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Titolo Not quite paradise : an American sojourn in Sri Lanka / / Adele Barker

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-- Chapter 2: Student Life -- Chapter 3: Housekeeping -- Chapter 4: Insurrections in the Hills -- Chapter 5: Hot Curry -- Chapter 6: Rain -- Chapter 7: The War Next Door -- Chapter 8: Colombo -- Chapter 9: Colonialist Torpor -- Chapter 10: Life in a Different Key -- Chapter 11: Gihin Ennam -- Part II -- Chapter 12: When the Sea Came to the Land -- Chapter 13: Home -- Chapter 14: Up and Down the Mountain -- Chapter 15: The Story of a Wave -- Chapter 16: Early Warning System -- Chapter 17: Arugam Bay -- Chapter 18: Batti -- Chapter 19: The Road to Jaffna -- Chapter 20: In Jaffna -- Chapter 21: Reading the Classics -- Chapter 22: Leaving Jaffna -- Chapter 23: Going and

Coming II -- Epilogue -- Acknowledgments.

Sommario/riassunto A chronicle of life on the resplendent island, combining the immediacy

of memoir with the vividness of travelogue and reportage Adele Barker and her son, Noah, settled into the central highlands of Sri Lanka for an eighteen-month sojourn, immersing themselves in the customs, cultures, and landscapes of the island—its elephants, birds, and monkeys; its hot curries and sweet mangoes; the cacophony of its markets; the resonant evening chants from its temples. They hear stories of the island's colorful past and its twenty-five-year civil war between the Sinhalese majority and the Tamil Tigers. When, having returned home to Tucson, Barker awakes on December 26, 2004, to see televised images of the island's southern shore disappearing into the ocean, she decides she must go back. Traveling from the southernmost coasts to the farthest outposts of the Tamil north, she witnesses the ravages of the tsunami that killed forty-eight thousand Sri Lankans in the space of twenty minutes, and reports from the ground on the triumphs and failures of relief efforts. Combining the immediacy of memoir and the vividness of travelogue with the insight of the best reportage, Not Quite Paradise chronicles life in a place few have ever visited.