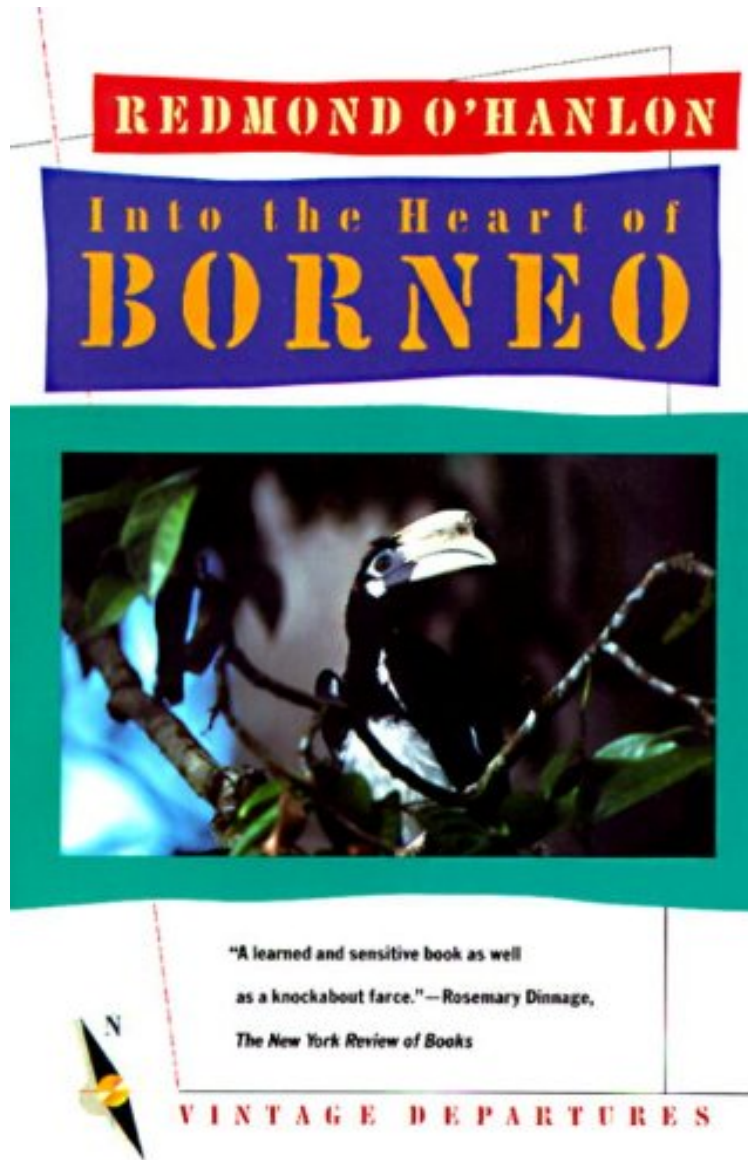


(Mobile pdf) Into the Heart of Borneo

Into the Heart of Borneo

Redmond O'Hanlon

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Redmond O'Hanlon : Into the Heart of Borneo before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Into the Heart of Borneo:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Wanna know - but won't go. By Maudie A great way to experience the worst travel destinations, the most unsanitary accommodation, and the least reliable travel companions within the safety of your own kindle. O'Hanlon refuses to allow logic to moderate impulsiveness in almost every travel decision

he makes ... and what could be the harm in that, unless you were in Borneo. His high spirits, intelligence and completely ungovernable drive to complete a quest make O'Hanlon the most delightful, and infuriating, guide to places you just shouldn't visit. I know Borneo is dangerous; I've read about the dangers of dengue, typhoid, malaria, amoebic dysentery and a hundred other things that would stop me from buying a ticket to this destination, O'Hanlon has read the same stuff, but strides confidently through these warnings and urges the unknown to hurl everything it's got at him. Thank heavens for this witty, erudite, and fearless man. Because his writing is so engaging, and his attitude so courageous/foolhardy, he allows wimps like me to see the world that would have been otherwise hidden. O'Hanlon isn't a hero, athlete, champion or adventurer - he's a bit like me, except brave, and funny, and less likely to scream when he's frightened. Truly engaging and funny... a delight. 7 of 8 people found the following review helpful.

Humorous Travelogue into Jungle of Borneo By Wayne A. Smith This twenty-five year old tale of two Brits being transported by their faithful guides into the deepest jungle of Borneo is amusing and interesting. Redmond O'Hanlon and the smoking (as in smoking) James Fenton (improbably) the Queen's Poet Laureate embark on a journey to discover the highest mountain of Borneo and hopefully the white Rhino, possibly an island dweller and certainly unseen in decades. O'Hanlon takes a whimsical approach to this travelogue. The stars are his faithful tribal guides and the locals he meets as he journeys up river and away from modern life. Particularly enjoyable are the village stops where he and his crew are (usually) met with feasts, libations, dance and the occasional memory from the local chieftain's female relatives. The clash of cultures provides many funny moments without slipping into condescension. Although there is a lot of discussion of birds and waxing about the various properties of rushes, finches, yellow-bellied-sap-suckers and the like, the book is informative and interesting with the occasional chuckle thrown in. Altogether an enjoyable arm chair trip. 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Would I or would I not travel with these two? By Kindle Customer Yes and no. Yes, because these two old British stuffies set off on this journey just the way most "inexperienced" travelers would -- by the seat of their pants. No, because I think I would like a better idea of cuisine before I went. This charming narrative of two British amateur travelers inspires humor and awe. Of course they get into all sorts of problems and handle them with dry wit. But they also give stunning and lyrical descriptions of the people and the places they visited. This was a living travel adventure without a tour-guide in sight. Best of all, our intrepid souls showed respect and genuine affection for the native peoples they met. I didn't see any bigotry in this book -- except that which they found in themselves and discarded with ease. Readers should be warned that many of the descriptions of the cultures they visited are very vivid and weak stomachs may not enjoy the unflinching pictures the story evokes.

The story of a 1983 journey to the center of Borneo, which no expedition had attempted since 1926. O'Hanlon, accompanied by friend and poet James Fenton and three native guides brings wit and humor to a dangerous journey.

.com "Ye Gods, old man--don't do it!" you're bound to shriek on page 1 of this hilarious travelogue, on which the author lists the hazards that may befall him--vipers, cholera, crocs, ticks, tuberculosis, malaria, rabies, and 1,700 types of parasitic worms among them. After all, portly, over-the-hill London Times literary reviewer Redmond O'Hanlon hasn't done anything more aerobic than flip the pages of a book for decades; he wasn't even a Boy Scout. It's hardly reassuring that his colleague, poet James Fenton--who had the big idea to trek in Borneo--was a Boy Scout. He hated it, and besides, aged, balding Fenton, whom O'Hanlon describes as rather worm-like, sounds like he's a likely lunch for a swooping black eagle. But on they trod--with the much-needed help of three Iban natives and an unseen, though oft-quoted river god--through jungle, across rivers whose height may rise seven feet overnight, and via native villages (where they often have late-night parties), with one goal in mind: seeing the fabled Borneo rhino. Fenton is nearly swept away in a whirlpool, they subsist on jungle-worm gruel, and ripping off sucking leeches is a near-daily occurrence, but cultural and natural insights and adventures abound in this rip-roaringly funny and deftly written travelogue that will have you chortling out loud. --Melissa Rossi

From the Inside Flap The story of a 1983 journey to the center of Borneo, which no expedition had attempted since 1926. O'Hanlon, accompanied by friend and poet James Fenton and three native guides brings wit and humor to a dangerous journey. About the Author A fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and the Royal Society of Literature, Redmond O'Hanlon was the natural history editor of The Times Literary Supplement for fifteen years. He lives near Oxford, England, with his wife and their two children. "Among contemporary travel writers," according to the Washington Post, "he has the best nose for the globe's precious few remaining blank spots . . . Long may he trudge and paddle."