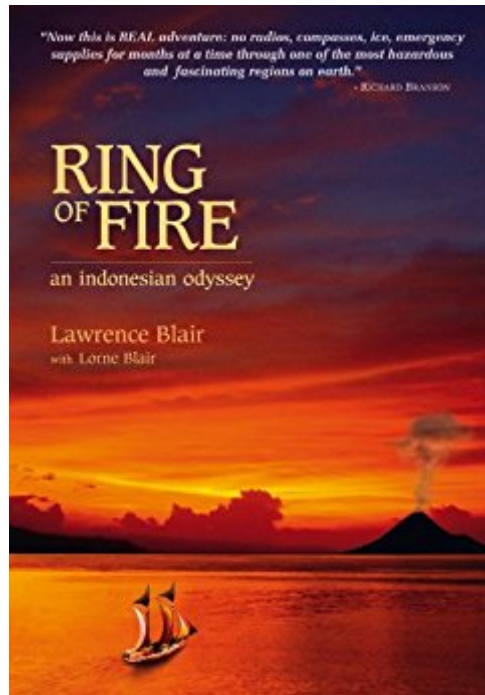




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Ring Of Fire: An Indonesia Odyssey



Synopsis

Based on the Emmy award-winning documentary series of the same name, Ring of Fire is a first-person account of the adventures of two English brothers as they explore the astonishingly rich cultures of the Indonesian islands. nduring record of a vanishing world.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I highly recommend this adventure into a world of mystery, magic and marvel. For twenty years, I've made so many trips to Indonesia that I've lost count. But, if you rarely step beyond the crowded cities of Jawa Barat, like myself, the world described by Lawrence still came as a wonder and surprise. This is the real Indonesia, a land where the material and spiritual intermingle; where one's feet can be planted firmly on the earth while his "head" truly is in the clouds. Even in the crowded streets of Jakarta or Bandung, though, there is a subtle undercurrent that life is not all it appears. Please, if you are considering purchasing this book; do so. It is engrossing, trapping you in a world that you will not want to leave. Lawrence's prose is rich with vivid experience, color and humor. Told better than any fictional tale. I'll leave it to you to reach the last page where the implied image of Hanuman, the monkey warrior and supreme devotee of Lord Rama, as told in the epic Ramayana, and so popular in Indonesia, brings a fitting close to a grand physical and spiritual adventure. Experience it while

you can. As I write this in comfort in Jakarta, sadly I see it is an Indonesia that is too quickly disappearing into the past.

I was amazed at the quality of the dvds as the original filming was done in the seventies on an 18 mm camera. It covers an amazing journey by two filmmaker brothers, with no compass etc and quite a dangerous trip it was, well done to the people who made these dvds from that old film. I read the book first and on a recent trip to Bali we met Lawrence Blair at the breakfast station at our hotel, what a figure to see this tall handsome gentle man with a patch over one eye and a parrot on his shoulder WOW, definitely the best part of the holiday. He was easy to talk to and because of this I bought the DVD set from , I would seriously encourage one and all to get it

I'm not sure if every detail is true, but given they documented it on film for a BBC documentary, I'm sure that most of it can be backed up. I love this book and have recommended it to anyone who loves travel, adventure, cultural experiences and anyone who has ever dreamed of getting truly off the beaten track. For those who love Indonesia, you will also love this book.. and for anyone who hasn't been, it will be high on your list!

The Blair brothers track their amazing journey through unknown parts of Indonesia and share views of cultures that are disappearing from the earth. After all these years, these are videos I will watch over and over. If you like documentaries of distant and unusual places, this is for you.

Absolutely fantastic read, as informative as it is entertaining. I've visited Indonesia a number of times, and where some things described in the book were familiar to me, others offered entirely new insights and experiences of this beautiful, dynamic country.

This is a simply incredible set of documentaries culled from film footage two brothers amassed during years of living and traveling in remote regions of Indonesia including Bali and Borneo in the 70's. I was really fascinated by this. I discovered it only recently thanks to a YouTube video of a clip from one of the films about a "healer" they meet who apparently develops supernatural abilities from "meditation every day". Mysteriously, much of what I saw on YouTube doesn't appear in the actual documentary so I'm at a loss as to where that came from...I would really like to see as much of this adventure as I can get my hands on. One caveat: this set comes with a "Return to..." DVD which shows much more contemporary footage of some of the same areas the filmmakers visited 35 years

ago. This was extremely depressing as the tourist industry has irrevocably changed them and in my opinion, only for the worse. The native people are outnumbered by westerners with backpacks and water bottles and contact has turned the beaches into resorts and the islands into gift shops. Where the filmmakers originally spent weeks on the deck of a battered ship watching for pirates, sleeping with cockroaches, and subsisting on rice, you now see people fly into a modern airport, collect their luggage, and catch a cab. Gone is the mystery, bold risk, and adventure, only to be replaced by a staged tour of native stereotypes, phony tribal ceremonies, and camcorder memories of the hyper-real. An unfortunate, if predictable, ending to a daring saga.

This is definitely my favourite book, and I am a prolific reader. There is not much I can add to the several eloquent reviews here except that this is true adventure: Swaying palms, smouldering volcanoes, intrepid travel, "lost" cultures. The list goes on. Most importantly the writing is non formulaic and from the outset evokes the wonder of Indonesia. Definitely treat yourself to the DVD set which is vintage National Geographic and early David Attenborough! Both the book and the DVD set are available in most book stores in Bali should you not be able to purchase on .[[ASIN:B0001I54S4 Ring of Fire: An Indonesian Odyssey]

I've been deep in another ocean lately. I swam in the shining blue waters of the inner bay as I read The Ten Thousand Things by Maria Dermout. Then I dove into the deeper magical waters of Gifts of Unknown Things by Lyall Watson. As I read this book I was sailing the high seas all around the Golden Archipeligo. So exciting! I have been on a great journey a parallel reality.

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