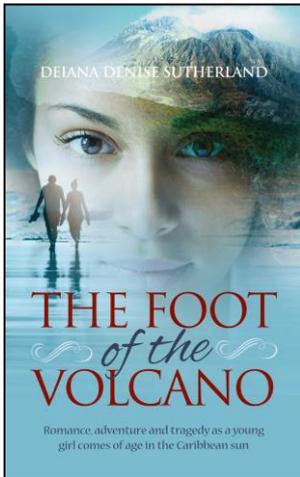


## MEREO NEW BOOK: PRESS RELEASE

Contemporary romantic fiction exploring the loss of innocence; loyalty and betrayal; forgiveness; parenthood; bereavement; and the enduring nature of true love

PUBLICATION DATE: 3 OCTOBER 2016

*'My legs melted beneath me as I crumbled to the ground, allowing a sense of loneliness and loss to take its toll on me, for it was on a night as cold, yet beautiful, as this that my life had been turned upside down ...'*



# THE FOOT OF THE VOLCANO

Romance, adventure and tragedy  
as a young girl comes of age in the Caribbean sun

by Deiana Denise Sutherland



ISBN: 978 1 86151 620 6 Paperback 176 pages RRP: £12.99 October 2016  
Mereo Books is an imprint of Memoirs Publishing [www.memoirspublishing.com](http://www.memoirspublishing.com)  
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(Also available as an ebook)

*'I was only eighteen years old and just at the beginning of my career. I was not ready for a baby ... Sadness overpowered me as I thought about what I was about to do. I was about to destroy our unborn child, the child of the man I loved ...'*

Written by a native of St Vincent and the Grenadines, this is a heart breaking story of love and loss set in the sun-kissed Caribbean.

Born on the sun-blessed Caribbean island of St Vincent, and educated at the local convent school, Natalie lives with her mother and grows up believing that her father died before she was born.

As a young girl, Natalie finds an innocent love with her best friend Tommy, but as adult passions overtake the childhood sweethearts, Tommy's wild ways lead Natalie astray. When Tommy leaves for a new life in England, Natalie finds a new love to ease the heartache but is betrayed, heartbroken and left fearing that true love and happiness will always elude her.

Will she ever see Tommy again? Will he ever know that she has given birth to his daughter? How can she find out what really happened to her father? And who is the mysterious stranger who is following her...?

*'The news had already reached the village by the time we got there. There was no one waiting to greet me with open arms; they all looked at me with utter disappointment. I felt so ashamed ...'*

With fascinating observations on the contrasting lifestyles of St Vincent and England, and lyrical descriptions of the culture and people of the Caribbean, this book explores the transition from innocent youthfulness to the realities of adulthood. *The Foot of the Volcano* will appeal to readers of romantic fiction and those with an interest in the writings of black women authors today.



**About the author: Deiana Denise Sutherland** was born and raised in **St Vincent and the Grenadines** and lives in **Oxford, England**. She has been writing stories and poetry since she was a child. *The Foot of the Volcano* (which she has dedicated to her three children) is her first novel.

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

**Feature suggestions & interview topics:**

- Teenage pregnancy • Is it possible to be in love with two men at the same time?
- How do women react when they discover that their boyfriend is gay?
- The anguish parents suffer if a child goes missing • The impact of sudden bereavement
- Emigrating: leaving family and friends behind • Is it really possible to forgive infidelity?



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