) and the Palestine Education Project (PEP). She hopes to use library and archives skills to continue the search for 1948 and support the right of return for Palestinian refugees.

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Emma Rosenthal is an artist, writer, educator, reiki practitioner, and human rights activist living in Southern California. Her work combines art, activism, education and grassroots mobilization. As a person with a disability, she is confined, not by her disability but by the narrow and marginalizing attitudes and structures of the society at large. Her experience as a grassroots organizer, political essayist and speaker has been life-long and has included many progressive causes. Consistent with her positions on multiculturalism and anti-imperialism, she is affirmatively Jewish and assertively anti-Zionist. In her writing, she explores the use of art and literary expression to elicit an ethos more compelling than dogma and ideological discourse, providing new paradigms for community, communion, connection and human transformation.

Alice Rothchild is an Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Harvard Medical School, a contributor to the first edition of *Our Bodies, Ourselves* and author of multiple articles. She co-founded and co-chairs American Jews for a Just Peace - Boston and co-organized the AJJP Health and Human Rights Project. In April 2007, Pluto Press published her latest book, *Broken Promises, Broken Dreams: Stories of Jewish and Palestinian Trauma and Resilience*, which is distributed by Palgrave Press in the US, and she has lectured all over the US, UK, and Israel. A second edition will be released in February, 2010 with translations into Hebrew and German. She is working on a book exploring personal stories about Palestinian dispossession and expulsion as seen through the eyes of a Jewish woman well-versed in oral histories of Holocaust survivors. www.alicerothchild.com

Starhawk, committed global justice activist and peace activist, is the author or coauthor of eleven books, including *The Spiral Dance*, *The Fifth Sacred Thing*, *Webs of Power: Notes from the Global Uprising*, *The Earth Path*, and the children's book *The Last Wild Witch*. She is a veteran of progressive movements, from anti-war to anti-nukes, and has made four visits to the Occupied Territories with the International Solidarity Movement. She travels globally, offering training in nonviolent direct action and permaculture, a system of ecological design, as well as workshop on feminist and earth-based spirituality. www.earthactivisttraining.org, www.starhawk.org

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