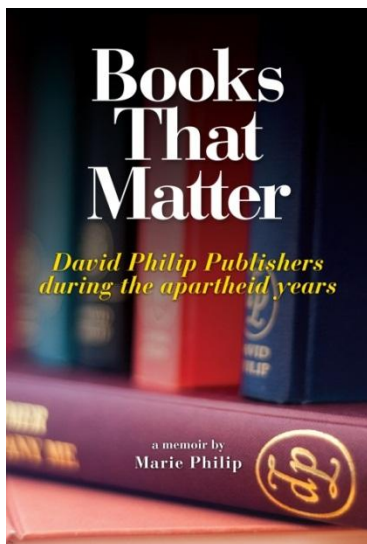


**** NEW RELEASE ****



Praise for David Philip Publishers

'David and Marie Philip started an independent publishing firm in South Africa during some of the darkest days of censorship. Their unintimidated aim was to publish good books. In spite of all odds, they have come of age as among not only the bravest but also the most highly regarded of our publishers. I am happy to be on their list.'

Nadine Gordimer, 1992

Description:

South Africa in the 1970s was a divided and increasingly traumatised country, seemingly permanently in the toils of apartheid, and with little space available for open discussion of apartheid policies or awareness of just what those policies were meaning in the lives of people.

It was in this context that David Philip, a South African already involved for several years in publishing, became convinced there must be more opportunity for books with informed discussion and debate to be written and published within the country. He persuaded his wife Marie, also with publishing experience, that they could together set up their own independent publishing company, to publish

'Books that matter for Southern Africa'-- in social history, politics, literature, or whatever, good of their kind and ready to challenge mainstream apartheid thinking.

This is an anecdotal account -- a memoir -- of the lows and highs of a small, cheerful, underfunded but vibrant 'oppositional' publishing company, David Philip Publishers, from the year 1971 through to the birth of the new South Africa.

About the Author:

David and Marie Philip, South Africans of many generations, were both born and schooled in Cape Town. David, after a short spell in the army at the end of WWII, went on to Magdalen College, Oxford, in those heady post-war years of material shortages but amongst students of many different ages and backgrounds. He loved all of it -- C S Lewis as his tutor in English, cricket on soft green fields, long summer evenings -- but his plan and desire was always to get into publishing back in South Africa.

Marie (then Marie van Ryneveld) met him briefly during those years but her plan was different: she graduated from the University of Cape Town in an eclectic mixture of languages and Constitutional History and Law, maybe to do something vaguely diplomatic but above all to write and to travel, first to Paris. In the meantime she agreed to a temporary job as an assistant to David over Christmas in the small bookshop he was setting up in Cape Town for the Stationers, Galvin and Sales. From there each in turn found employment with the local branches of international publishers -- Marie with Longmans Green, and David with the Oxford University Press.

They were married in 1953. By the time they retired in 1999 from David Philip Publishers, the company they had set up together in 1971, they had not only been living, working, and playing with words together for more than 40 years, but had jointly been in the book trade for nearly 100 years.

Title: Books that Matter

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