

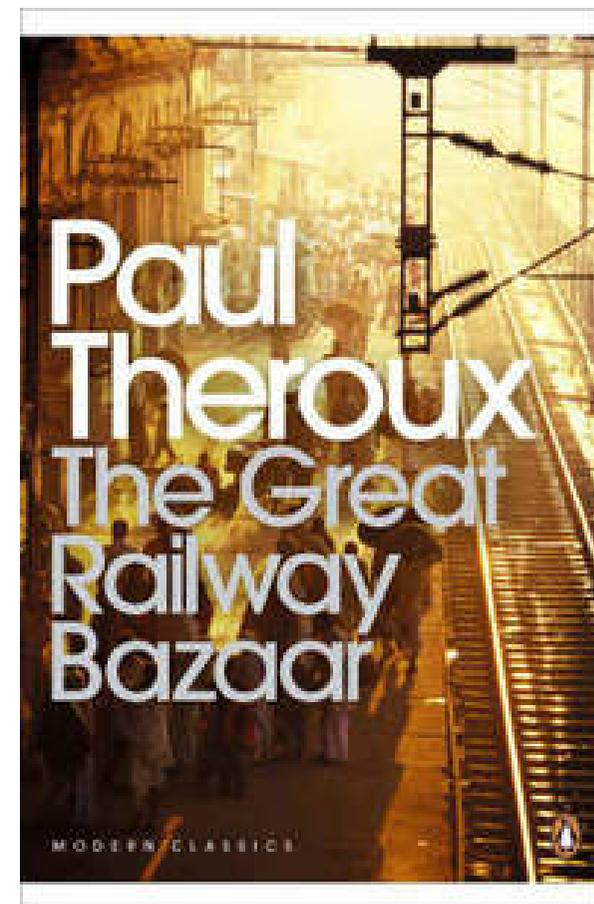


Ocolul pământului în 60 de cărți

Ghidul de lectură al pasionaților de călătorii

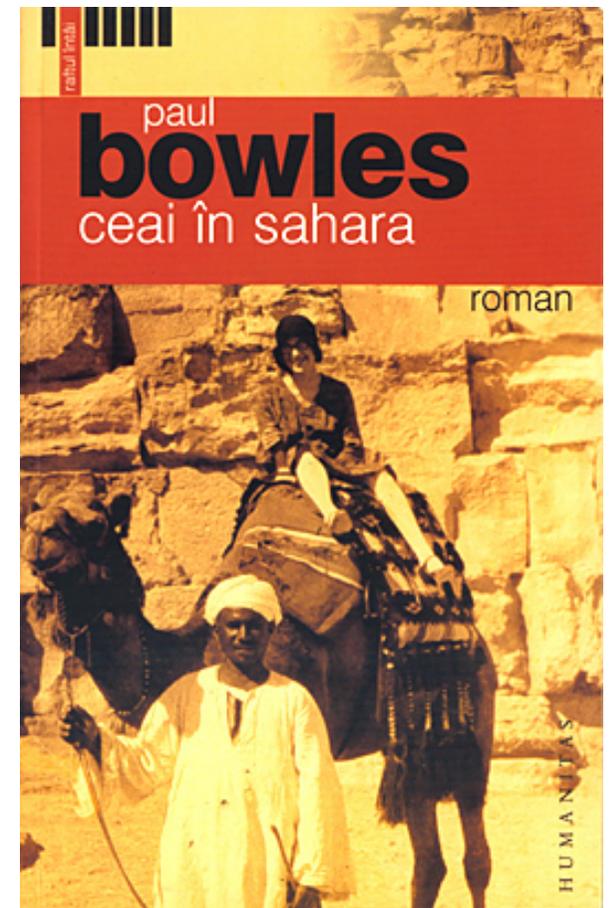
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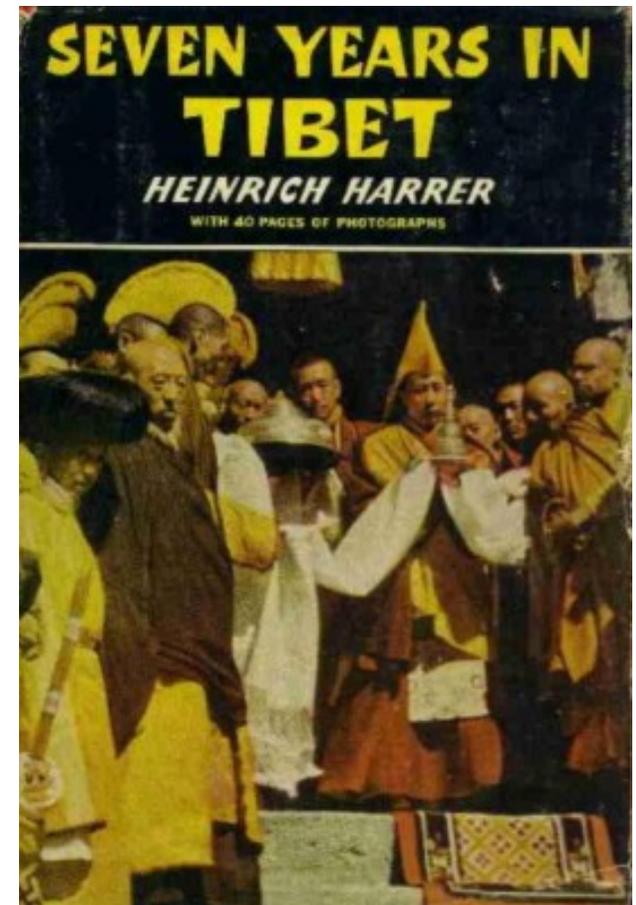
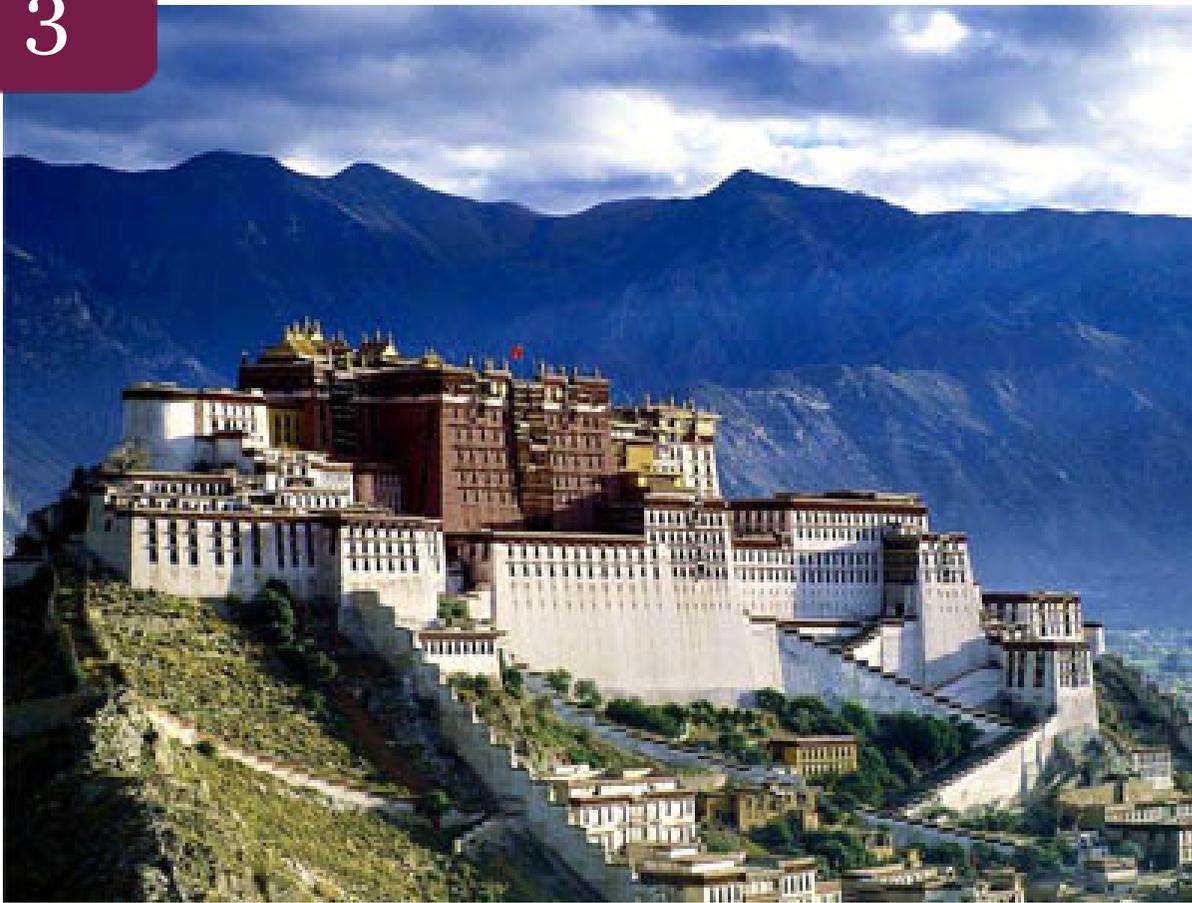
The Great Railway Bazaar: By Train Through Asia de Paul Theroux

The Great Railway Bazaar is Paul Theroux's account of his epic journey by rail through Asia. Filled with evocative names of legendary train routes - the Direct-Orient Express, the Khyber Pass Local, the Delhi Mail from Jaipur, the Golden Arrow to Kuala Lumpur, the Hikari Super Express to Kyoto and the Trans-Siberian Express - it describes the many places, cultures, sights and sounds he experienced and the fascinating people he met. Here he overhears snippets of chat and occasional monologues, and is drawn into conversation with fellow passengers, from Molesworth, a British theatrical agent, and Sadik, a shabby Turkish tycoon, while avoiding the forceful approaches of pimps and drug dealers. This wonderfully entertaining travelogue pays loving tribute to the romantic joys of railways and train travel.



Ceai in Sahara de Paul Bowles

Muzica desertului. Africa neagra. Trei calatori fara ghid, fara harti, fara itinerar. Trei occidentali care vor sa calatoreasca pana nu-si vor mai recunoaste chipul. Dar uita ca, în orice calatorie, te iei cu tine si pe tine însuti. Tabuurile cad unul dupa altul, pana cand sunt puse în pericol ultimele fantezii ale eului. Orasul labirintic si claustrofobic, cerul care nu te lasa sa vezi dincolo, calatorie intr-un no man's land, in care insa nu orice e posibil. Tinta calatoriei: locul din care nu te mai poti intoarce. O carte despre fictiunile pe care ne cladim viata si care ne hotarasc moartea.

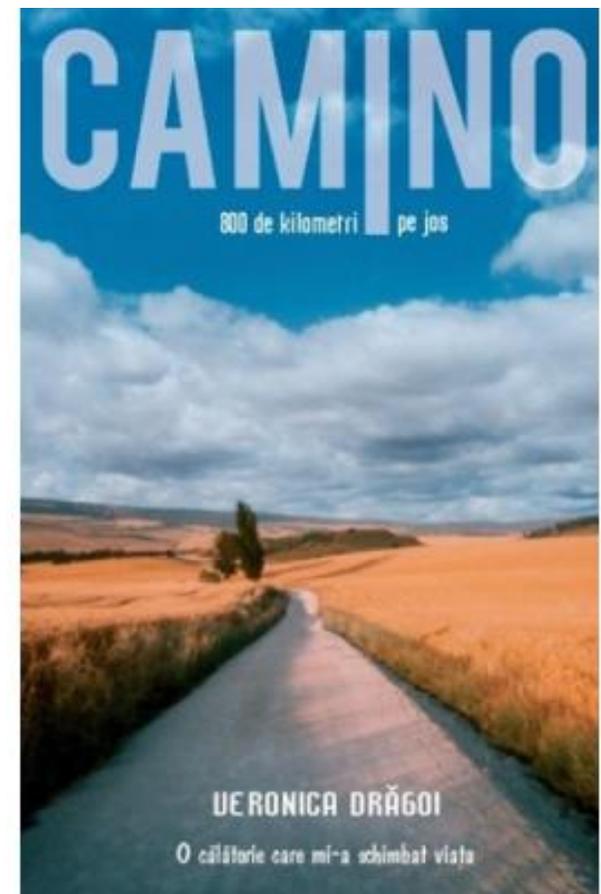


Seven years in Tibet de Hienrich Harrer

Seven Years in Tibet is an autobiographical travel book written by Austrian mountaineer Heinrich Harrer based on his real life experiences in Tibet between 1944 and 1951 during the Second World War and the interim period before the Communist Chinese People's Liberation Army invaded Tibet in 1950.

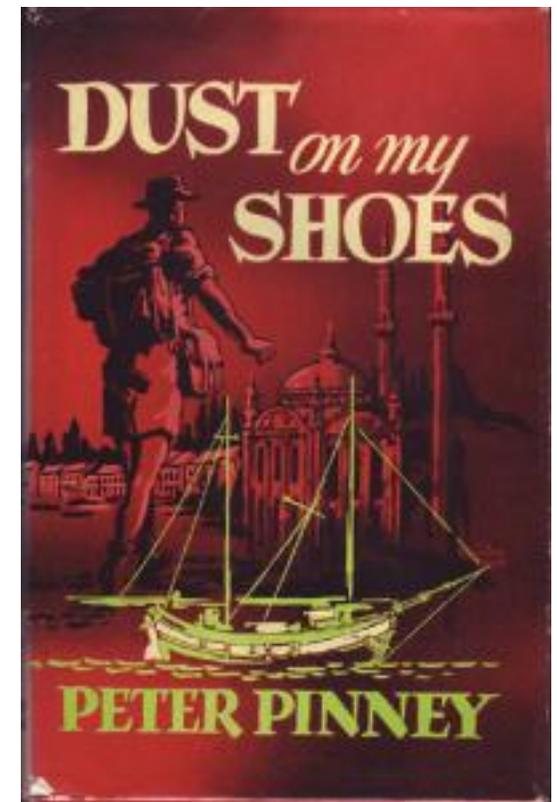
The book covers the escape of Harrer, and his companion Peter Aufschnaiter, from a British internment camp in India. Harrer and Aufschnaiter then travelled across Tibet to Lhasa, the capital. Here they spent several years, and Harrer describes the contemporary Tibetan culture in detail. Harrer subsequently became a tutor and friend of the 14th Dalai Lama.

The Santiago de Compostela Camino



Camino de Veronica Dragoi

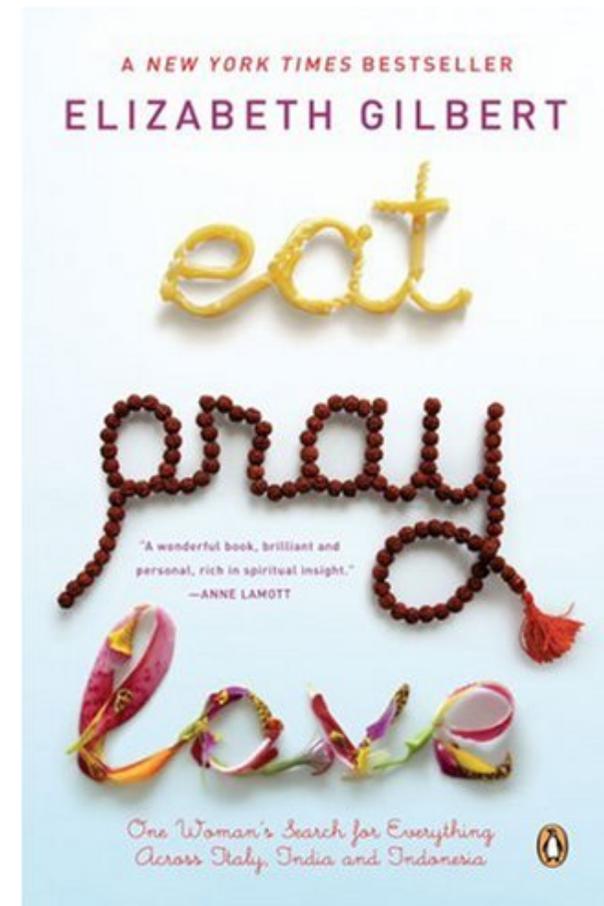
Pelerinajul spre Santiago de Compostela din Spania este un traseu de aproape 800 kilometri pe care cei mai multi aleg sa ii parcurga pe jos, un drum presarat cu traiuri unice si intamplari magice. "Am vazut in spatele drumului promisiunea de a petrece o luna intrega in afara griilor si responsabilitatilor obisnuite, pentru a ma descoperi asa cum sunt cand nimic nu-mi limiteaza optiunile. [...] Au fost 25 de zile de mers pe jos, fara un antrenament in prealabil, inasa dorinta de a ajunge la capat m-a ajutat sa inving lipsa conditiei fizice", .



Dust on my shoes de Peter Pinney

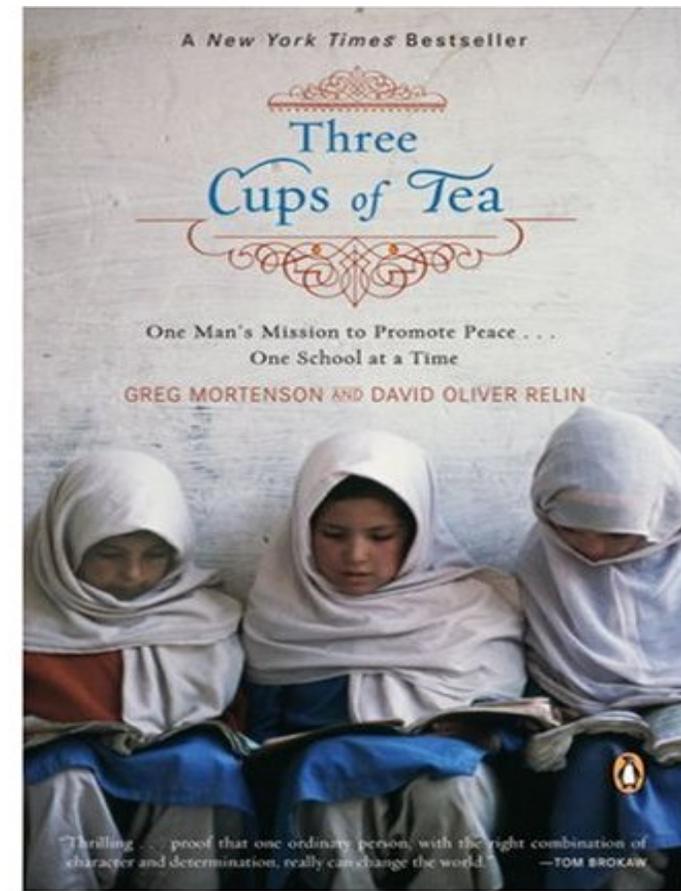
Before waves of backpackers, hippy types in vans, and throngs of adventuring ecotourists the intrepid Aussie made his way to places as far flung as the Arctic and Burma in a world coming to grips with the vast destruction of the second World War. *Dust on my Shoes* is the telling of his first great overland journey – moving from Greece at war east towards India and beyond, with little money, no visas and no luggage.

“Why Turkey?” someone asks him. “... Because I have not been there before.” “Then you must be a rich man. It is expensive, traveling.” “No, I am not rich. Sometimes I have money, and sometimes not. One becomes lean sometimes, and then fat. One becomes hungry sometimes, but never starves.”



Mananca, roaga-te, iubeste de Elizabeth Gilbert

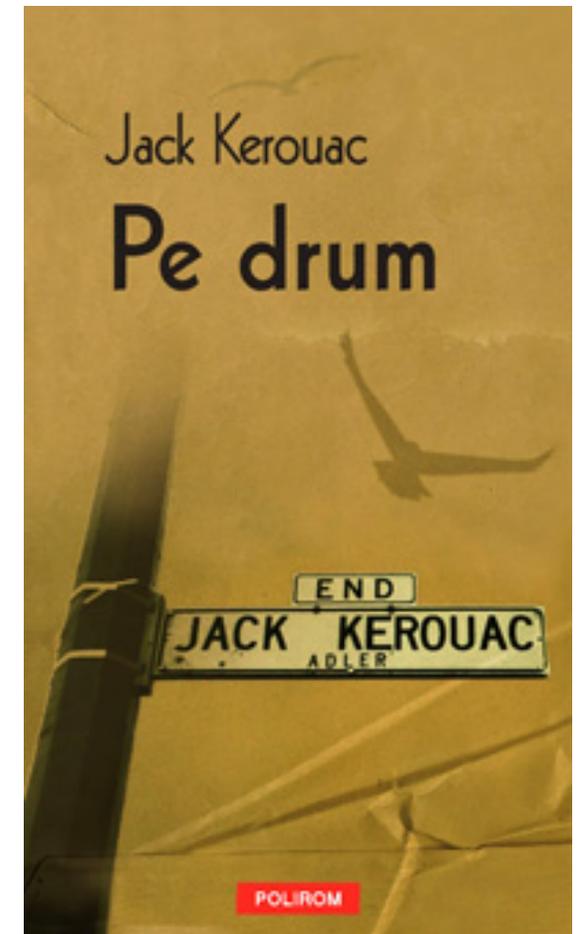
La 30 de ani, Elizabeth Gilbert are tot ce-si poate dori o femeie ambitioasa. Si totusi e asaltata de indoieli, sufera de panica si insatisfactii. Urmeaza divortul, prabusirea in depresie, o relatie catastrofala... Asa ca Liz abandoneaza totul si pleaca in lume de una singura. In Italia, gusta *la dolce vita* si deliciile ei culinare, punand pe ea "cele mai fericite 12 kilograme din toata viata". In India, afla intr-un ashram, prin asceza (trezire la 4 dimineata, meditatie si frecat de podele), ce este cautarea spirituala. In Indonezia, incearca sa-si reconcilieze trupul cu sufletul, sa descopere echilibrul care se cheama fericire - si isi gaseste marea dragoste. Uneori, fericirea se afla la capatul lumii. Calatoresti ca sa ajungi la tine insati. Ca sa te descoperi.



Three cups of tea de Greg Mortenson si David Oliver Relin

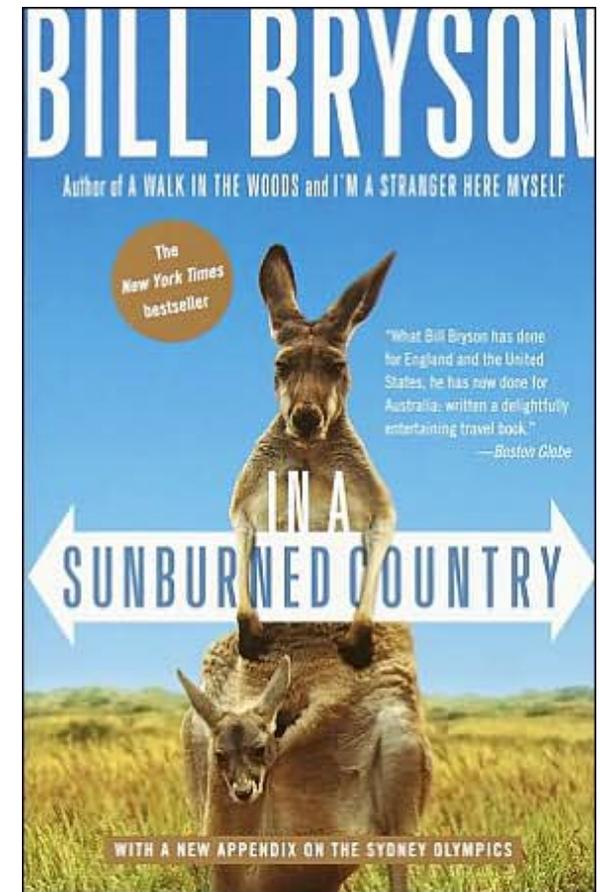
The book describes Mortenson's transition from a mountain-climber to a humanitarian committed to reducing poverty and educating girls in Pakistan and Afghanistan. He did this by co-founding the Central Asia Institute, which has built over 131 schools in the most remote areas of the countries, educating over 58,000 students.

The book's title comes from a Balti proverb: "The first time you share tea with a Balti, you are a stranger. The second time you take tea, you are an honored guest. The third time you share a cup of tea, you become family.."



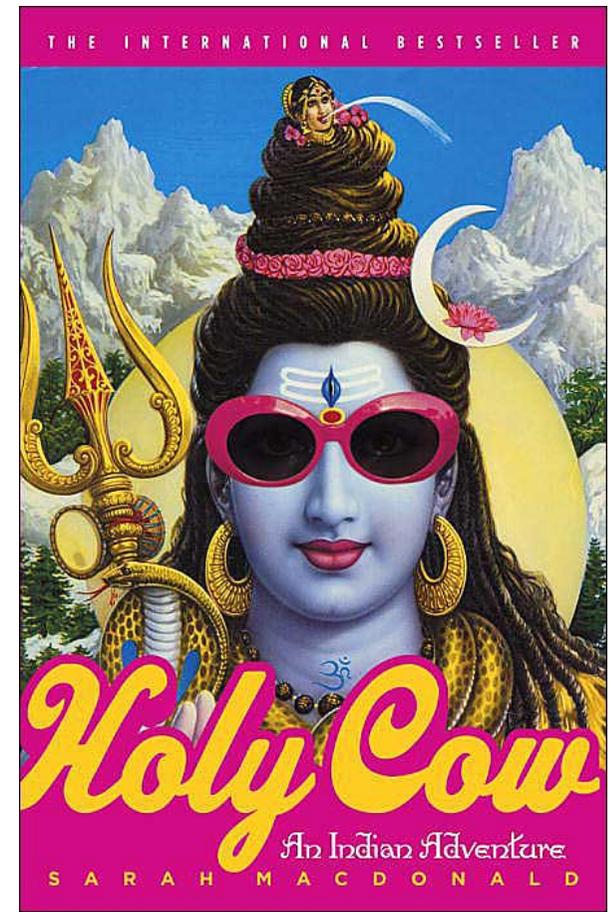
Pe drum de Jack Kerouac

Cartea e un fel de „Huckleberry Finn” al secolului XX, in care soseaua ia locul fluviului, masina mai rapida pe cel al plutei mai lente, un alb nonconformist pe cel al sclavului negru, dar esenta ramine aceeaasi: goana dupa libertatea individuala. Kerouac si cartea lui definesc generatia beat, generatia tinerilor care, trecuti prin experienta razboiului si dezamagiti de societatea postbelica, au pornit sa bata drumurile Americii in lung si in lat, pentru a cunoaste si intelege lumea in care traiau.



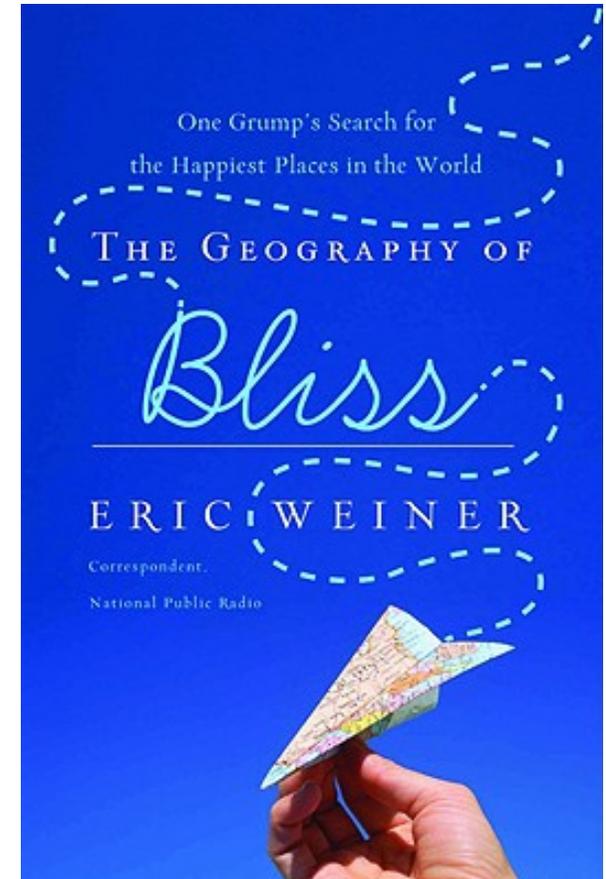
In a sunburned country de Bill Bryson

O carte informativa si amuzanta despre Australia, locul cel mai periculos de pe pamant, potrivit autorului: rechini, crocodili, caracatite, arsita desertului, 10 dintre cei mai veninosi serpi din lume. Autorul prezinta in acelasi timp frumusetea acestei tari data de superbele plaje si diversitatea speciilor (80% din plantele si animale australiene nu se mai gasesc nicaieri in lume).



Holy Cow de Sarah McDonald

After backpacking her way around India, 21-year-old Sarah Macdonald decided that she hated this land of chaos and contradiction with a passion, and when an airport beggar read her palm and insisted she would come back one day - and for love - she vowed never to return. But twelve years later the prophecy comes true when her partner, ABC's South Asia correspondent, is posted to New Delhi, the most polluted city on earth. Having given up a blossoming radio career in Sydney to follow her new boyfriend to India, it seems like the ultimate sacrifice and it almost kills Sarah - literally. After being cursed by a sadhu smeared in human ashes, she nearly dies from double pneumonia. It's enough to send a rapidly balding atheist on a wild rollercoaster ride through India's many religions in search of the meaning of life and death. From the 'brain enema' of a meditation retreat in Dharamsala to the biggest Hindu festival on earth on the steps of the Ganges in Varanasi, and with the help of the Dalai Lama, a goddess of healing hugs and a couple of Bollywood stars - among many, many others - Sarah discovers a hell of a lot more.

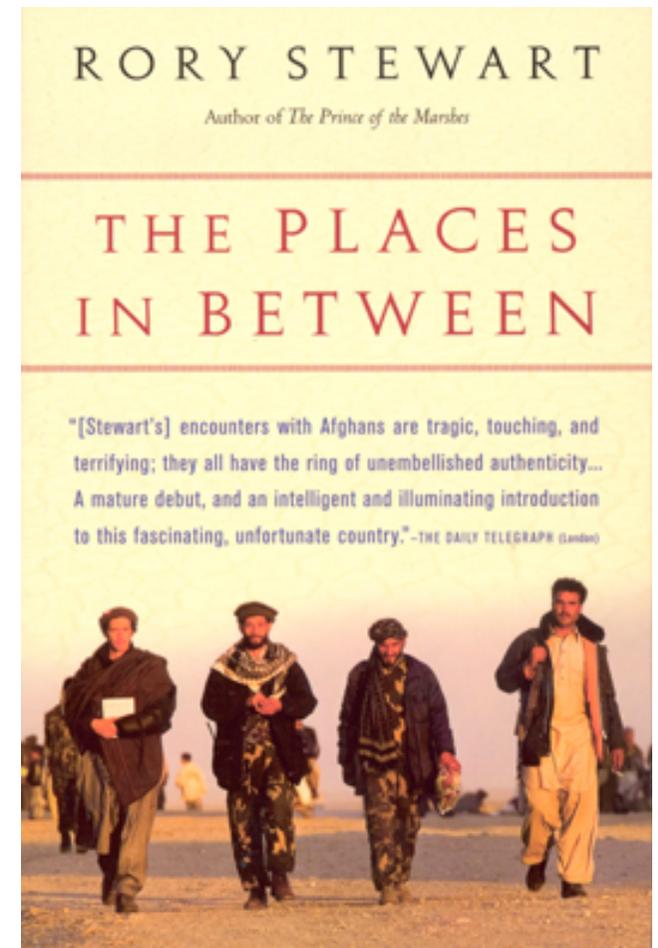


The Geography of Bliss: One Grump's Search for the Happiest Places in the World de Eric Weiner

Este sentimentul de fericire descris in acelasi fel in toate tarile? Ce face ca un popor sa fie mai

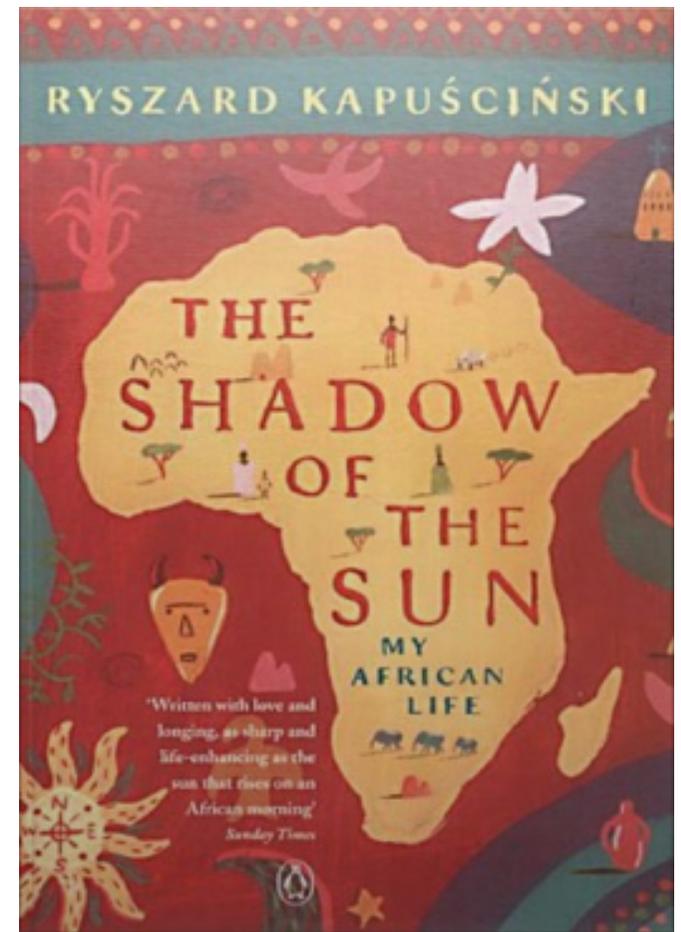
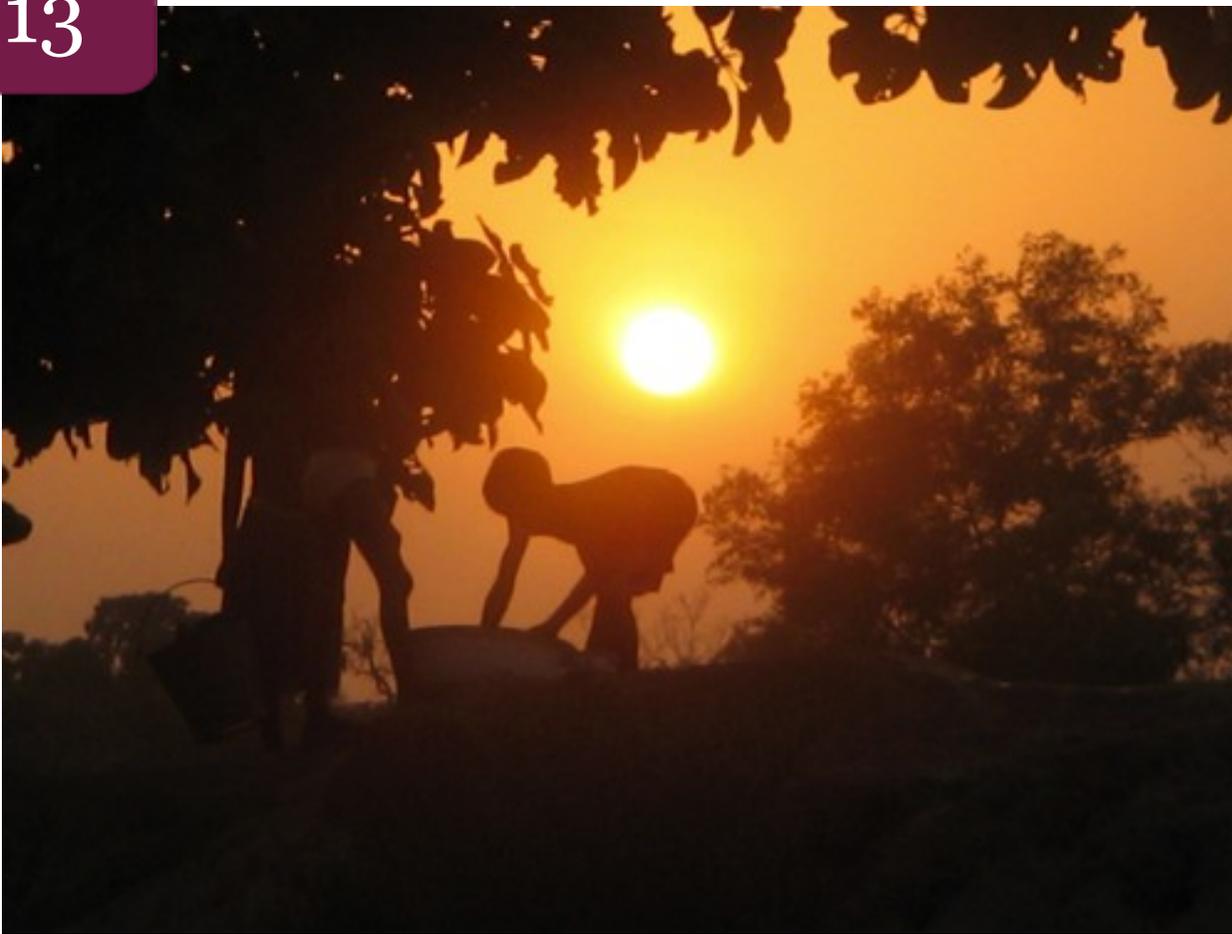
fericit decat un altul?

Din dorinta de a descoperi semnificatia fericirii, autorul calatoreste in jurul lumii traind cu localnicii si incercand sa afle in ce mod este influentata "fericirea nationala" de factori precum omogenitatea populatiei sau dezvoltarea economica.



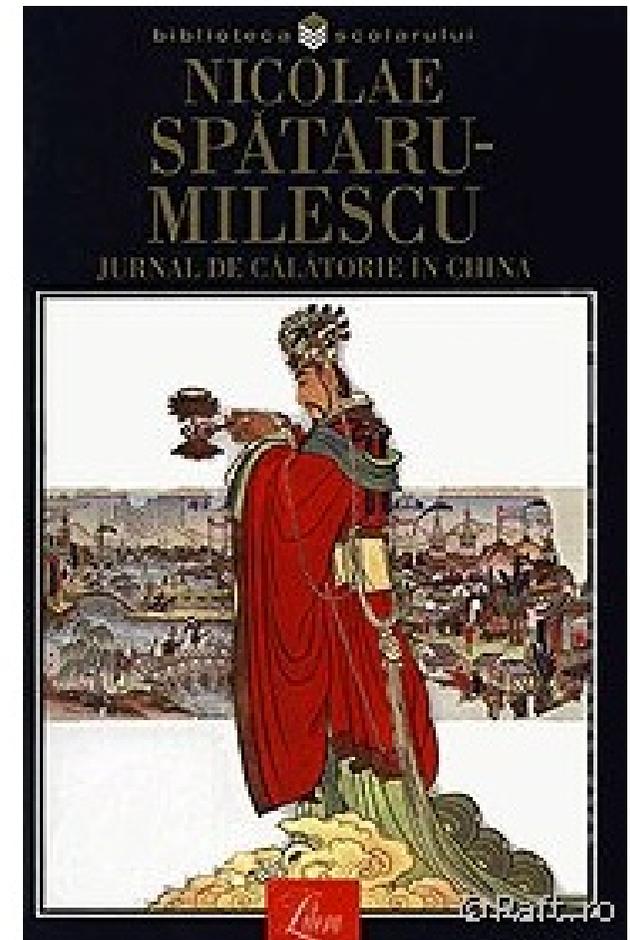
The places in between de Rory Stewart

Dupa atentatul din 11 septembrie 2001, Rory Stewart pleaca in ianuarie 2002 intr-o calatorie prin Afganistan, tara in razboi, invadata de SUA, prinsa intre popoare si ideologii adverse. Calatorind doar pe jos pe drumuri greu accesibile, ostile, de munte, Stewart supravietuieste datorita companiei, ajutorului neasteptat si a generozitatii oamenilor. O carte despre istoria si cultura afganilor, despre locuri uitate de lume si indepartate de civilizatie.



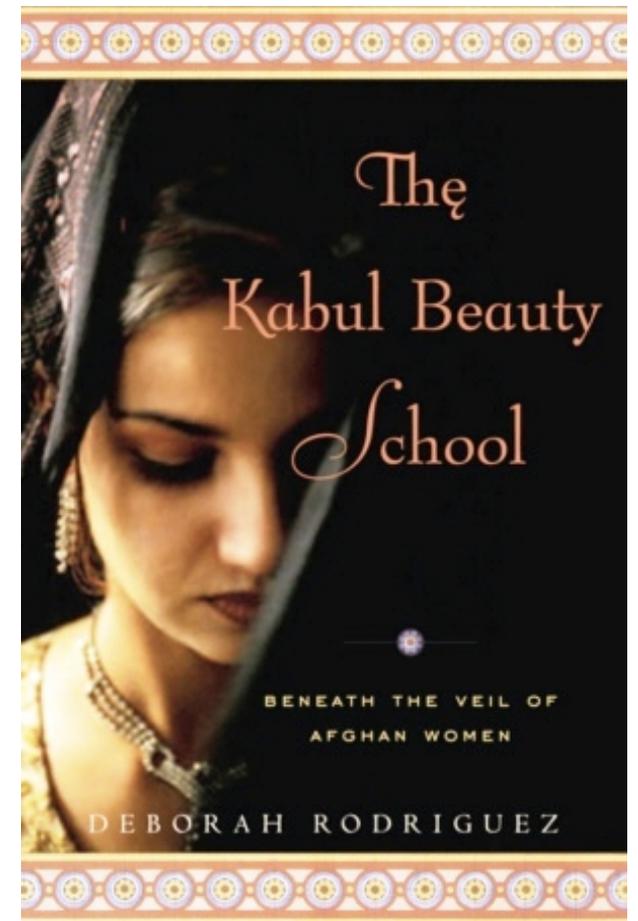
The shadow of the sun de Ryszard Kapuscinsk

Only with the greatest of simplifications, for the sake of convenience, can we say Africa. In reality, except as a geographical term, Africa doesn't exist . Ryszard Kapuscinski has been writing about the people of Africa throughout his career. In a study that avoids the official routes, palaces and big politics, he sets out to create an account of post-colonial Africa seen at once as a whole and as a location that wholly defies generalised explanations. It is both a sustained meditation on the mosaic of peoples and practices we call 'Africa', and an impassioned attempt to come to terms with humanity itself as it struggles to escape from foreign domination, from the intoxications of freedom, from war and from politics as theft.



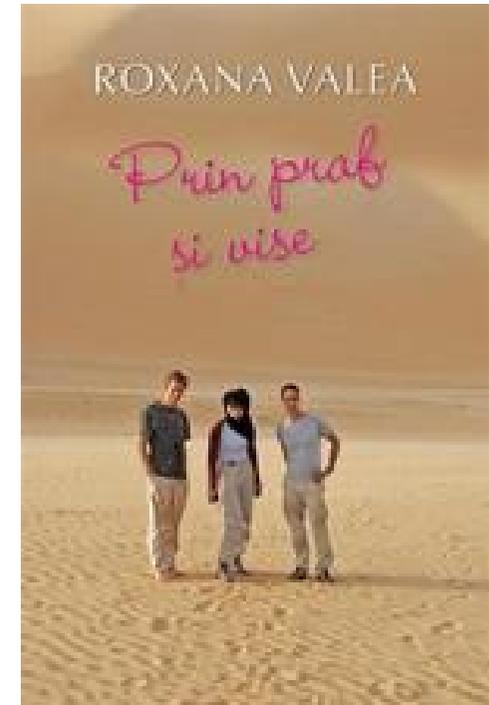
Jurnal de călătorie în China de Nicolae Spătaru -Milescu

Călătorind pe drumuri necunoscute, printre popoare și rase diferite, vâslind pe râuri pe care nu mai vâslise nici un european până la el, curiozitatea veșnic trează a acestui moldovean din secolul al XVII-lea se oprește asupra configurației solului, descrie în amănunt râurile pe care le străbate, notează aspectul particular al munților, face măsurători topografice. Dar pe Milescu nu-l interesează numai aspectul geografic al ținuturilor, ci și cel etnografic. Privirea lui iscoditoare caută să prindă și viața specific omenească, pe care o trăiesc populațiile așa de variate ca înfățișare, pe acele îndepărtate meleaguri: ocupația, armele, manifestările religioase, superstițiile.



The Kabul Beauty School de Deborah Rodriguez

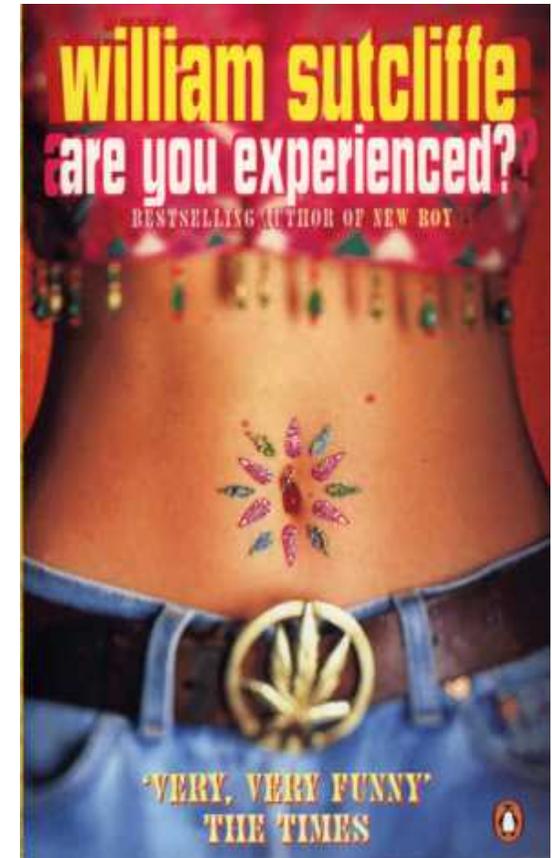
Just months after the Taliban had been driven out of Afghanistan, Deborah Rodriguez, a hairdresser from Holland, joined a small nongovernmental aid organization on a mission to the war-torn nation. That visit changed her life. In *Kabul*, she chronicles her efforts to help establish the country's first modern beauty school and training salon; along with music and kite-flying, hairdressing had been banned under the previous regime. This memoir offers a glimpse into a world Westerners seldom see—life behind the veil. Rodriguez was entranced with the delightful personalities that emerged when her students removed their burqas behind closed doors, but her book is also a tale of empowerment—both for her and the women. In a city with no mail service, she went door-to-door to recruit students from clandestine beauty shops, and there were constant efforts to shut her down.



Prin praf si vise de Roxana Valea

La un moment de rascruce in viata sa, Roxana hotaraste sa faca un safari de zece zile in Africa. Aici intalneste un ghid de safari care vorbeste despre „curajul de a deveni cine esti“ si care ii spune ca „lumea este a celor care viseaza“. Vacanta se termina, dar Roxana ramane cu vraja cuvintelor lui in suflet. Sase luni mai tarziu, renunta la cariera si porneste sa-si indeplineasca un vechi vis: sa strabata Africa de la nord la sud. Prin intermediul internetului ii cunoaste pe Richard si pe Peter, doi englezi excentrici, si impreuna pleaca intr-o calatorie ce le va arata o noua dimensiune a vietii.

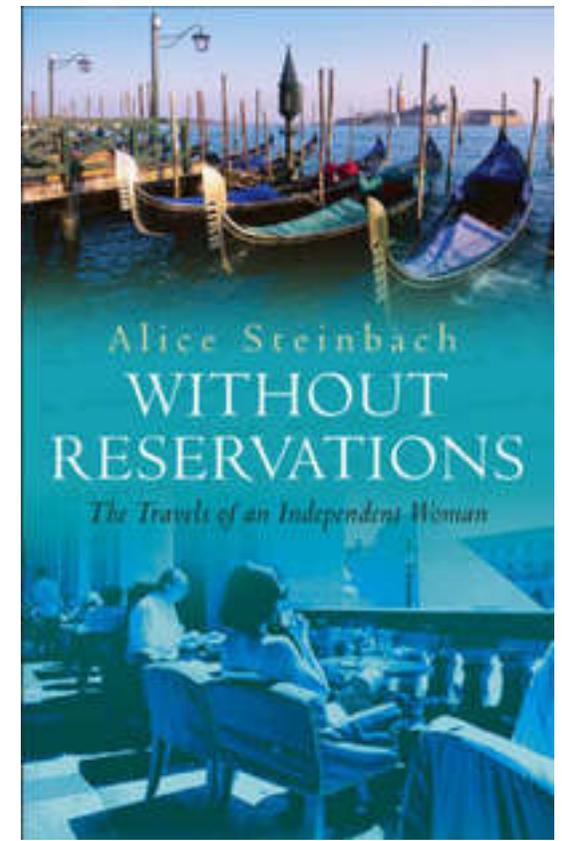
Prin praf si vise este povestea calatoriei lor, o poveste despre curaj si prietenie, despre indrazneala de a pune intrebari si de a cauta raspunsuri si despre descoperirea de sine in mijlocul unui drum lung si prafuit spre Sud.



Are you experienced? de William Sutcliffe

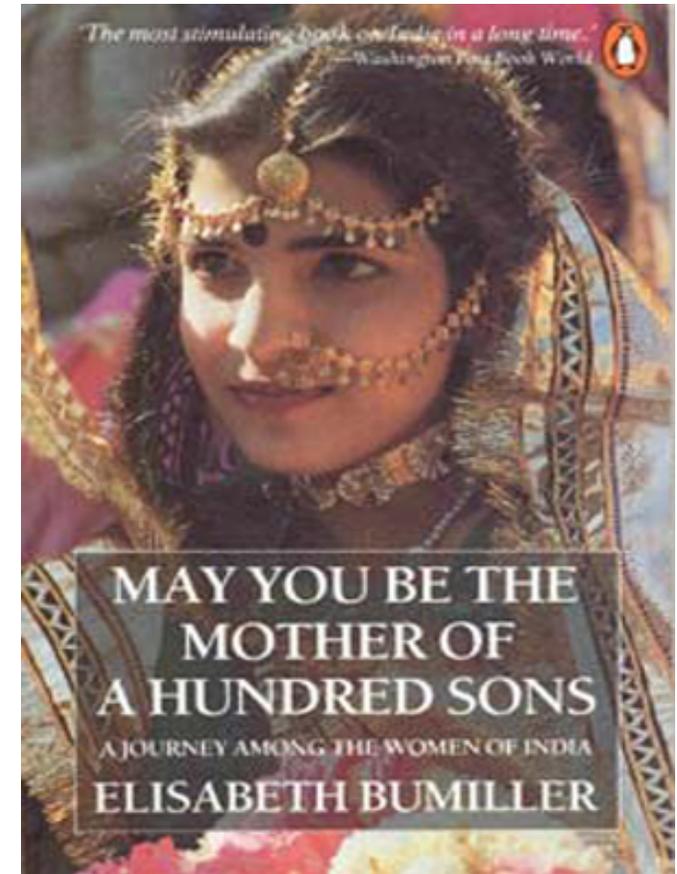
The "gap year" between school and university -- an increasingly common phenomenon in Britain -- seems today to be taking on the role of a rite of passage into adulthood. For an enterprising 18-year-old looking for something to spice up tomorrow's CV, what could be more attractive than the idea of three months in inexpensive, exotic, fascinating India?

Dave is immature and cynical, but also smart and funny. "I had heard the old cliché about how when you arrive in India, it's like stepping into an oven, but this hadn't prepared me for the fact that when you arrive in India, it is like stepping into an oven."



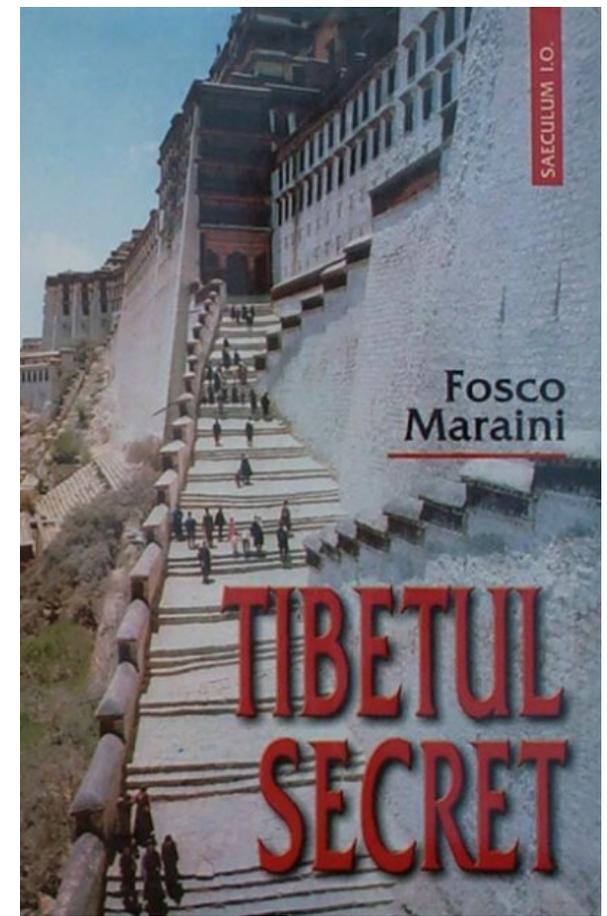
Without reservations de Alice Steinbach

American journalist Alice Steinbach took a year off to live in five cities - Paris, Venice, Milan, London and Oxford - when she realized she had entered a new phase of life. Her sons had graduated from college; she had been divorced for a long time; she was a successful journalist. While there was nothing really wrong with her life, she felt restless. Could she live independently of her family, her friends, her career? Her trip is peppered with accounts of the exotic strangers she meets, her reflections on life and the observational postcards she wrote to herself during her year away.



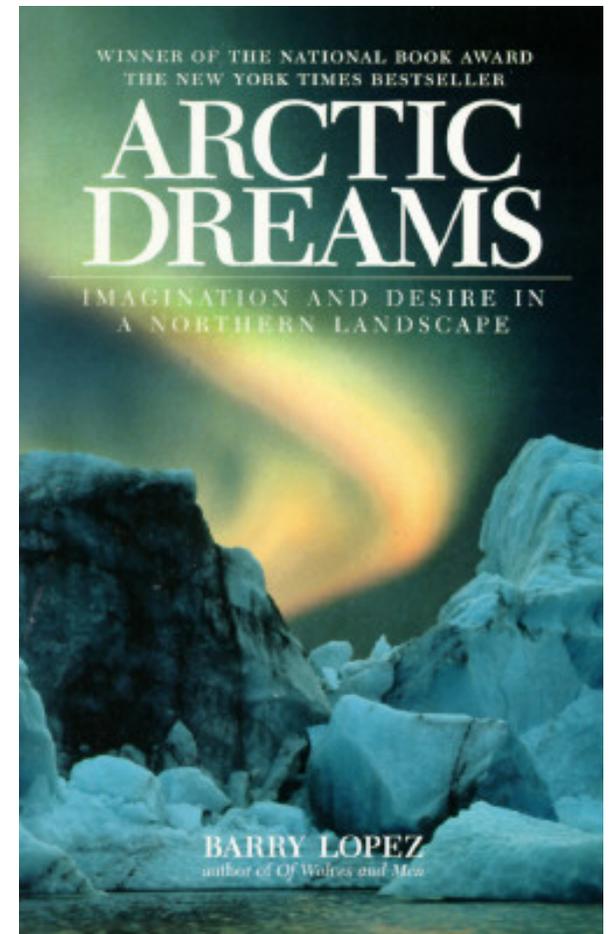
May you be the mother of a hundred sons de Elisabeth Bumiller

A reporter of The Washington Post, Elisabeth Bumiller came to India with her husband, a correspondent for The New York Times, and over three-and-a-half years, travelled to all parts of the country, examining the paradoxes, problems, triumphs and realities of the lives of India's women: villagers, movie-stars, intellectuals, policewomen. 'A women's role in Indian society, ' the author writes, ' is full of contradictions. While enormous numbers of them are illiterate, many hold important positions in politics and the arts. While most suffer discrimination and poverty, others are transforming India into a modern nation. 'Bumiller brings out these paradoxes in a clean, insightful style that makes the vast complexities of the lives of India's four hundred million women accessible and compelling.



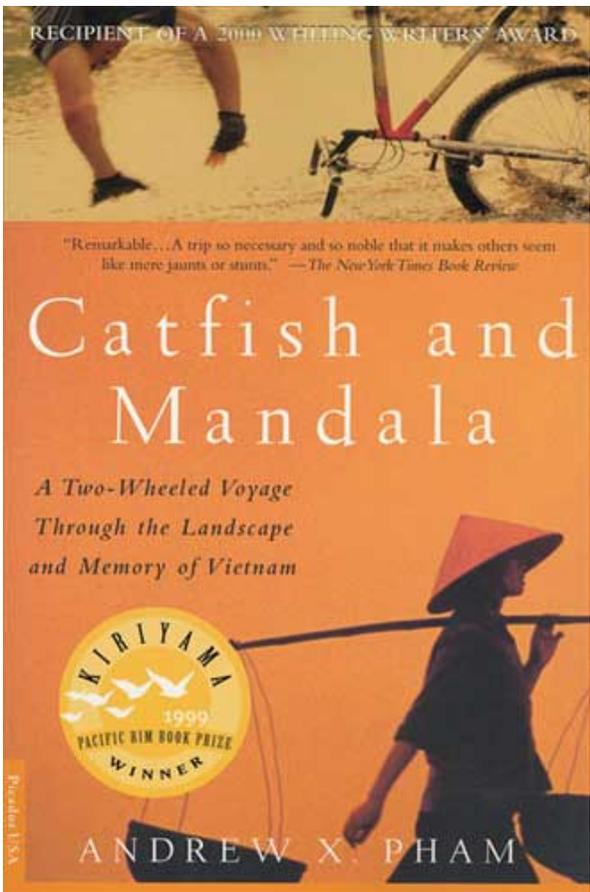
Tibetul Secret de Fosco Maraini

Spre deosebire de toți „exploratorii” anteriori ai Tibetului, care au căutat cu orice preț faptul ieșit din comun, Fosco Maraini (colaborator și fotograf al celebrului orientalist Giuseppe Tucci) se afundă în intimitatea umană tibetană, surprizând cu căldură și talent artistic aspecte încă nerelevate (multe din cele dispărute după cucerirea chineză) ale vieții tradiționale de pe „Podișul Lumii”. Misterul, fapt tainic, credințele și practicile prebudiste străvechi (de tip șamanic) apar, cu atât mai frapante, cu cât ne sunt dezvăluite în contextul vieții cotidene, care le dă coloratura obișnuitului.



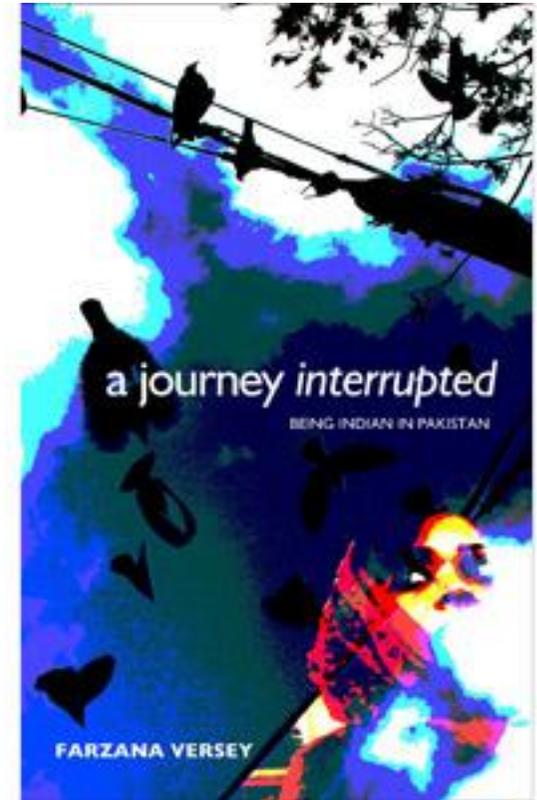
Arctic Dreams de Barry Lopez

Lopez offers a thorough examination of this obscure world-its terrain, its wildlife, its history of Eskimo natives and intrepid explorers who have arrived on their icy shores. But what turns this marvelous work of natural history into a breathtaking study of profound originality is his unique meditation on how the landscape can shape our imagination, desires, and dreams. Lopez became enthralled by the power of the Arctic, a power he observes derives from "the tension between its beauty and its capacity to take life." This is a story of light, darkness and ice; of animal migrations and Eskimos; of the specter of development and the cultural perception of a region.



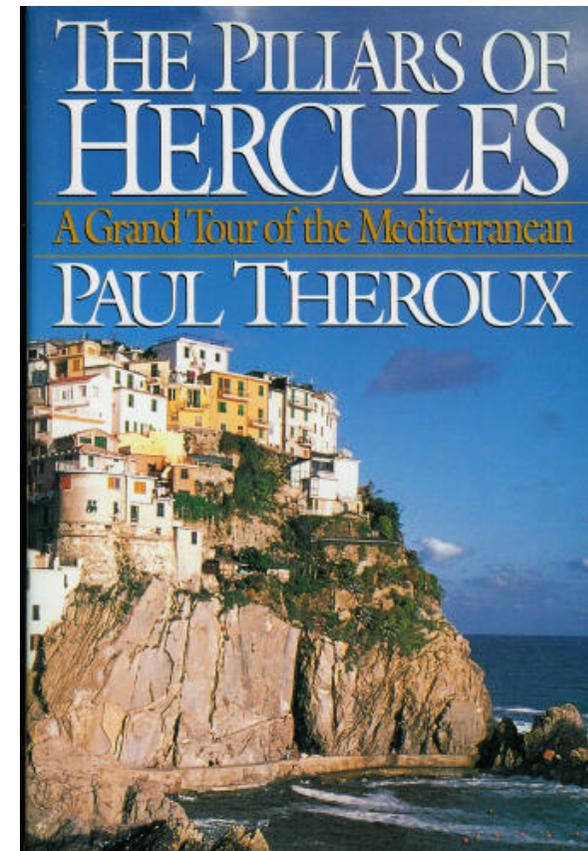
Catfish and mandala de Andrew X. Pham

When his sister, a post-operative transsexual, committed suicide, Pham sold all his possessions and embarked on a year-long bicycle journey that took him through the Mexican desert; around a thousand-mile loop from Narita to Kyoto in Japan; and, after five months and 2,357 miles, to Saigon. At first meant to facilitate forgetfulness, Pham's travels turn into an unforgettable, eye-opening search for cultural identity. The bookevokes a Vietnam you can almost smell and taste, laying bare the psyche of a troubled hero whose search for home and identity becomes our own.



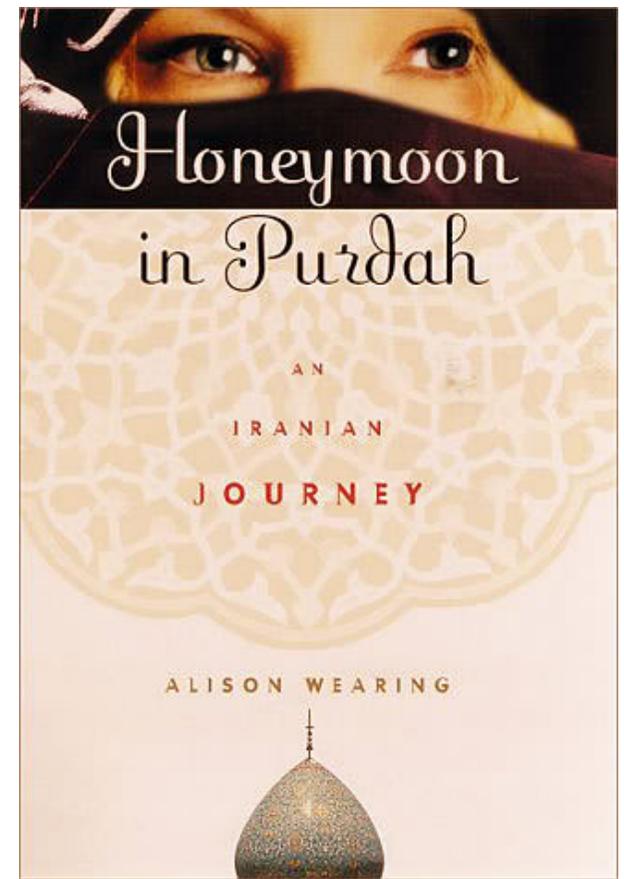
A journey interrupted de Farzana Versey

'You need to be deported,' said the retired army general. What follows is not deportation but the beginning of an exploration, both personal and political, of the Pakistani mind and that of a nation state. It becomes the beginning of an exploration, both personal and political. An Indian Muslim woman traveling alone in a supposedly restricted space with a socio-psychological baggage of not wanting to be seen as a Pakistani - 'Pakistan had to remain a secret: just visiting it made me feel like a traitor.'



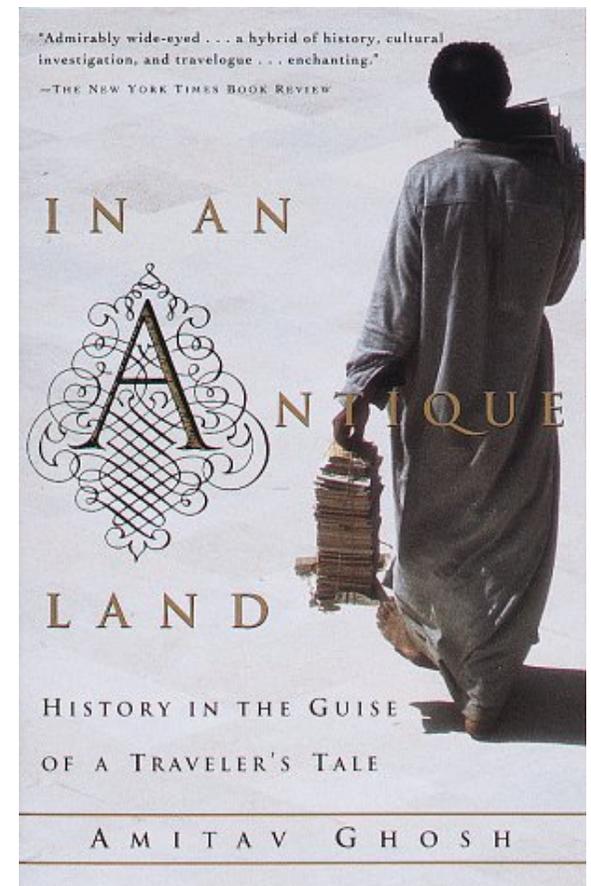
The pillars of Hercules de Paul Theroux

At the gateway to the Mediterranean lie the two Pillars of Hercules: Gibraltar and Ceuta, in Morocco. Paul Theroux decided to travel from one to the other - but taking the long way round. His grand tour of the Mediterranean begins in Gibraltar and takes him through Spain, the French Riviera, Italy, Greece, Istanbul and beyond. He travels by any means necessary - including dilapidated taxi, smoke-filled bus, bicycle and even a cruise-liner. And he encounters bullfights, bazaars and British tourists, discovers pockets of humanity in war-torn Slovenia and Croatia, is astounded by the urban developments on the Costa del Sol and marvels at the ancient wonders of Delphi.



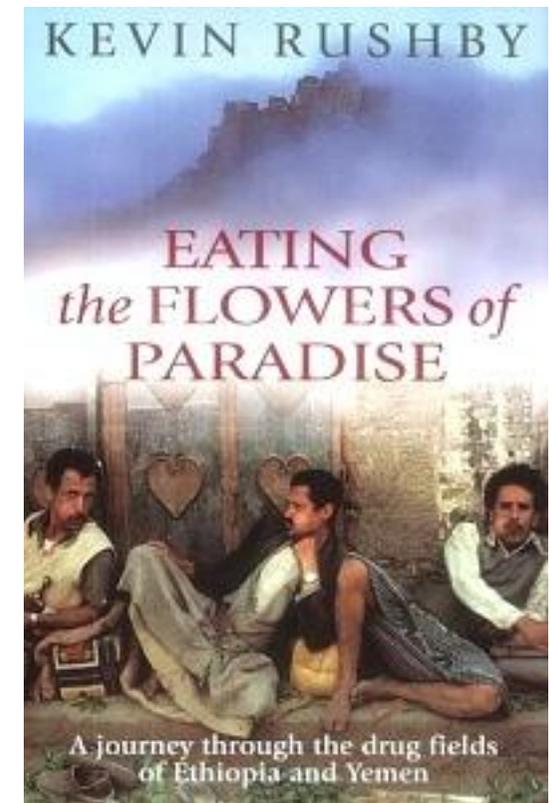
Honeymoon in Purdah de Alison Wearing

With a love of travel, Alison Wearing invites us to journey with her to Iran--a country that few Westerners have a chance to see. Traveling with a male friend, in the guise of a couple on their honeymoon, Wearing set out on her own at every available opportunity. She went looking for what lay beneath the media's representation of Iran and found a country made up of welcoming, curious, warmhearted, ambitious men and women. With humor and compassion, Wearing gives Iranians the chance to wander beyond headlines and stereotypes, and in doing so, reveals the poetry of their lives--those whose lives extend beyond Western news stories of kidnapping, terrorism, veiled women, and Islamic fundamentalism.



In an antique land de Amitav Gosh

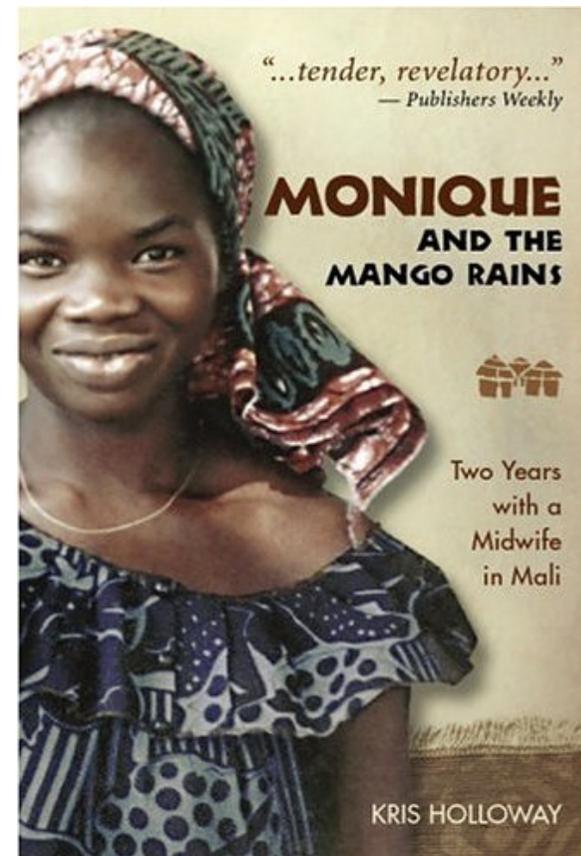
It tells the story of two Indians in Egypt. The first was a twelfth-century slave; the second is Amitav Ghosh, who stumbled upon the slave in the margins of letters that were written by the slave's master. His curiosity piqued - even ill-defined, the slave's presence in the records of medieval history was completely out of the ordinary - Ghosh journeyed to Egypt in 1980 to try to fill in the details of the slave's life. His search - which would last for ten years - began in a tiny village two hours from Alexandria where Ghosh found himself among people for whom 'the world outside was still replete with wonders of the unknown.'



Eating the flowers of paradise de Kevin Rushby

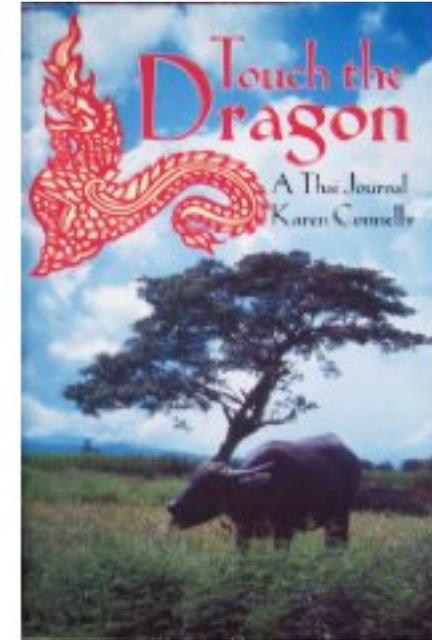
Kevin Rushby is probably addicted to qat, a psychoactive leaf chewed throughout Yemen, Somalia and Ethiopia. But Rushby is at pains to point out that qat is not really a drug. Almost no one chews it by themselves, it's rather a social affair with men propped up on cushions sharing their visions as the plant takes them to far-off places.

On his previous sojourn in San'a, capital of Yemen, he finally got it: '...I began to understand that the pleasure of a qat session is not really about the qat at all but about the companionship of the sessions in cave-like rooms floating high above the ancient city.'



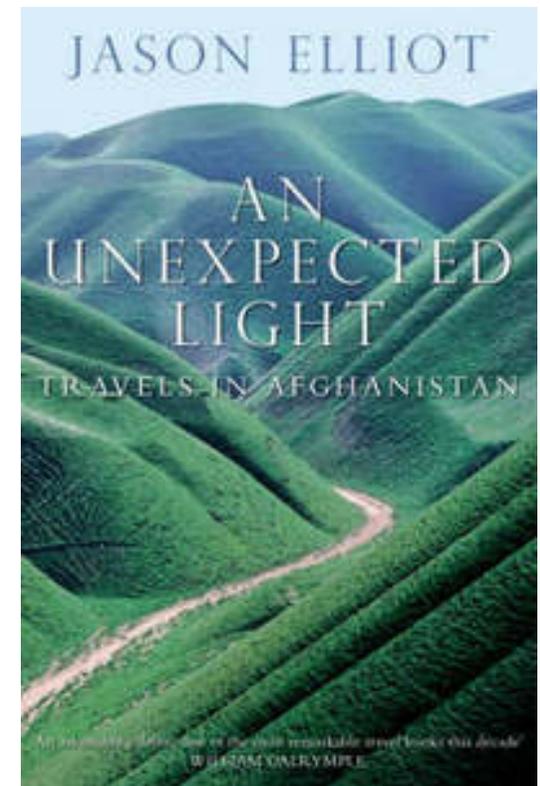
Monique and the mango rains de Kris Holloway

The inspiring story of Monique Dembele, an accidental midwife who became a legend, and Kris Holloway, the young Peace Corps volunteer who became her closest confidante. In a small village in Mali, West Africa, Monique saved lives and dispensed hope every day in a place where childbirth is a life-and-death matter and where many children are buried before they cut a tooth. Despite her fiercely traditional society and her limited education she fought for her beliefs—birth control, the end of female genital mutilation, the right to receive a salary, and the right to educate her daughters. And she struggled to be with the man she loved.



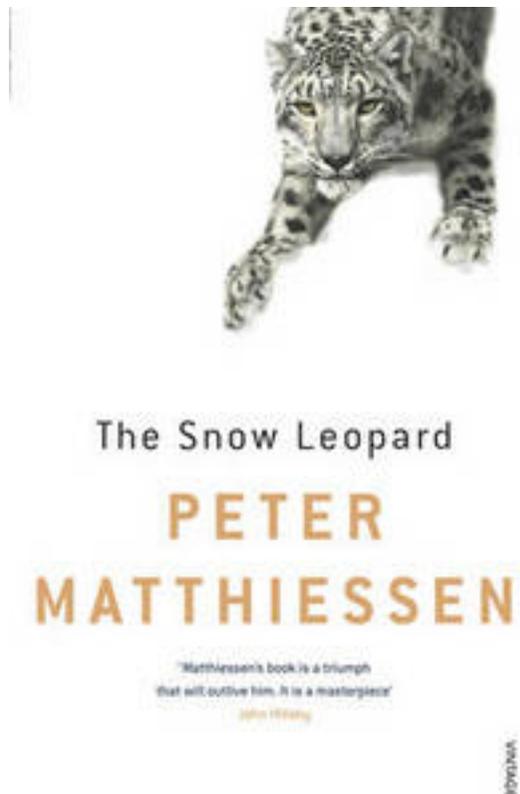
Touch of the Dragon de Karen Connolly

Connolly is seventeen when she leaves Canada for Denchai to attend her last year of high school at a Thai school. Through energetic language and beautiful imagery, through humour and careful observation of the families, school friends and Buddhist rituals around her, Karen Connolly recreates life in a small village in northern Thailand. Not only does she illuminate another culture, she also shows how this strange, sometimes difficult place touched and changed her, allowing her to receive and understand a rich, common humanity.



An unexpected light - travels in Afghanistan de Jason Elliot

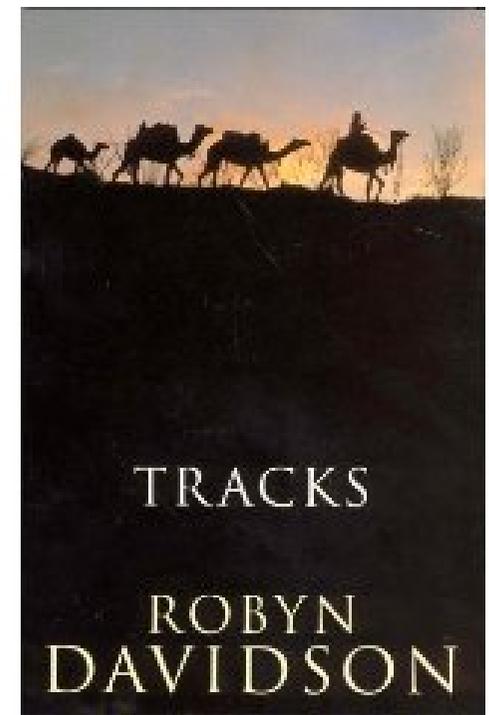
The book is now widely acknowledged as the most influential contemporary work of Afghanistan. Written on the eve of 9/11, at the height of Afghanistan's isolation from the world, Jason Elliot's uncannily prescient account of his winter journey through the country torn by civil war is as pertinent today as it was then. Winner of the Thomas Cook/Daily Telegraph Travel Book Award in the UK and a New York Times Bestseller in the USA, it recounts the author's daring and passionate investigation into an extraordinary culture, first as a clandestine guest of the mujaheddin during the Soviet occupation, and ten years later during the Taliban advance on Kabul.



The Snow Leopard de Peter Matthiessen

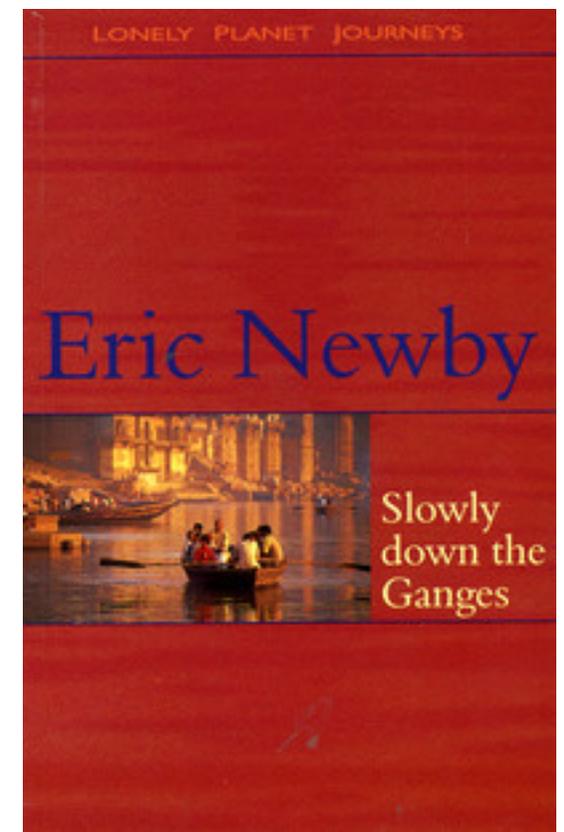
In the autumn of 1973, the writer Peter Matthiessen set out in the company of zoologist George Schaller on a hike that would take them 250 miles into the heart of the Himalayan region of Dolpo, "the last enclave of pure Tibetan culture on earth." Their voyage was in quest of one of the world's most elusive big cats, the snow leopard of high Asia, a creature so rarely spotted as to be nearly mythical; Schaller was one of only two Westerners known to have seen a snow leopard in the wild since 1950.

Guiding his readers through steep-walled canyons and over tall mountains, Matthiessen offers a narrative that is shot through with metaphor and mysticism, and his arduous search for the snow leopard becomes a vehicle for reflections on all manner of matters of life and death.



Traks de Robyn Davidson

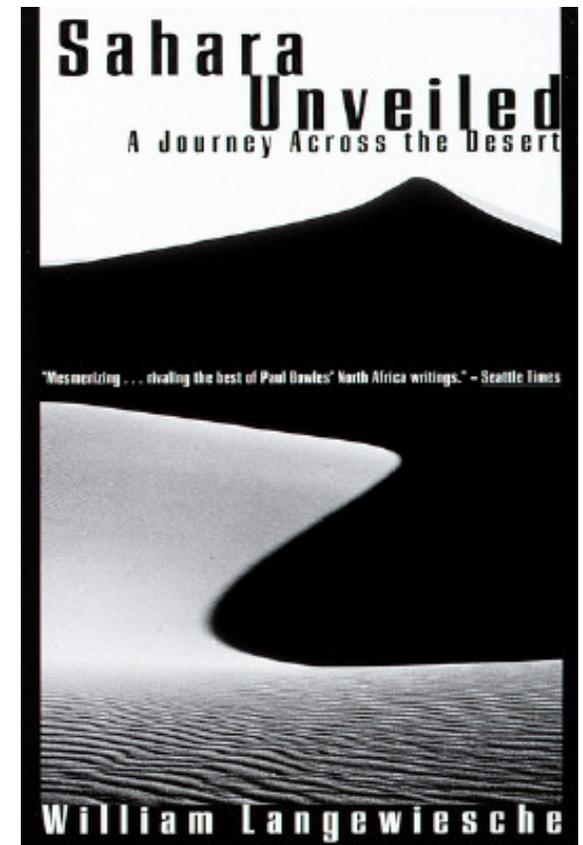
Why does Robyn Davidson walk 1,700 miles across the Australian desert accompanied by four camels? Ironically, when she accepts the financial backing of the *National Geographic*, her private "trial by fire" is doused by the popular concept of romantic independence she represents to others: "I was beginning to see it as a story for other people, with a beginning and an ending." She feels pursued and invaded by the photographer assigned to follow her, by the people who intercept her with questions and interpretations. Yet her ultimate confrontations are with her own rage and desperation, with the personal and cultural repercussions of racism and misogyny in her own experience, and with the paradoxical ugliness and beauty of the rural Australia she encounters.



Slowly down the Ganges de Eric Newby

On his forty-fourth birthday Eric Newby, a self-confessed river lover, sets out on a 1200-mile journey down the Ganges River from Hardwar to the Bay of Bengal, accompanied by his wife, Wanda. Things do not go smoothly as they run aground 63 times in the first six days, but gradually India's holiest river, The Pure, The Eternal, The Creator of Happiness, lives up to its many names and captures them in its spell.

Traveling in a variety of boats, most of them unsuitable, as well as by bus and bullock car, the Newbys become intimately acquainted with the river's shifting moods and colorful history.



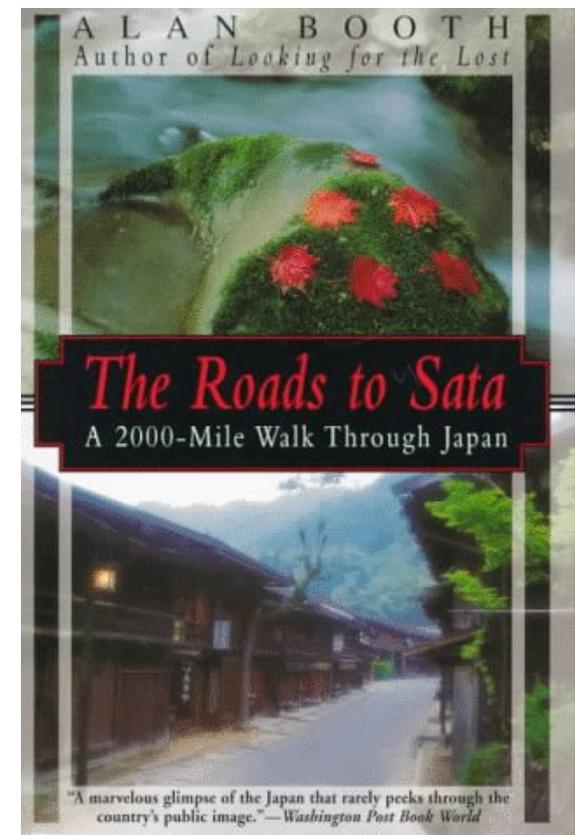
Sahara Unveiled de William Langewiesche

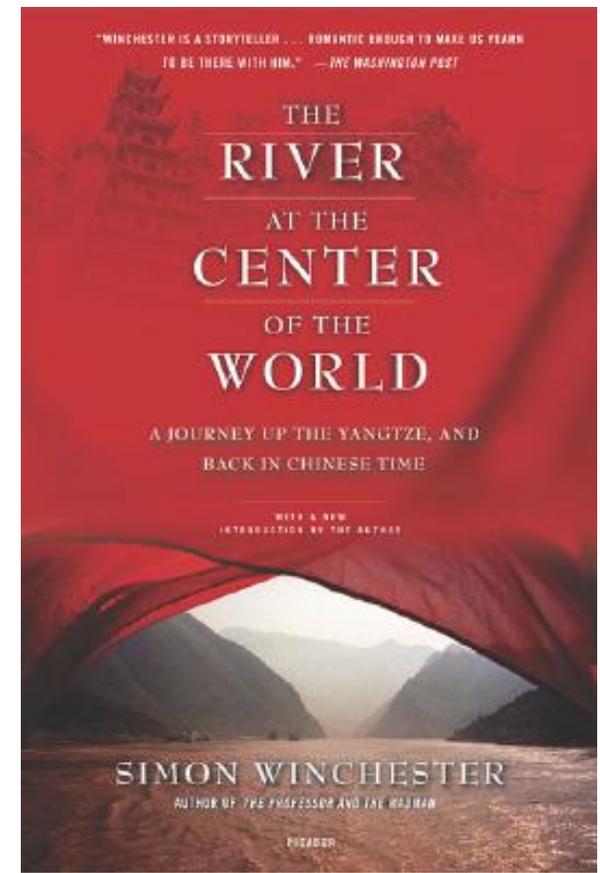
William Langewiesche crossed the Sahara from Algiers to Dakar, determined to see it as its inhabitants do, braving its natural and human dangers and depending on its sparse sustenance and suspect charity. He was feted by a devout Muslim architect, nearly murdered by a narcissistic arms smuggler, and introduced to merchants, market women, and fixers. He observes the world he traveled through with such acuity and eloquence that *Sahara Unveiled* has been compared with the works of Bruce Chatwin, Wilfred Thesiger, and Paul Theroux.



The roads to Sata de Alan Booth

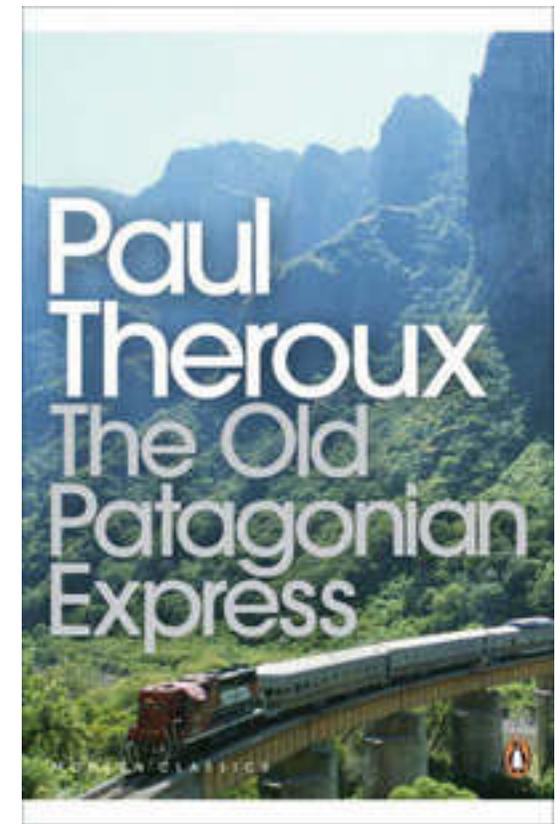
Sata is the cape at the southernmost tip of Kyushu in southwest Japan. Booth, an Englishman living in Japan, walked there from Cape Soya at the northernmost tip of Hokkaido in northern Japan. It took him 128 days, following a mostly rural route down the eastern side of the islands. His book is a delightful series of encounters with and impressions of local people who were astonished to find a foreigner speaking Japanese. He was treated as a friend by many, and as a freak by some. Booth has much to say about modern Japanese life that fails to come out in the more numerous books on urban and industrialized Japan.





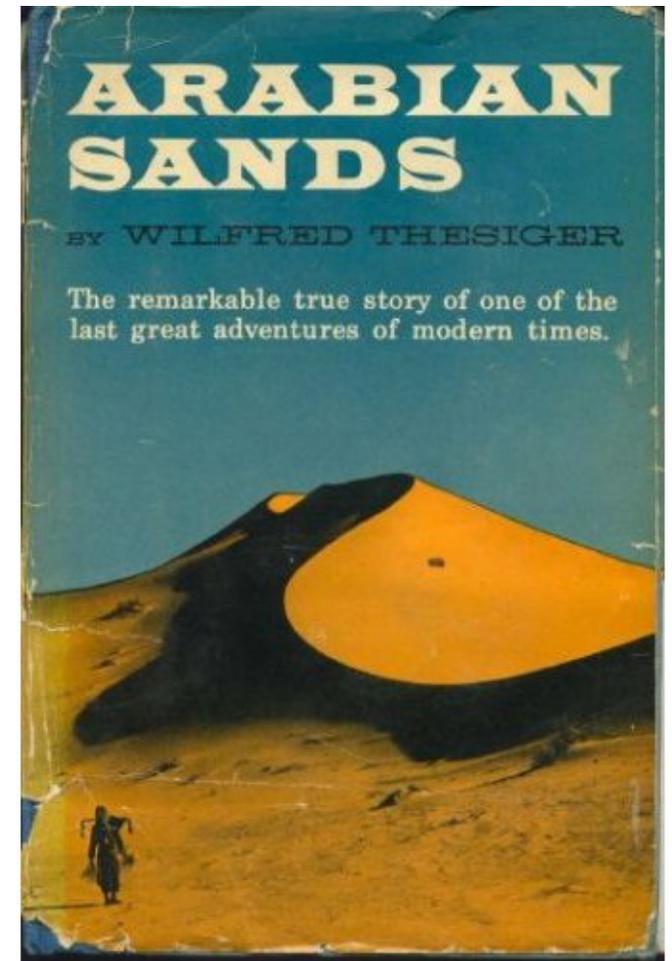
The river at the center of the world de Simon Winchester

Rising in the mountains of the Tibetan border, the symbolic heart of China pierces 3,900 miles of rugged country before debouching into the oily swells of the East China Sea. Connecting China's heartland cities with the volatile coastal giant, Shanghai, it has also historically connected China to the outside world through its nearly one thousand miles of navigable waters. To travel those waters is to travel back in history, to sense the soul of China, and Simon Winchester takes us along with him as he encounters the essence of China--its history and politics, its geography and climate as well as engage in its culture, and its people in remote and almost inaccessible places.



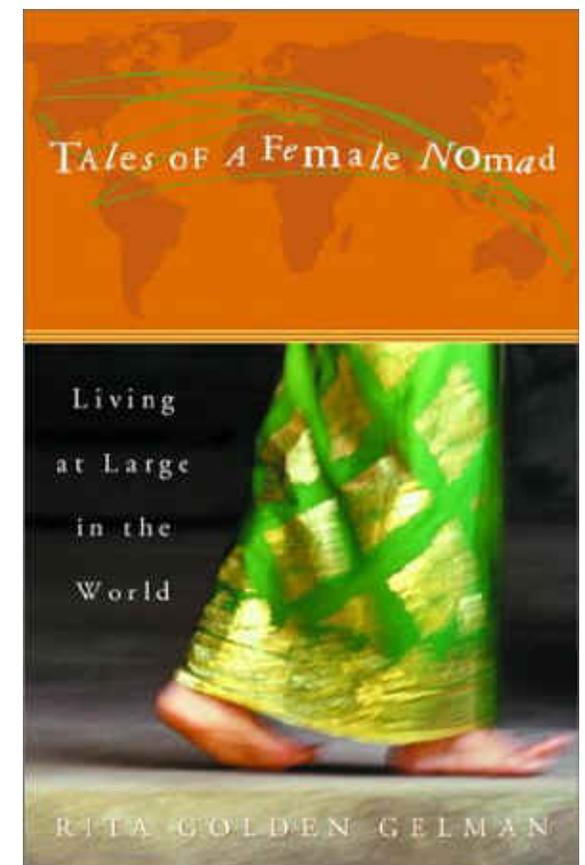
The old Patagonian Express de Paul Theroux

Beginning on Boston's subway, he depicts a voyage from ice-bound Massachusetts to the arid plateau of Argentina's most southerly tip, via pretty Central American towns and the ancient Incan city of Macchu Pichu. Shivering and sweating by turns as the temperature and altitude rise and plummet, he describes the people he encountered - thrown in with the tedious, and unavoidable, Mr Thornberry in Limon and reading to the legendary blind writer, Jorge Luis Borges, in Buenos Aires.



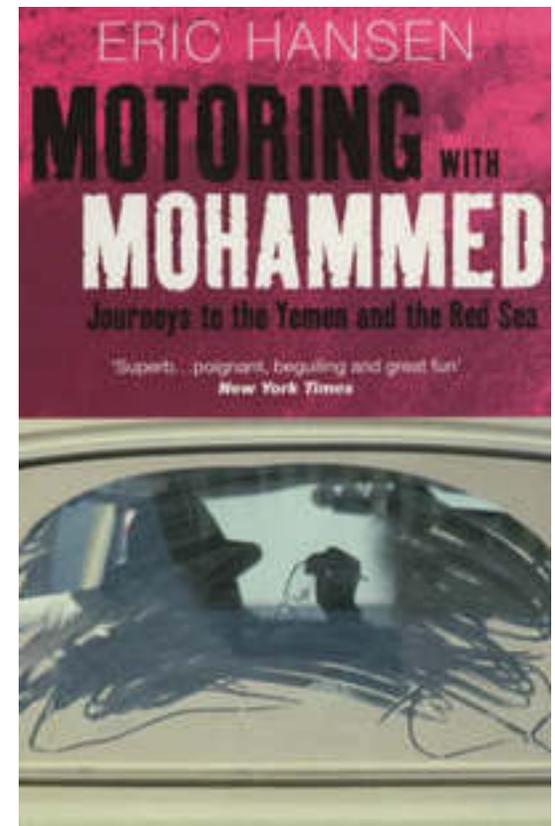
Arabian Sands de Wilfred Thesiger

Thesiger arrived in Arabia in the 40's. He was absorbed with the traditional way of life of the Bedouin and in his five years there travelled some ten thousand miles by camel. The oil prospecting and the road construction appalled him and he was the last witness to a world that has all but vanished. The changing economy meant that oil wells became more common than oases and the Bedouin were forced out of their mastery of the desert to a humdrum existence in the towns. "No man can live this life and emerge unchanged. He will carry, however faint, the imprint of the desert, the brand which marks the nomad; and he will have within him the yearning to return, weak or insistent according to his nature. For this cruel land can cast a spell which no temperate climate can hope to match."



Tales of a female nomad de Rita Golden Gelman

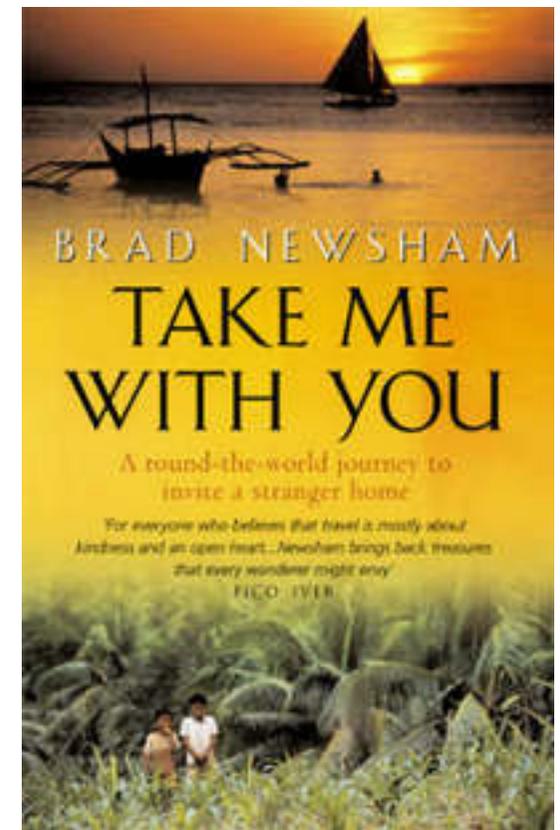
When Rita Golden Gelman traveled to Mexico during a two-month separation from her husband, she hoped to satisfy an old craving for adventure and, in the process, rejuvenate herself and her marriage. Little did she know it was the beginning of a new life, not just as a divorcée, but as a nomad of the world. Since 1986, Gelman has had no permanent address and no possessions except those she can carry. She travels without a plan, guided by instinct, serendipitous opportunities, and a remarkable ability to connect with people. At first her family and friends accused her of running away, but Gelman knew she had embarked on a journey of self-discovery and a way of life that is inspiring and enviable.



Motoring with Mohammed de Eric Hansen

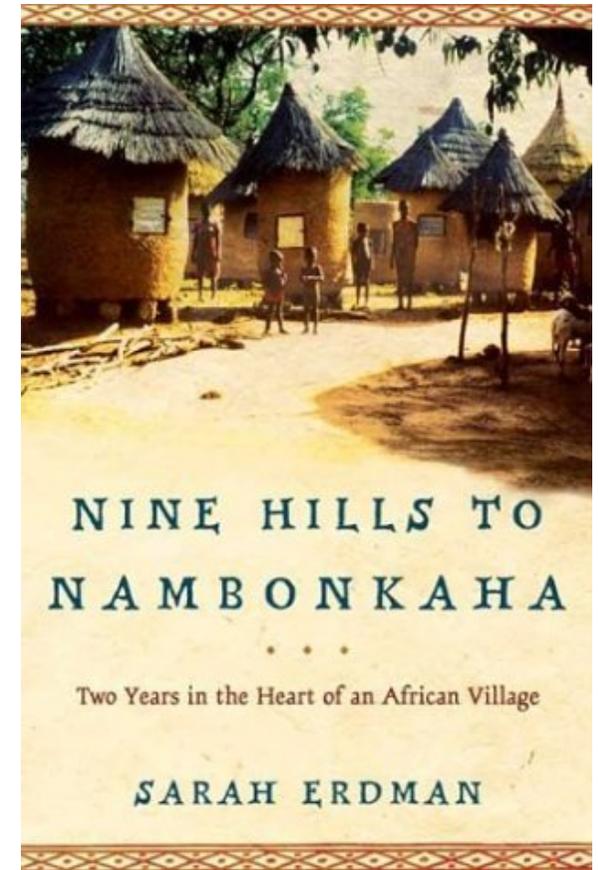
In 1978 Eric Hansen found himself shipwrecked on a desert island in the Red Sea. When goat smugglers offered him safe passage to Yemen, he buried seven years' worth of travel journals deep in the sand and took his place alongside the animals on a leaky boat bound for a country that he'd never planned to visit.

As he tells of the turbulent seas that stranded him on the island and of his efforts to retrieve his buried journals when he returned to Yemen ten years later, Hansen entralls us with a portrait of this forgotten corner of the Middle East.



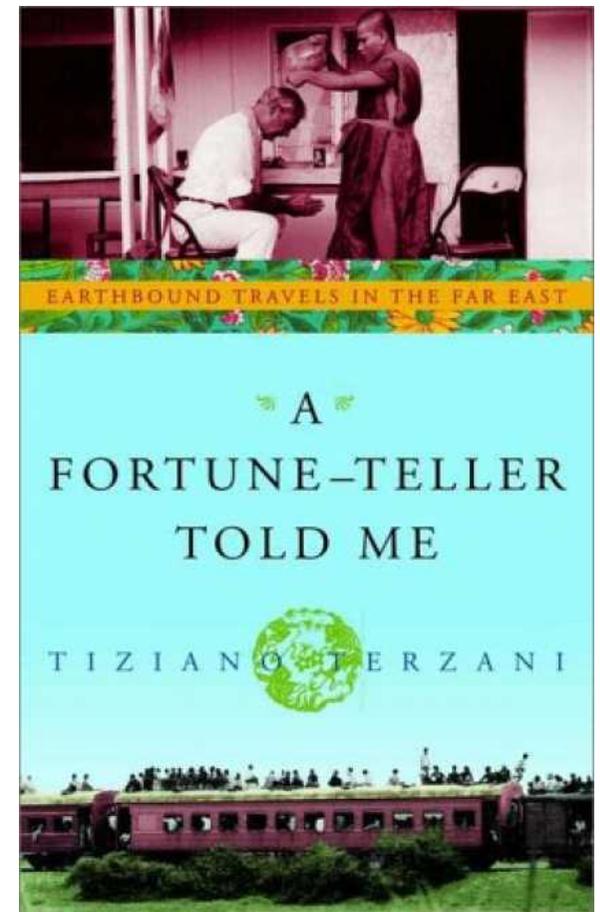
Take me with you de Brad Newsham

Someday, when I am rich, I am going to invite someone from my travels to visit me in America. Brad Newsham was a 22-year-old travelling through Afghanistan when he wrote this in his journal. Fourteen years later, he's a Yellow Taxi driver working in San Francisco. He's not rich, but he has never forgotten his vow. This title is the account of Brad Newsham's journey through the Philippines, India, Egypt, Kenya, Tanzania, Zimbabwe and South Africa as he searches for the right person - someone who couldn't afford to leave their own country, let alone holiday in the West.



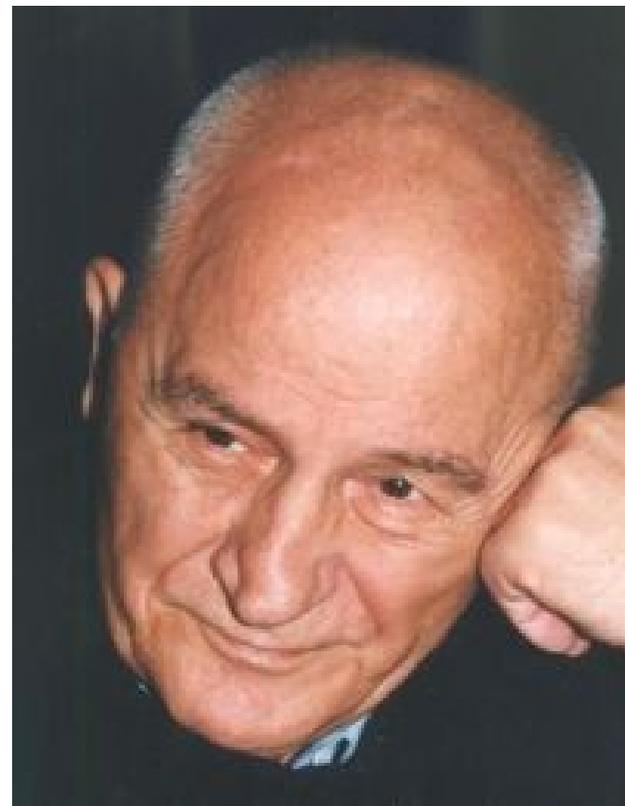
Nine hills to Nambonkaha de Sarah Erdman

Erdman, who now works for the Peace Corps in Washington, D.C., spent two years in Nambonkaha, a northern Ivory Coast village, starting in 1998. She started working on maternal and child health by introducing the regular weighing of babies, as a means of monitoring malnutrition and as a way of opening the door to a wider range of health-care interventions. Without funds or equipment, this boiled down to rudimentary first aid: cleaning and bandaging wounds, cooling down a fever or recognizing malaria and going to the nurse for pills. By the end of Erdman's stay, with the support of the village, she'd moved on, very successfully, to birth control and AIDS prevention education.



A fortune teller told me de Tiziano Ferzani

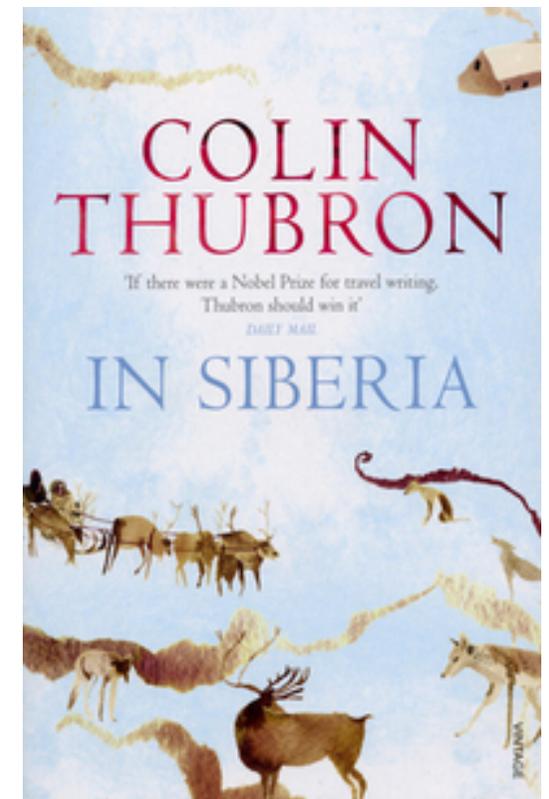
New Delhi-based but Italian by birth, journalist Terzani is a walking United Nations. When a Hong Kong fortune-teller told him in 1976 not to travel by plane, he took her warning perhaps too literally: he set off by foot, boat, bus, car, and train for a year of escapades in a dozen countries. Surrounded by the loss of diversity wrought by modernism, Terzani asks if the "missionaries of materialism and economic progress" aren't destroying the continent in order to save it.



Caminante de Octavian Paler

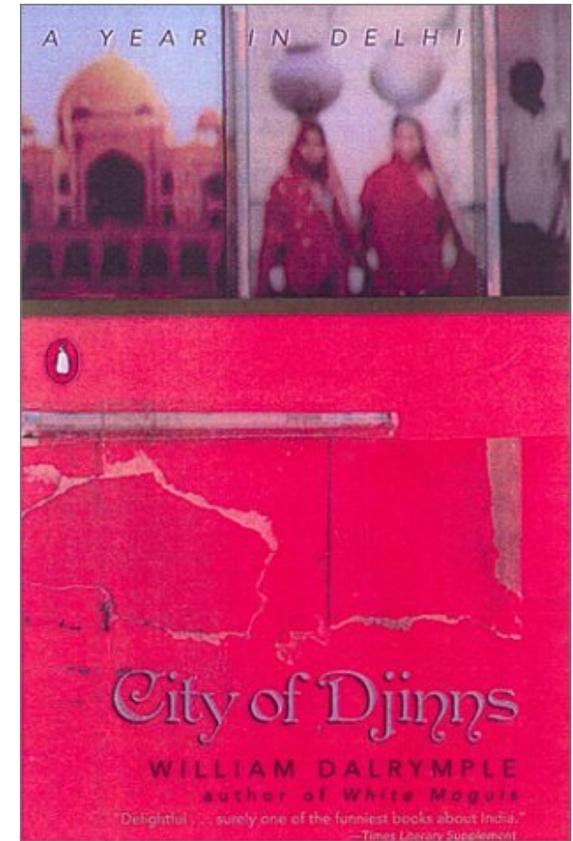
“Exista, probabil, locuri care te cheama nu atat sa le cunosti, cat sa-ti arate chipul cu care le privesti. Fara voia mea, jurnalul pe care l-am tinut in Mexic a devenit pe parcurs povestea unei scindari: a sufletului mexican si a sufletului celui care se descoperea uimit in aceasta scindare.”

"Acum e momentul cel mai potrivit sa-mi inchei jurnalul. Aici ma pot referi la Mexic ca si cum mi-as aminti o poveste. Si le pot raspunde celor care mi-ar reprosa ca am vorbit prea mult despre mine, in loc sa vorbesc, ca in enciclopedii, despre Mexic: nu, n-ati priceput ca eu n-am fost in Mexic, ci intr-o tara cu acest nume"



In Siberia de Colin Thubron

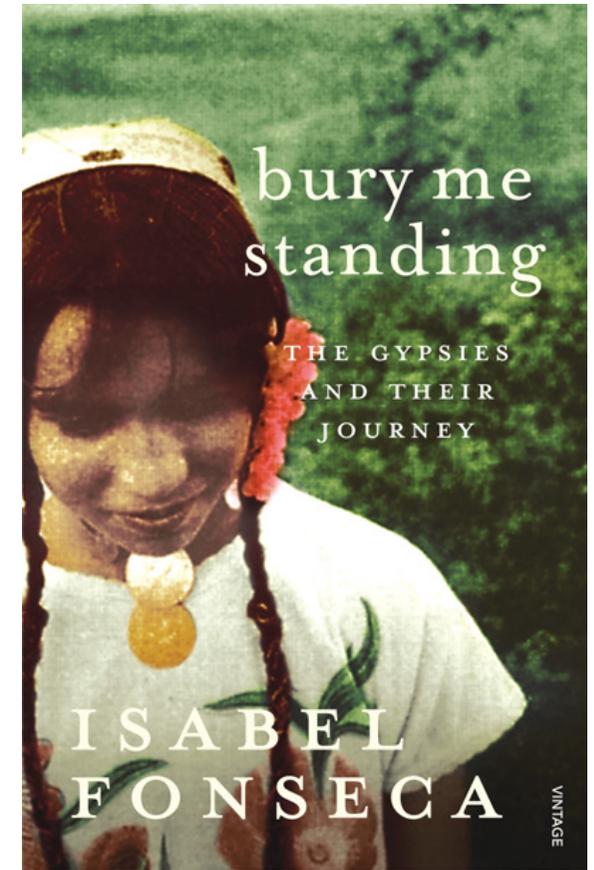
This is the account of Thubron's 15,000-mile journey through an astonishing country - one twelfth of the land surface of the whole earth. He journeyed by train, river and truck among the people most damaged by the breakup of the Soviet Union, travelling among Buddhists and animists, radical Christian sects, reactionary Communists and the remnants of a so-called Jewish state; from the site of the last Czar's murder and Rasputin's village, to the ice-bound graves of ancient Sythians, to Baikal, deepest and oldest of the world's lakes. This is the story of a people moving through the ruins of Communism into more private, diverse and often stranger worlds.



City of Djinns de William Dalrymple

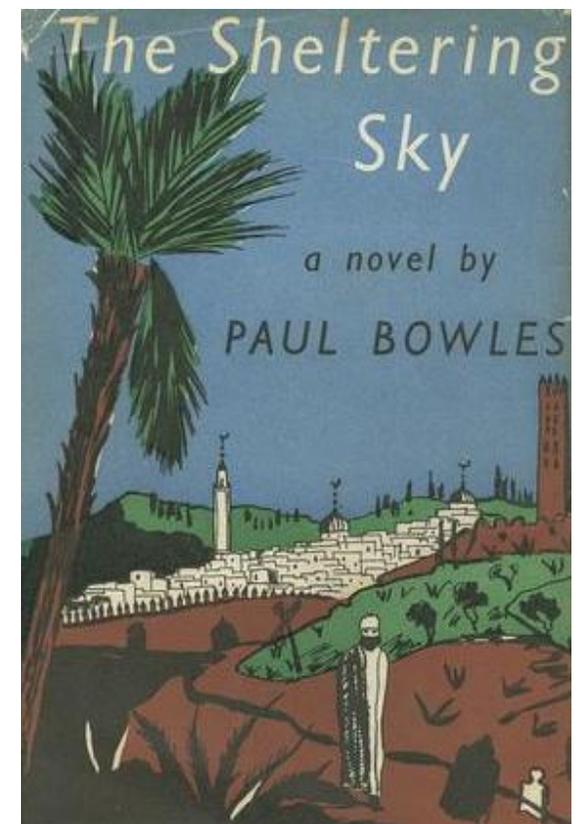
The book is the result of a six year stay in Delhi. He removes the focus from his own experiences to instead attempt to uncover the various layers of both old and new Delhi.

Continually digging deeper into the city's history he examines the traumatic events of the Partition of India, the 1984 riots that followed the assassination of Indira Gandhi, the ancient Hindu origin of the city, Mughal and British Colonial rule, and the Sikh community. Along the way he has encounters with pigeon fanciers, Sufi mystics, Moslem healers, musicians, calligraphers, philosophers and a guild of eunuchs.



Bury me standing de Isabel Fonseca

The title comes from the Gypsy saying, "Bury me standing, I've been on my knees all my life". The book explains, from the Roma point of view, what it means to live in a world that remains largely threatening to the Roma. The book is not uniformly complimentary. But Fonseca lived for a period with Roma families, learned their separate and distinct Romany language, traveled across Eastern Europe with them, observed the poverty-stricken ghettos and mud hovels in which the poorest made their beds. And one finds in her closeness to them a sympathy altogether lacking in many other works.



The sheltering sky de Paul Bowles

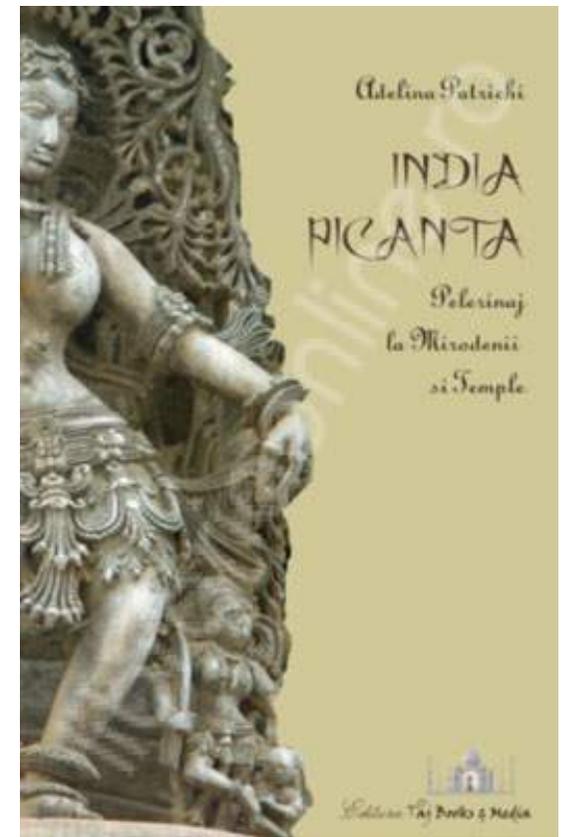
The Sheltering Sky follows an American couple (Kit and Port) as they travel around North Africa, moving from one obscure settlement to another. Accompanying them is Port's buddy, Tunner, a rather dull fellow, indecisive and weak, who Kit generally dislikes. The story focuses on the couple as they try to cope with both the foreign environment and each other. Neurotic and inclined to over-think seemingly trivial events, they become distanced, bifurcated by a hostile landscape brimming with the new and the inexperienced. They stand as lone figures on a sheet of sun-draped earth, links severed by the coarse wind, irrecoverably isolated with only the deepening darkness of the desert lying ahead of them..



54/24 de Bogdan Teodorescu

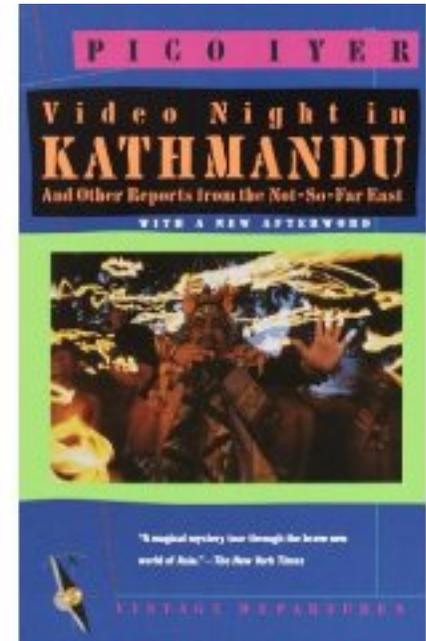
54 de locuri din 24 de tari, o colectie de stop-cadre, piesele dispartate ale unui mozaic, ce puse impreuna dau o imagine colorata, vie, a lumii vazuta din miscare. Nu este un ghid, desi detaliile sunt numeroase: cand precise, aproape tehnice, ca intr-o brosură de travel, cand senzoriale, un amestec de arome, murmur de limbi necunoscute, tumult de orase, alcatuind o mica enciclopedie si in acelasi timp o chemare discreta dar staruitoare spre alte meleaguri.

Calatoria nu este obligatoriu obositoare, complicata sau scumpa. Insa intotdeauna este fermecatoare si apropiata sufletului nostru. De mult, toti am fost nomazi si probabil ca exista ascunsa inaintul fiecaruia o gena sau macar o dorinta secreta care ne impinge la drum, care ne misca din nemiscare, din rutina, din plictis, din imbatranire, care ne varsa un strop de adrenalina in sange si ne trimite spre necunoscut"



India picanta de Adelina Patrichi

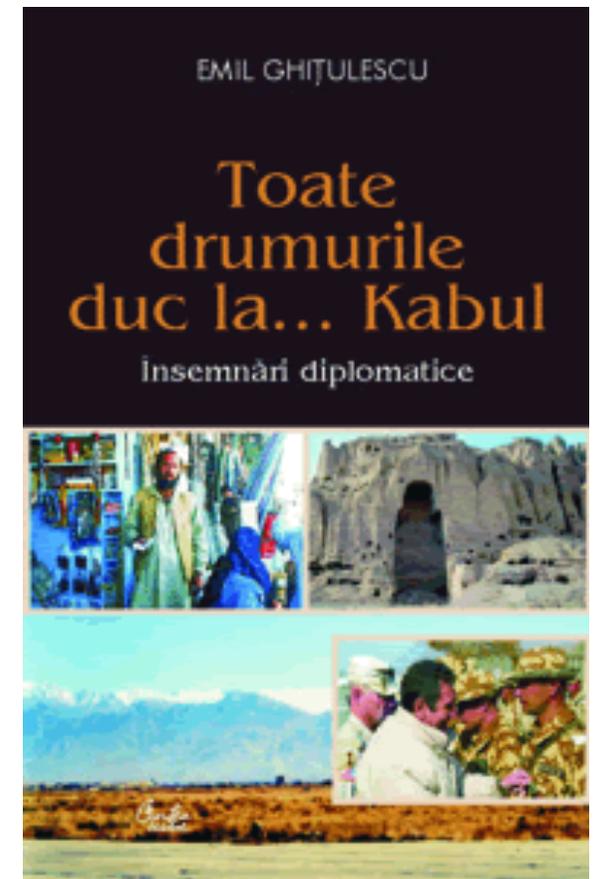
Cartea este structurata in doua parti: Pelerinajul la Temple - o incursiune in fabuloasa lume a templelor din Karnataka, intr-un veritabil ghid ilustrat, cu detalii si explicatii despre arhitectura, sculptura, legende, zeitati protectoare, dinastii de regi-poeti; Pelerinajul la Mirodenii - epopeea condimentelor, spusă in ferme uitate de lume, la receptii grandioase de hotel-palat, unde cunoastem elita producatorilor de mirodenii si pe acei oameni minunati si mirodeniile lor arzatoare de la fermecatorul Spices Board, adica... Ministerul Mirodeniilor! Ne defileaza prin fata o istorie paralela, hotarata de mirodenii. Cu batalii, expeditii, razboaie si crime! In final, lor li s-a datorat explorarea globului!



Video night in Kathmandu de Pico Iyer

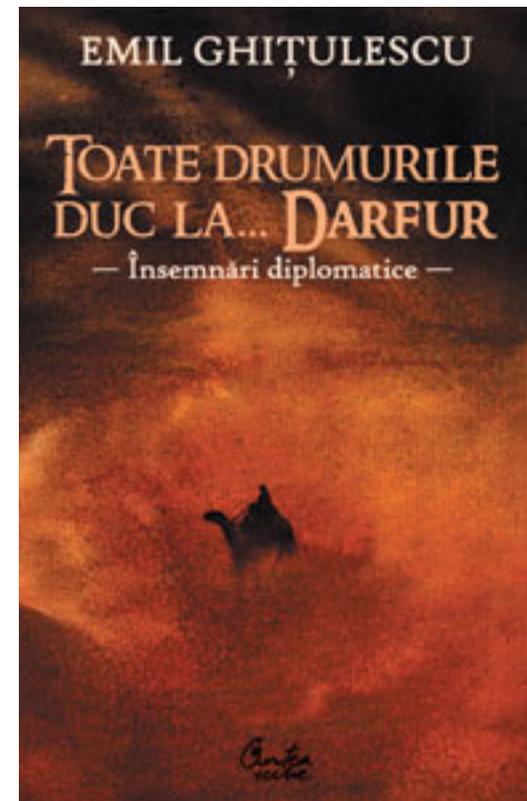
Tibet, China, India, and Thailand--these are among the objects of Iyer's wanderlust, the subjects of 11 essays chronicling his travels. In India, he explores the lucrative Bombay film business: "The process of turning an American movie into an Indian one was not very difficult ... but it did require a few changes.... the Indian hero had to be domesticated, supplied with a father, a mother, and a clutch of family complications." As one film director told him, " ... for example, Rambo must be given a sister who was raped." In Bangkok he finds the sex trade is well nigh impossible to avoid: " ...

"When Westerner meets Easterner each finds himself often drawn to the other, yet mystified; each projects his romantic hopes on the stranger, as well as his designs; and each pursues both his illusions and his vested interests with a curious mix of innocence and calculation that shifts with every step."



Toate drumurile duc la ... Kabul de Emil Ghițulescu

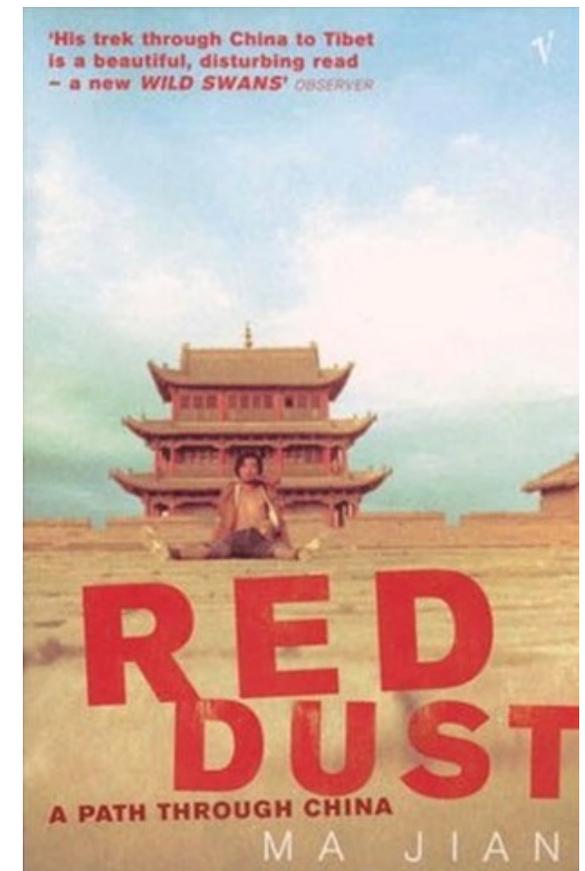
Toate drumurile duc la... Kabul, conține relatarea unei experiențe unice în viața unui diplomat, aceea a mandatului de reprezentant al României în - la ora respectivă - cea mai fierbinte zonă geopolitică de pe glob: Pakistan și Afganistan. A fost această misiune o șansă sau o corvoada? Dacă este să luăm în calcul multitudinea de riscuri și neajunsuri de care se lovea misiunea ambasadorului, noi, profanii, am fi mai degrabă tentați să răspundem că destinul i-a jucat o festă lui Emil Ghițulescu, trimițându-l, în locul unei destinații exotice și liniștite, în "miezul problemei", într-o zonă în care moartea este o prezență cotidiană și în care reprezentarea unei țări ca România are exigențe necunoscute în alta parte.



Toate drumurile duc la ... Darfur de Emil Ghiculescu

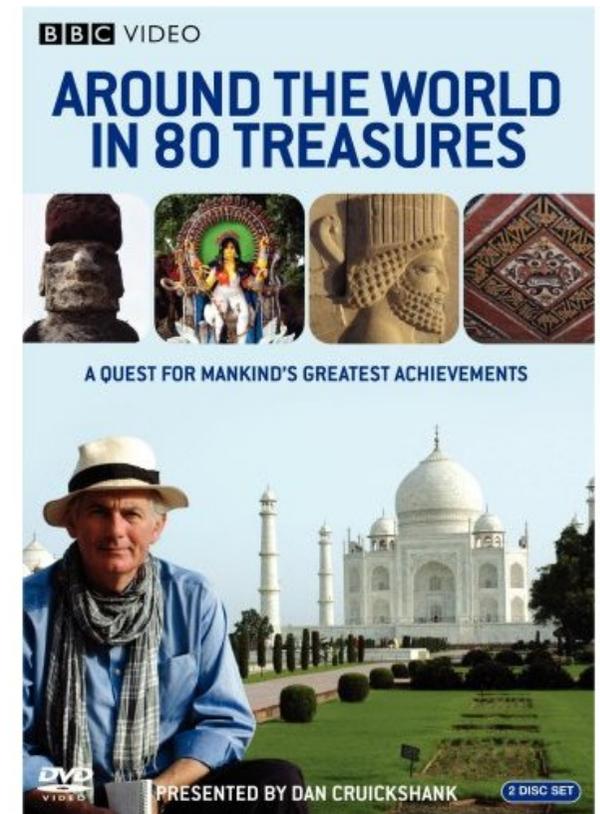
Toate drumurile duc la... Darfur nu este un ghid turistic sau un documentar reportericesc. Cu atât mai puțin un roman de aventuri prin ținuturi exotice. Este o carte de însemnări diplomatice despre destinul agitat al unor locuri prinse în vârtoarea istoriei. Despre fapte trăite la fața locului și despre oameni pe care am avut privilegiul să-i cunosc în vremuri fierbinți, hotărâtoare pentru traiectoria modernă a Sudanului. O țară la care țin, pe care o respect și căreia îi prevăd o evoluție de excepție în Africa și în lume.

Toate drumurile duc la... Darfur este și o mărturie despre un test complex, sensibil și dificil pentru Sudan și întreaga comunitate internațională. Precum și o invitație la rațiune, reconciliere, toleranță și dialog.



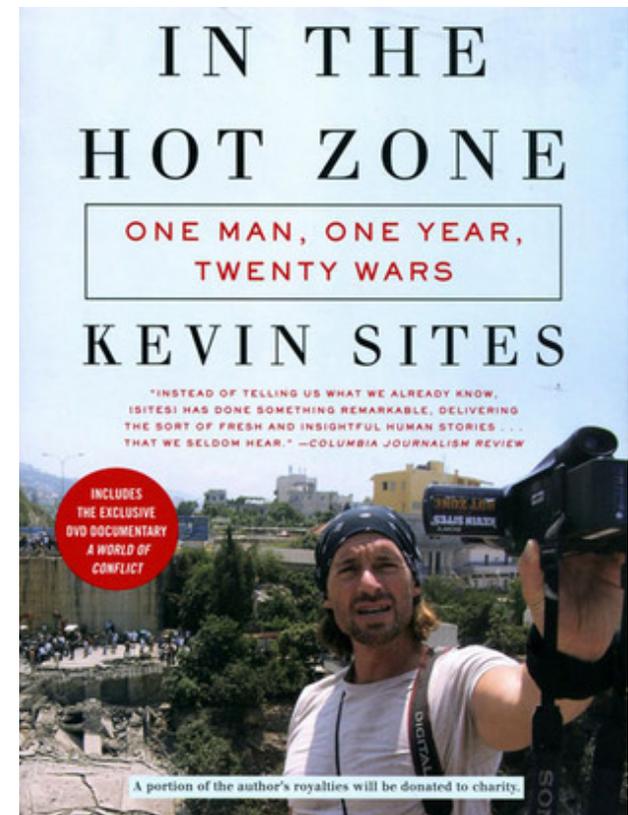
Red Dust de Ma Jian

In 1983, Ma Jian turned 30 and was overwhelmed by the desire to escape the confines of his life in Beijing. All around him, China was changing. Deng Xiaoping was introducing economic reform but clamping down on spiritual pollution ; young people were rebelling. With his long hair, denim jeans and artistic friends, Ma Jian was under surveillance from his work unit and the police. His ex-wife was seeking custody of their daughter; his girlfriend was sleeping with another man; and he could no longer find the inspiration to write or paint. One day he bought a train ticket to the westernmost border of China and set of in search of himself. Ma Jian's journey would last three years and take him to deserts and overpopulated cities, from scenes of barbarity to havens of tranquility and beauty.



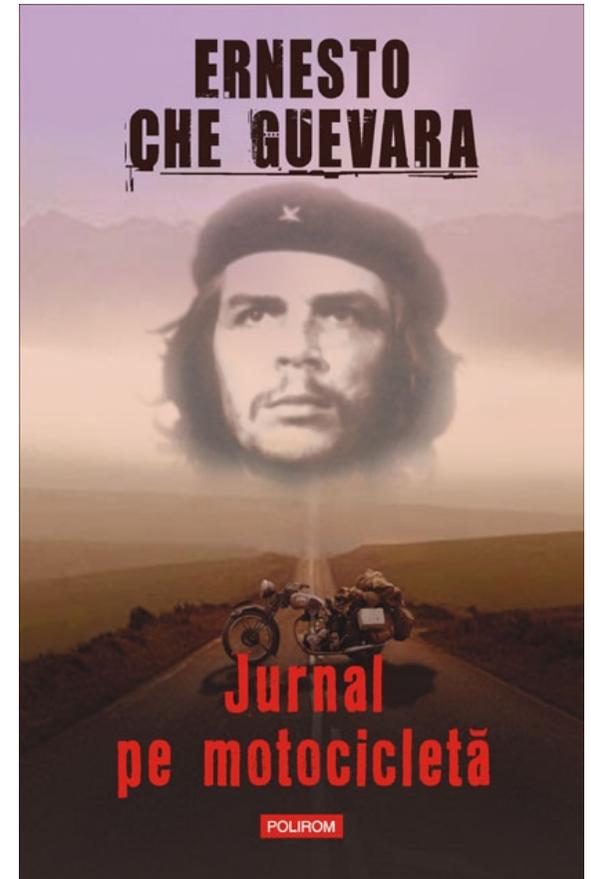
Around the world in 80 treasures de Dan Cruickshank

Architectural historian Dan Cruickshank traverses the planet in five months, visiting 34 countries to see 80 of the world's greatest treasures. Cruickshank's quest is really to go far beyond the intrinsic value of each profiled treasure to unearth the stories behind them, to see what they have to say about the cultures that created them, and ultimately how they define human civilization. It is a fascinating--and frequently surprising--journey. Some of Cruickshank's choices are very unexpected, and maybe even controversial (the 1876 Colt revolver pistol, the Volkswagen Beetle), others you'd expect to see here (Machu Picchu).



In the hot zone de Kevin Sites

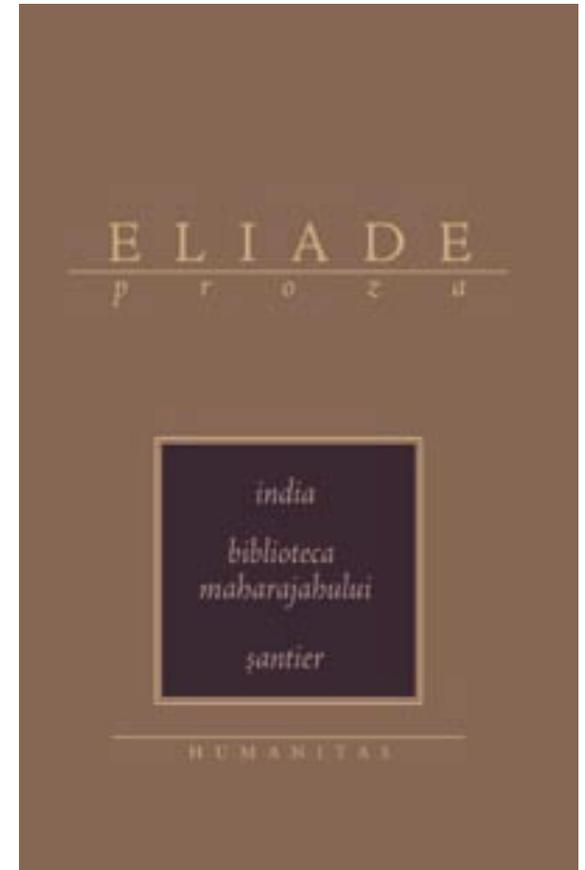
An online reporter visits some of the world's nastiest places, where wars rage and ordinary people with extraordinary courage suffer unspeakable pain and loss. He started the "Hot Zone" project: a website featuring footage, text and slide shows from the world's most searing spots. From September 2005 to August 2006, he skimmed the globe, stopping for brief periods to interview locals; observe battles; visit hospitals, morgues and ruined neighborhoods; and, when madness threatened, to surf or kick around a soccer ball with some teenagers. On his itinerary: Mogadishu, the Congo, Uganda, Sudan, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Iran, Syria, Israel and just about every other place where people were killing one another for reasons ranging from religious differences to territorial disputes.



Jurnal pe motocicletă de Ernesto Che Guevara

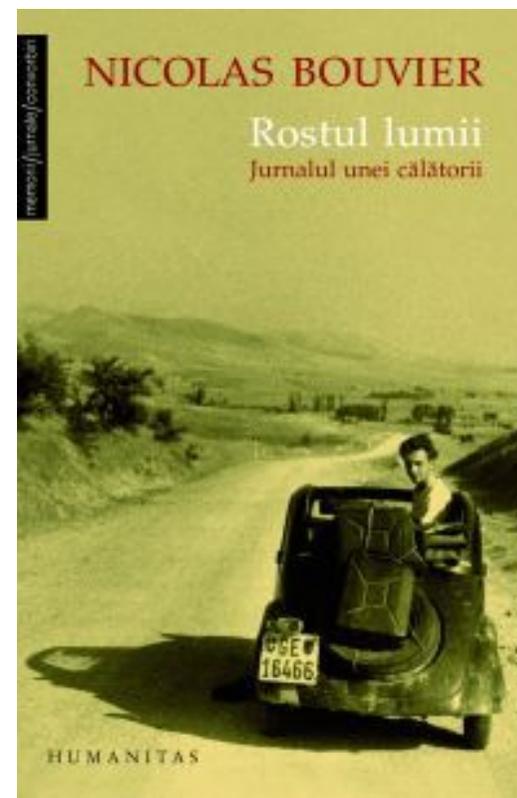
Deși doar o aventură de tinerete, călătoria nebunească a lui Ernesto Guevara și Alberto Granado prin America de Sud ar fi fost, pentru oricine altcineva, punctul culminant al vieții. Dar pentru cel care avea să devină el Che, ea a reprezentat doar începutul unor nesfârșite peregrinări în jurul lumii, momentul când s-a configurat un destin remarcabil prin idealism și ardoare.

"... povestea unei descoperiri a lumii și, totodată, a unei descoperiri a sinelui. Este povestea alegerilor de ordin personal și politic pe care fiecare dintre noi sintem nevoiți să le facem într-un moment sau altul al vieții noastre. Este o poveste despre prietenie și solidaritate. Și, mai presus de orice, este o poveste despre aflarea lucrurilor în care să crezi – și pentru care să te lupti." (Walter Salles, regizorul filmului The Motorcycle Diaries)



India de Mircea Eliade

În urma sederii sale în India, tânărul Eliade a publicat o serie de cărți voite fragmentare despre viața în ținuturile exotice de la antipodi. Alternând pasaje scrise "la cald" cu povestiri ulterioare și cu extrase de jurnal, el și-a propus să evite sistematic confesiunea, elementul personal. "Am înlocuit aventura cu reportajul și reportajul cu povestea", scria el în prefața primei editii a volumului India. Efectul nu este însă mai puțin surprinzător: paginile Indiei sau ale Șantierului respiră atât spontaneitate încât par scrise acum.



Rostul lumii de Nicolas Bouvieri

Calatoria lui Nicolas Bouvier, care a durat un an si jumatate, se petrecuse in compania prietenului sau Thierry Vernet, la inceputul anilor 1950, debutase la Belgrad si se sfarsise la Khyber Pass, in Afganistan. La bordul unui Fiat Topolino care-i lasa adesea in drum, cei doi calatori urmasera un itinerar de un exotism incredibil la vremea aceea.

"Lumea trece prin noi ca o apa si pentru o vreme ne imprumuta aparenta ei. Apoi se retrage si ne lasa in fata vidului pe care-l purtam in noi, in fata acestui soi de incapacitate capitala a sufletului pe care trebuie sa invatam s-o suportam, s-o infruntam si care, paradoxal, e poate resortul nostru cel mai sigur."

Cartile de calatorie ne ofera idei si ne apropie de locuri in care visam sa ajungem. Ne invita la drum.

Cand nu citim carti, suntem personajele principale ale propriilor calatorii. Despre povestile ce se intampla dincolo de ghidul turistic scriem pe viajoa.ro

