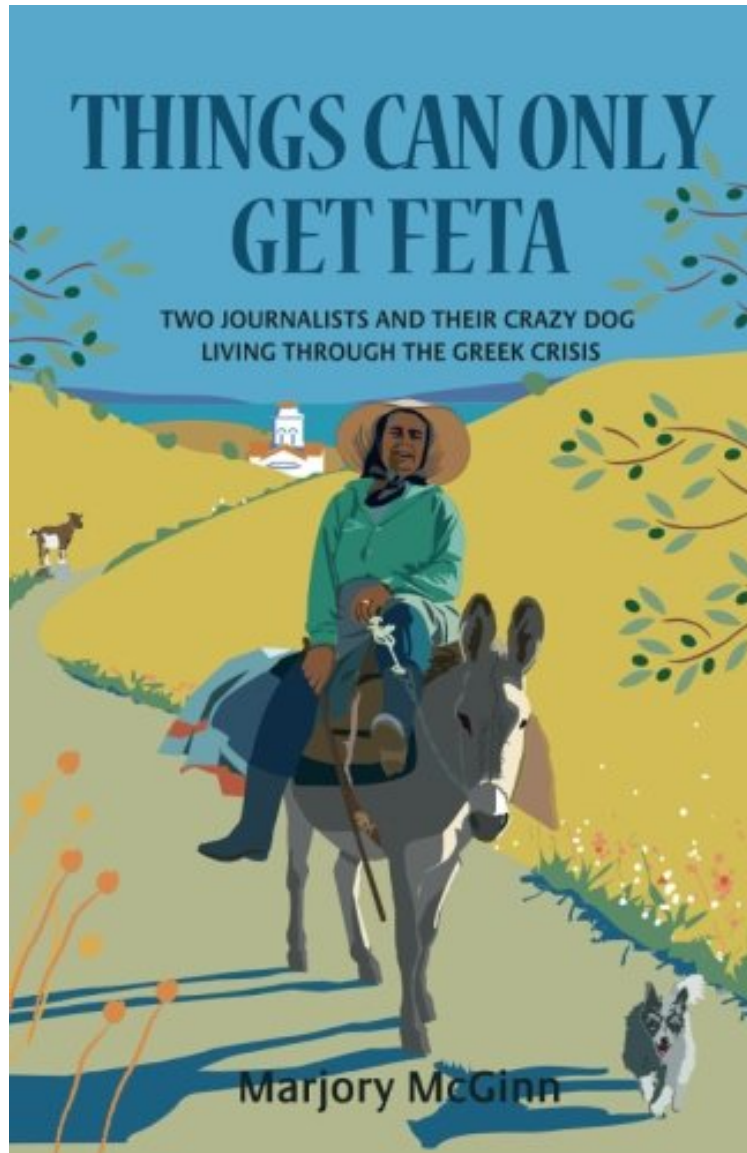


Things Can Only Get Feta: Two journalists and their crazy dog living through the Greek crisis

Marjory McGinn

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Marjory McGinn : Things Can Only Get Feta: Two journalists and their crazy dog living through the Greek crisis before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Things Can Only Get Feta: Two journalists and their crazy dog living through the Greek crisis:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Things can only get FetaBy JBIf you have not been to Greece, here

is a book which will describe for you exactly what a Greek village and its occupants are like. The countryside is described well, and the couple who settle in the village for a year tell us about their successes with the Greeks and the hilarious misunderstandings which arise due to the vagaries of the Greek language as attempted by two xenoi (foreigners). The author describes their adventures with their small dog Wallace in rural Greece where dogs are kept on chains outside in all weathers, their dog amazes and confuses the villagers but they gradually accept both the foreigners and their dog. The worsening economic situation in Greece is also described firsthand by this journalist author, throwing light on the world news bulletins which call Greece a 'basket case' - quotes from classic Greek authors put it all into perspective.² of 2 people found the following review helpful. Humor and insights while living in a Greek village
By Terra Hangen
For a visit to a small Greek village not far from Kalamata and for plenty of laughs along the way, I recommend *Things Can Only Get Feta*. A husband and wife move from Scotland to Greece for a year and a star of the tale is their wild and wacky Jack Russell terrier, Wallace. He does his dreaded screamy barking at the drop of a hat. Yet when the author was sad he hid a heart shaped dog biscuit in her boot for her to find, which cheered her up. The author laughs at herself when she shares her misadventures with the Greek language, which make a Greek friend, Angelika, laugh until tears roll down her face. Tripping over similar Greek words McGinn says Wallace is a good cucumber and Angelika has lovely golden worms, meaning earrings. They meet Foteini, who lives a traditional life style, when she is riding her donkey and they become dear friends. Thanks to the author for sharing the year she and her husband spent in Greece, and I look forward to her second book.³ of 3 people found the following review helpful. In addition to the fun story, the author also has some very enjoyable lines of imagery
By L. Katsiotas
This book is very enjoyable, especially if you've spent time in Greece and if you understand the quirky nature of Jack Russell Terriers. The author, Marjory McGinn, writes about time spent living in a village in Peloponnese on the southern mainland. There are so many comical moments as she interacts with the locals. That Greek spirit which is so endearing when one is on vacation just hanging around and enjoying the anesthetic atmosphere of Greece, quickly becomes laughingly exasperating when the author has to deal with such problems as thoughtlessly placed village garbage-dumpsters (Rubbish bins), or the snail-like progress of roadwork or the ordeal of re-registering one's car. The car issue is especially comical as the author seems to have very few models among the Greek citizens from which she can take an example of the correct way to legally register a car and as she embarks on that adventure, she concludes that it is a process only a masochist with deep pockets would want to pursue. She pulls the readers further into these contradictory feelings that waft between her euphoric love of Greece and her steaming frustration as were taken from one adventure to another. Each new circumstance might be so mundane in another setting but when dealing with it the Greek-way, it most certainly means a few chuckles for the reader. The overall theme is reiterated throughout the story with one variation or another of: this is Greece, what do you expect?
In addition to the story, the author also has some very enjoyable lines of imagery such as: . . . the elderly members looking demure and well pressed, like old roses kept for eternity in a heavy book. Nice, right? Or as she voices her loud objection to being badgered to reveal the amount of rent she pays, I said [it] in a loud shrill voice, like a buttoned-up librarian being groped unexpectedly in the back of the reference section.
I really enjoyed this book and I recommend it whole-heartedly, though I might be a bit Greek-biased.

Book 1 of the Peloponnese series Amazon bestseller in Greek Travel categories, Essays and Travelogues and Travel Writing. After an Arctic winter, a British recession, and a downturn in the newspaper industry, two journalists and their dog embark on an adventure in the wild and beautiful southern Peloponnese. A perfect plan, except for one thing - Greece is deep in economic crisis. And if fiscal failure can't overturn the couple's escapade in rural Greece, perhaps macabre local customs, a scorpion invasion, zero dog-tolerance, and eccentric expats will. This is a humorous and insightful journey through one of the last unspoiled regions of Greece. It is full of encounters with warm-hearted Greeks who show that this troubled country still has heroes, if not euros. In a hillside village in the Mani, the locals share their lives, their laughter and their stories and help chart the couple's own passage back to happiness.

"Honestly, you won't be able to put this book down." Maria Karamitsos, *The Greek Star* newspaper, Chicago. "An honest view of life in Greece today, as seen through the refreshingly unblinking eyes of a very gifted author. An engaging, humour-spiced book that entertains and informs." Peter Kerr, bestselling author of *Snowball Oranges*. "Marjory tells a good story with a journalist's eye for mood and detail... With luck she will write a second volume as entertaining, good-hearted and moving as this." Alex Martin, *Anglo-Hellenic*, London. "A book to relax into, a wonderful record of Greece's uniqueness, written with wonderment, admiration and wit, all in equal measure." Anne Zouroudi, award-winning author of the Greek Detective series of novels. "I fell in love with this book. With her good nature, insight and sense of pathos, the author perfectly portrays my country and compatriots, especially those in the villages." Margarita Nikolopoulou, Athenian poet "The best book of its kind I've ever read. It has it all: humour, interesting facts and a good measure of sentiment... Marjory is a truly talented author." Effrosyni Moschoudi, author of *The Lady of the Pier* trilogy "Marjory is a talented storyteller. Many descriptions and events made me laugh out loud, a feat until now only achieved for me by Douglas Adams and PG Wodehouse." Dawn, reviewer
About the Author
Marjory McGinn is a Scottish-born journalist who was brought up in Australia where she later became a

journalist, working as a feature writer on Sydney newspapers before returning to Scotland. Her stories have appeared in the Sydney Morning Herald, The Sun-Herald in the UK in The Daily Mail, The Times and The Herald. In 2010 she set off for an adventure to southern Greece with her partner and crazy Jack Russell terrier. The first year of her adventure is charted in *Things Can Only Get Feta*. The next three years in Greece became the subject of her sequels, *Homer's Where the Heart Is* and *A Scorpion In The Lemon Tree*. Marjory also writes a blog with a Greek theme on her website bigfatgreekodyssey.com. She has a books page on Facebook [facebook.com/ThingsCanOnlyGetFeta](https://www.facebook.com/ThingsCanOnlyGetFeta). Follow her on Twitter twitter.com/fatgreekodyssey