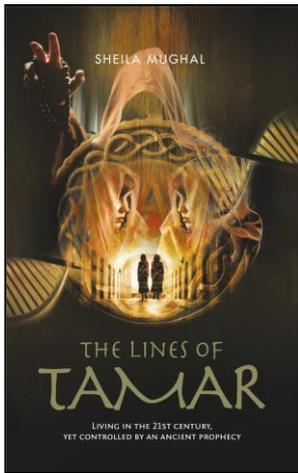


MEREO BOOKS: NEW NOVEL PRESS RELEASE

A mystical 21st century adventure weaving together prophesies from Biblical times, Celtic legends, secretive cults and the folklore of Druids and Witches – this fast-paced mystery is a must-read for all fans of *The Da Vinci Code*; *The Holy Blood and The Holy Grail*; and *Sex in the City*!

PUBLICATION DATE: 12 OCTOBER 2015



'Coincidence is God's way of remaining anonymous.' Albert Einstein

THE LINES OF TAMAR

BORN INTO A WORLD WHERE
THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS COINCIDENCE

by Sheila Mughal



ISBN: 978 1 86151 322 9 Paperback 561 pages RRP: £12.99 October 2015

Mereo Books is an imprint of Memoirs Publishing www.memoirspublishing.com

Available through: All good book shops and internet booksellers. (Also available as an ebook)

NB: THIS NOVEL CONTAINS SOME 'ADULTS-ONLY' LANGUAGE

With a look of total determination she commanded, 'You need to tell these girls what fate awaits them. They need to know about the curse. It's not fair for them not to know'...

Modern-day family saga meets genealogical detective story in this mystical thriller: an absorbing tale of twin sisters, their relationships and the ancient prophecy that could threaten their very existence. The novel has been meticulously researched by the author who can trace her own family tree back to Tamar, the Old Testament character of the book's title. Most of the novel's action takes place during the summer of 2013 but the events occurring during that three-month period have been shaped by three thousand years of history.

Adopted twins Ruby and Eenayah lead very different lives. Ruby is happily married and resides with her husband and small son in Wales – while Eenayah is living in America in a seemingly loveless marriage to successful musician Reed. Many suspect that Eenayah is no more than Reed's "trophy" wife but, perhaps, Eenayah and Reed understand a great deal more about each other than people might guess? After all, they have both been bereaved in the past: Reed's first wife was killed in a freak car accident; and Eenayah lost her fiancé when she was just 19. Later, Eenayah married her fiancé's brother but he *also* died young.

Eenayah's search for the twins' birth mother uncovers a direct link to ancestors from biblical times and the discovery that she and her sister belong to an unbroken line of female twins. It now seems that one of them is reliving a former life – a life which is fated to end in tragedy. Meanwhile, unknown to either sister, the forces of good and evil are gathering for a terrible battle to control the outcome of the prophecy. With many exciting twists and turns (plus a terrifying climax), readers will find their sympathies for certain characters changing time-and-time again as the intricate plot reveals itself.

'There are very few Tamar twins left in the world. The Tamar lines are as precious as the entire world's collection of gold and diamonds put together and multiplied by a billion. The lines will not be allowed to die out – not at any cost.'

A satisfying read for those long, dark winter evenings this book would also make a brilliantly-spooky Halloween feature. It will appeal to all those interested in the occult, spiritualism, magic & Masonic legends. As well as being a great mystery detective story, the book will be enjoyed by readers of romantic fiction too. It will also prove particularly fascinating to anyone who is currently researching their own family history.

Author, Sheila Mughal (who lives in Cheshire) has traced her own family tree and discovered that she is, herself, a descendent of the woman, Tamar (referred to in Genesis, Chapter 38). More information about the author appears at the end of this document.

Media opportunities: Extracts/serialisation. The author is available for interviews.

An article (by the author) is available (on request) for your use: Sheila Mughal describes how and why she came to research her own family tree and to write *The Lines of Tamar*.



Local UK interest: The author was born in **Leigh (Lancs)** & lives in nearby **Lowton (Cheshire)**. Part of the action is set in that area as well as in **North Wales**. The author has also lived & worked in **Merseyside & Manchester**. **London, Oxford, The Isle of Man & Dublin** also appear in the book. Celtic legends about **Ireland & Wales** feature throughout.

Please see over for feature suggestions and information about the author >>>>

MEREO NEW BOOK: PRESS RELEASE continued

THE LINES OF TAMAR by Sheila Mughal

PUBLICATION DATE: 12 OCTOBER 2015



Feature suggestions and interview topics

While *The Lines of Tamar* tells the story of an ancient prophesy, it is set in current times and addresses many contemporary issues that affect 21st century women ...

On being adopted:

Do adopted children feel guilty about their adoptive parents when trying to trace their birth family?

'I am a twin, and I have no idea who my parents are. We were adopted at birth and raised on a farm with very loving, wonderful people who I call my parents and are and always will be Mum and Dad. She paused for a moment, looking tearful and slightly shaken. 'My sister and I always knew we were adopted, but it was a taboo subject and no questions were ever asked. And we were so happy - it wasn't as though we missed out on anything anyway.'

How does it feel to meet your birth-family for the first time?

Today was an important day; she had waited for this day for a lifetime and she wanted to look her absolute best. Not that appearances should matter, but this was a bit like wearing one's Sunday best; she simply wanted to show she had made an effort. It was hugely important for her to pay homage to the magnitude of the day.

On twins and sisters:

Do twins really have a special bond that goes beyond being siblings?

'You don't get to share a uterus with someone and not be close'.

Is envy normal and to be expected between sisters?

Oh how Ruby envied her sister's lifestyle. Eenayah seemed to do so little for so much, whilst Ruby did so much for so little. Life was so unfair.



On marriage and relationships:

Can a glamorous lifestyle ever compensate for the loneliness of an unhappy marriage?

Eenayah often felt like a bird in a gilded cage, sitting alone in her diamond-encrusted ivory tower watching the thunderstorm outside and feeling totally alone. ...had she now become the materialistic and shallow WAG that she believed Reed deplored?

How do you know when your marriage is over?

She concluded that it must always be a strange, sad, and poignant time in anyone's life when they begin to reach the decision that their marriage isn't worth continuing with. Eenayah was approaching that moment.

Is it so unusual for women to fall for their husband's brother – or even his father?

I got drunk and may or may not have slept with a man who is circa 25 years older than me, and did I mention that he used to be my father in law?

< author, Sheila Mughal whose research into her own family history was the starting point for her novel

On bereavement and death:

Is guilt a symptom of grieving? Do all bereaved people ask themselves, 'Could I have prevented it?'

As far as men are concerned I feel cursed? It was just the week before the wedding. If I had stopped him from entering that bloody race, James would be alive now. If it wasn't for me being away working when Greg collapsed in our living room, he would most certainly be alive now. I tell you, if I was a man I would be avoiding me.'

Would any of us really want to know the date of our death?

It was a strange thought. He deliberated on the fact that one never really knows about the 'last times'. The last time you ever put your shoes on, get out of bed, make love, brush your teeth.

See over for further information about the author & the Biblical prophecy that inspired the novel >>>



To request a review copy or to be put in touch with the author, please contact

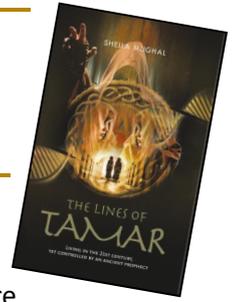
Elly Donovan PR elly@ellydonovan.co.uk tel: 0790 508 7779 / 01273 205 246 www.ellydonovan.co.uk

twitter: @EllyDonovanPR facebook.com/EllyDonovan Linked-In: Elly Donovan PR

MEREO NEW BOOK: PRESS RELEASE continued

THE LINES OF TAMAR by Sheila Mughal

PUBLICATION DATE: 12 OCTOBER 2015



About the author

Sheila Mughal was born in 1959 in **Leigh (Lancashire)** and lived there until she was 12 when she moved to **Newton Le Willows** (now in **Merseyside**). She trained as a nurse and then as a midwife in **Manchester**. She worked as an NHS Midwife in or near the city for ten years. She has worked in sales & business development in the healthcare and IT industries and, while based in the north west of England, she travelled extensively throughout the UK.

In **The Lines of Tamar** Sheila has drawn on her own knowledge of healthcare in describing obstetric medicine and the side-effects of psychoactive medications (used in the treatment of depression and bipolar conditions).

Sheila lives with her husband, in **Lowton, Cheshire** (only a few miles away from her birthplace in Leigh). Sheila says, "I believe I am technically referred to as a 'Lowton Sparrow' which means someone who was born in the area, then travels a great deal but returns to where they were born."

Sheila has always been fascinated by local history and is an active member of a local history group however, her main passion is **Genealogy**. She began researching her own family tree at just 24. Her research has been meticulous and painstaking – and she has traced her family history back to biblical times. Her 103rd Great Grandmother is the Tamar referred to in The Old Testament (Genesis: Chapter 38) and the inspiration for **The Lines of Tamar**.

However, Tamar is not the only noteworthy name among Sheila's ancestors. She is also descended from:

- Lady Godiva (32nd Great Grandmother) • Eithne Queen of Ireland (42nd Great Grandmother) • Eneid Capuir ap Cerwyd Druid King of the Britons (72nd Great Grandfather) • Holy Roman Emperor Prince Louis Le D Pius (40th Great Grandfather) and • King Richard 1st Lionheart (27th Great Grandfather) to name but a few.

The Lines of Tamar is her first published novel. Sheila says, "Some parts of this fictional story are factual and based on alleged real historical and biblical scripts. In order to appeal to a modern-day audience the story has been updated to a present-day setting. I wrote the novel as a thought-provoking drama for the reader's entertainment. The book is a modern-day story about two young women rather than a bygone fairy tale. Indeed there are some threads of historical accuracy, but I have taken the novelist's liberty of adding to this tapestry to make it more interesting and to bring an old story to a modern audience."

An article by Shelia Mughal is available (on request) for your use: Sheila has written an article describing how she came to research her own family tree in such detail and why she used the material to write **The Lines of Tamar**. **Sheila Mughal** is also available for interviews.

Follow Sheila Mughal via Facebook: The-Lines-of-Tamar or Twitter: @LinesTamar

Watch a video about the book on Sheila's website: www.sheilamughal.com

The Biblical prophecy: Notes to Editors: The prophecies about Tamar appear in The Old Testament: Genesis, Chapter 38. The strange bracelets referred to in the novel are also mentioned in Genesis 38. The family tree of the descendents of Tamar branched into four different "**Lines of Tamar**" – hence the title of the novel.

EXCERPT FROM GENESIS 38: *And Judah took a wife for Er his firstborn, whose name was Tamar. And Er, Judah's firstborn, was wicked in the sight of the Lord; and the Lord slew him. And Judah said unto Onan, Go in unto thy brother's wife, and marry her, and raise up seed to thy brother. And Onan knew that the seed should not be his; and it came to pass, when he went in unto his brother's wife, that he spilled it on the ground, lest that he should give seed to his brother. And the thing which he did displeased the Lord: wherefore he slew him also Then said Judah to Tamar his daughter in law, Remain a widow at thy father's house, till Shelah my son be grown: for he said, Lest peradventure he die also, as his brethren did. And Tamar went and dwelt in her father's house. And it came to pass in the time of her travail that, behold, twins were in her womb. And it came to pass, when she travailed, that the one put out his hand: and the midwife took and bound upon his hand a scarlet thread ...*



To request a review copy or to be put in touch with the author, please contact

Elly Donovan PR elly@ellydonovan.co.uk tel: 0790 508 7779 / 01273 205 246 www.ellydonovan.co.uk

twitter: @EllyDonovanPR facebook.com/EllyDonovan Linked-In: Elly Donovan PR