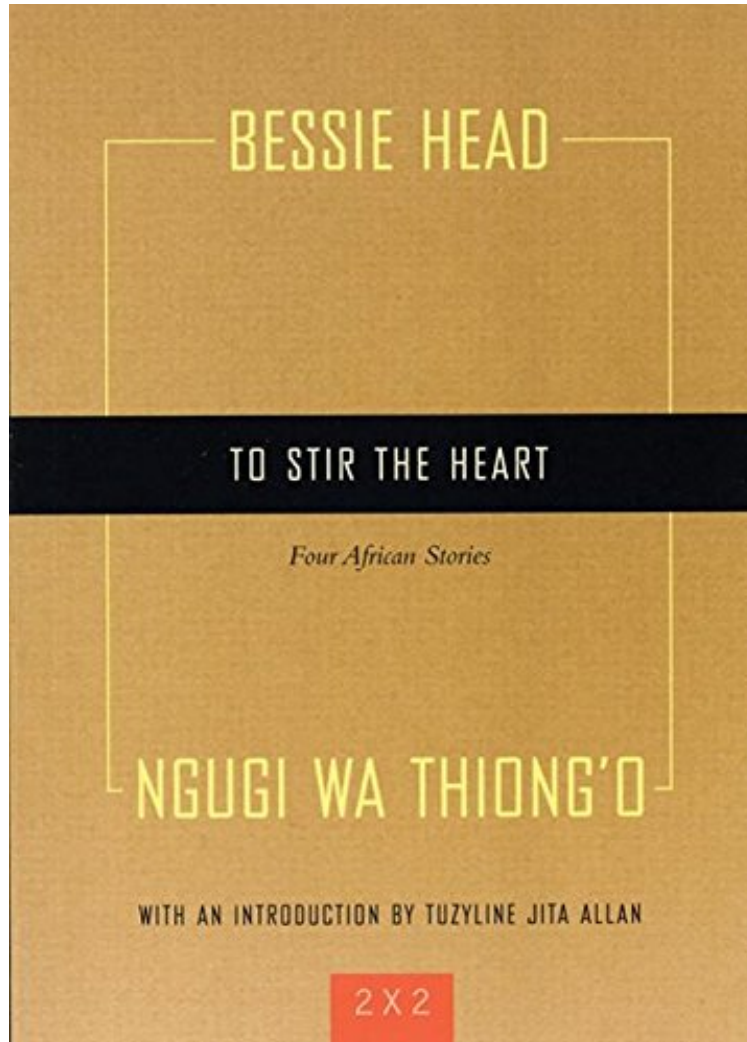


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## To Stir the Heart: Four African Stories (Two By Two)

*Bessie Head, Ngugi wa Thiong'o*  
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**Bessie Head, Ngugi wa Thiong'o : To Stir the Heart: Four African Stories (Two By Two)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised To Stir the Heart: Four African Stories (Two By Two):

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following review helpful. African Stories. By Peter Mwangi. I love the book. Prof. Ngugi wa Thiong'o is from my tribe and I have followed all his writings since I was young. I like his well African rich culture essays, that do champion our heritage.

These powerful stories by two of Africa's most renowned twentieth-century authors explore African cultures at the intersection of tradition and modernity, colonialism, and independence. Botswana's preeminent writer Bessie Head and Ngugi wa Thiong'o, the most significant East African writer (the New York Times), each use the politics and history of Africa in the midst of change as background for compelling stories of characters who, like their countries, are in search of their identity. In different ways, Head and Ngugi also chart the uneasy coexistence of men and women when their individual natures and desires conflict with societal expectations and customs.

About the Author Bessie Head (1937-1986) is considered Botswana's most important writer. She was born in South Africa but immigrated to Botswana. She is best known for her short story collection *The Collector of Treasures and Other Botswana Village Tales*, and her novels *A Question of Power*, *Maru*, and *When Rain Clouds Gather*. Ngugi wa Thiong'o (1938-) is a major Kenyan writer now living in the United States. He has taught at Yale and New York University. He is a Distinguished Professor of English and Comparative Literature as well as the Director of the International Center for Writing and Translation at the University of California, Irvine.