



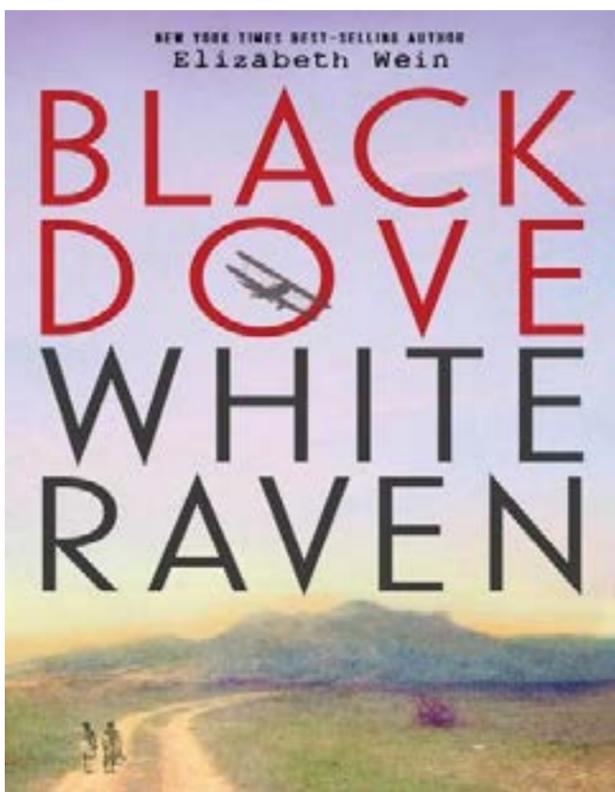
*Bringing Africa to your Classroom*

*Black Dove, White Raven*  
by  
*Elizabeth Wein*

*Topics Covered | Things to Introduce:*

- Ethiopian geography
- War/Colonialism
- Flying

- Level: High school, young adults
- Country Focus: Ethiopia
- Language Focus: Amharic



**E**milia's and Teo's lives changed in a fiery, terrifying instant when a bird strike brought down the plane their stunt-pilot mothers were flying. Teo's mother died immediately, but Em's survived, determined to raise Teo according to his late mother's wishes-in a place where he won't be discriminated against because of the color of his skin. But in 1930s America, a white woman raising a black adoptive son alongside a white daughter is too often seen as a threat.

**From <https://www.egmont.co.uk>: About Elizabeth Wein**

Elizabeth Wein was born in New York, and grew up in England, Jamaica and Pennsylvania. She is married with two children and now lives in Perth, Scotland. Elizabeth is a member of the Ninety-Nines, the International Organization of Women Pilots. She was awarded the Scottish Aero Club's Watson Cup for best student pilot in 2003 and it was her love of flying that partly inspired the idea for 'Code Name Verity'. 'Rose Under Fire' is the sequel to her widely acclaimed title.

## Discussion Questions

- How would you define colonialism?
- What is its purpose and what consequences does it leave for the colonized?
- What was the Scramble for Africa and what impact did it have on African nations?
- How do you define citizenship? 4. What reason(s) did Mussolini have for invading Ethiopia?
- How did Ethiopia resist colonialism?
- Why did Rhoda, Em and Teo relocate to Ethiopia? (They had several reasons)
- What was the nationality of Em's father and what role did he play in the war? What about Teo's father?
- Why did Rhoda decide to teach Em and Teo how to fly?
- What roles did Em and Teo play in the war?
- What discovery did Teo make about his father and what impact did it have on Teo's life?
- How did the issue of slavery complicate Ethiopian politics and the war?

## Activity Suggestions/ Resources

In small groups, discuss the major takeaways from this book. What did you learn from this book that you did not know before. How has this story affected your views on racism, slavery, colonialism and citizenship?

If you liked *Black Dove, White Raven*, you'll love this as well: *The Lion Hunter* by Elizabeth Wein



## Country Fact Box: Ethiopia



### Capital:

Addis Ababa

### Population:

90 Million People

### People from Ethiopia are called:

Ethiopians

### Main Languages Spoken in Ethiopia:

Amharic, English, Oromo, Somali and Tigrinya.

## Language Box: Amharic

### How many people speak Amharic as their mother tongue?

26 Million, with speakers in Ethiopia, Canada, Djibouti, Egypt, Israel, Sweden, and the United States.

### Practice some Amharic!

#### A guide to pronunciation

- ä - said like "e" in 'bed'
- u - said like "ou" in 'you'
- i - said like "e" in 'be'
- a - said like "a" in 'apple'
- e - said like "ay" in 'day'
- ī - said like "oo" in 'book' (but slightly closer to an "uh" sound)
- o - said like "o" in 'low'
- č - said like "ch" in 'chain'
- š - said like "sh" in 'shoe'
- ž - said like "s" in 'pleasure' (a soft "zh" sound)
- ñ - said like "ni" in 'onion' (same as the Spanish "ñ")
- b - at the start of a word, after r, l, m, or n, or doubled = English "b"
- b - not in the above positions = closer to English "v"

For more information on Amharic and what it sounds like, visit

<http://aboutworldlanguages.com/amharic>