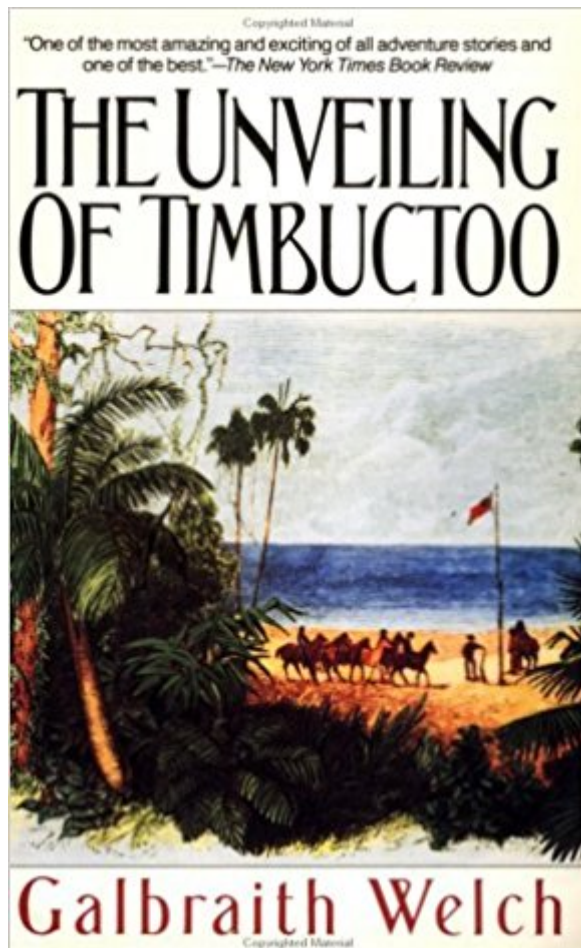




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The Unveiling Of Timbuctoo



Synopsis

This is the remarkable story of Rene Caillie, a young Frenchman, who in 1828 became the first European to reach the unknown, sacred city of Timbuctoo and escape alive. His is one of the most extraordinary adventures ever undertaken. But his journey was so impossibly dangerous that for years his account was dismissed as a fabrication. In 1934-35 Galbraith Welch set out to prove the truth of Caillie's incredible journey. To do so she retraced his path and here recounts the fact of his thrilling travels.

Book Information

Paperback: 352 pages

Publisher: Carroll & Graf (January 4, 1993)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0881847909

ISBN-13: 978-0881847901

Product Dimensions: 8.2 x 5.2 x 1.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces

Average Customer Review: 3.6 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

this is crap - very outdated - no scholarship at all. don't bother. good only to catch a whiff of the racism that was a cultural given at the time.

Rene Caillie was one of the great explorers and adventurers in European history. His journey to Timbuctoo is awe inspiring. It is a grand testament to the human spirit that he was able to overcome so many obstacles to achieve this staggering dream. This uneducated, unfinanced young man attained a goal unfulfilled by many a great explorer. Galbraith Welch does a fine job of retelling this amazing tale. I would have to state that I found some of her narrative condescending to the African natives and customs that Caillie encountered in his rounds. There is a trace of a sneer which was probably lacking in Caillie himself. This is a minor criticism, however. Welch was also a product of her own era. It does not diminish from a spectacular achievement. I was inspired by this story. The human spirit once more displays its glory. Obstacles can be overcome and goals can be attained.

Overall, this is a valuable book to read.

A fascinating and intriguing story of a Frenchman who disguised himself as a Mohammedan pilgrim and traveled thousands of miles through the hostile (especially to Christians) deserts of North Africa to become the first "white" man to enter the fabled city of Timbuktu.....and live to tell about it.

Extremely well written and very informative about the people and culture of this region during the early 19th century. Rene Caille's obsession with his journey certainly seems more than just a little bizarre, but it would be hard to fault his persistence and his courage in the face of the personal dangers he faced in nearly 2 years of travelling through some of the most hostile environments in the world among people who would instantly put him to death if they discovered he was a Christian. I would highly recommend it to those who are interested in true, historical adventure stories.

This book was absolutely fantastic. I had a difficult time putting it down. I'd love to thank Galbraith Welch's for this fantastic book, but having been written in 1939 I'm pretty sure he's not with us anymore. One reviewer spoke of racism in his book. One needs to understand that the book was written in 1939. The word "gay" meant something completely different. He makes you feel like you're walking the bath of our hero, Rene Callie. You'll be amazed at what Rene Callie has to go through in order to be the first white person to return from Timbuctoo. Buy this book!

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