

Joyce Slayton Mitchell & Elizabeth Dix Mitchell

*Meet the Mitchells: Joyce, a New Englander with time-honored ideas about family, work, and childbearing. And Elizabeth, a young woman who makes unconventional choices about where to live, ways to support herself, and how to give birth. A mother and daughter, half a world apart, who stay connected by writing letters—intimate, honest, loving letters.*

*Through their letters, you will enter the worlds of two fascinating women. Visit Elizabeth's home in an idyllic corner of New Zealand. Join Joyce's whirlwind life in New York City and Vermont. Share their joy, their excitement—and their anxious moments—as they await the birth of Elizabeth's first child, Joyce's first grandchild.*

*From Elizabeth's announcement, "I have a new love," to the tense hours leading up to her baby's birth, these letters will captivate you.*

## **A SPECIAL DELIVERY MOTHER-DAUGHTER LETTERS FROM AFAR**

by Joyce Slayton Mitchell  
and Elizabeth Dix Mitchell

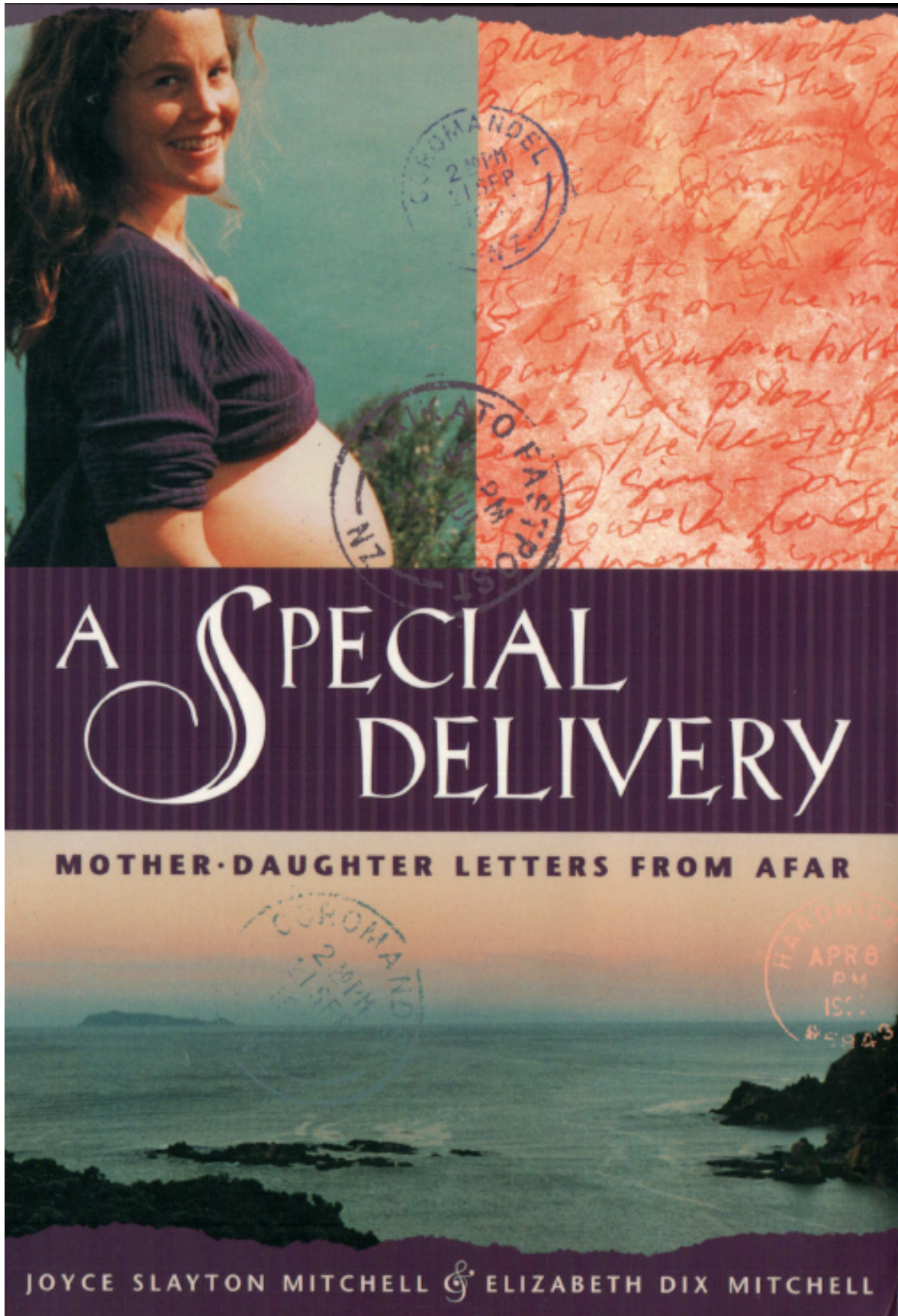
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A Special Delivery: Mother-Daughter Letters From Afar



Joyce Slayton Mitchell & Elizabeth Dix Mitchell

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MOTHER-DAUGHTER LETTERS  
FROM AFAR**

by Joyce Slayton Mitchell

and Elizabeth Dix Mitchell

A Special Delivery: Mother-Daughter Letters From Afar

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Joyce Slayton Mitchell & Elizabeth Dix Mitchell

A SPECIAL DELIVERY:

Mother-Daughter Letters From Afar

Is Dedicated To

ZENA MARAMA NGAKURA MITCHELL TEI

First daughter

First granddaughter

About whom these letters were written

With love, hope and courage

## CONTENTS

INTRODUCTIONS .....	1
JOYCE SLAYTON MITCHELL An Introduction by Her Daughter.....	2
ELIZABETH DIX MITCHELL An Introduction by Her Mother.....	4
LETTERS.....	6
BIRTH.....	96
AFTERWORDS.....	104
AFTERWORD by Elizabeth.....	105
AFTERWORD by Joyce.....	107
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS .....	109
ABOUT THE AUTHORS.....	110

JULY 12

*Kia Ora my dearest beautiful Mama!*

I am writing from my friends' piece of land -- 300 acres at the top of the Coromandel Peninsula. They went down to Christchurch for a week -- so we have been taking care of their dogs, cat, and chickens, and riding their horses. It's been wonderful! Their land is so beautiful!

I had the most beautiful dream the other night -- it was Christmas time and we -- Ned, you, Dad, Grandma and Grandpa -- were all in Vermont, lots of snow and Christmas lights everywhere. We were riding in a horse-drawn sleigh, singing songs, and having so much fun! It left me with such a warm happy feeling, but made me homesick for my family a little. I miss you so much, my Mama!

I wish I could share this New Zealand life with you! I would stay here forever, except for the fact that I could never stay away from you that long!! I really want to buy land here and have been looking at lots of places up here on the Coromandel. Do you think you'd ever come here and live with me if I had a nice house for you to live in? If not, I seriously would consider living in Vermont part of the year with you.

Have they been giving the Greenpeace ship down here much media coverage? The French are really over the top! It's a huge issue here and with very good reason! Nuclear testing in the South Pacific is a very horrible thing and the French are just hell-bent on it even though most of the whole world is against what they're doing.

Joyce Slayton Mitchell & Elizabeth Dix Mitchell

Thinking of you near my birthday with heaps of love! Thanks for giving birth to me and raising me and feeding me from your body and nourishing me with your soul. I am forever thankful and grateful to have such a special, amazing, strong, giving, beautiful Mama. You definitely have taught me so much and have always been such a patient and generous mom. I only hope I can do the same for my kids.

You did such a good job raising me. When I look back on it, I know I was not always that nice -- but I can see that you were so kind and patient with me, even when I was a jerk. You let me go through whatever it was I needed to go through because you could see past it all -- as I now can -- but when I was a teenager I couldn't see past anything. Thanks.

I love you. Elizabeth *Aroha*.



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