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The Blind Masseuse: A Traveler's Memoir from Costa Rica to Cambodia

Alden Jones
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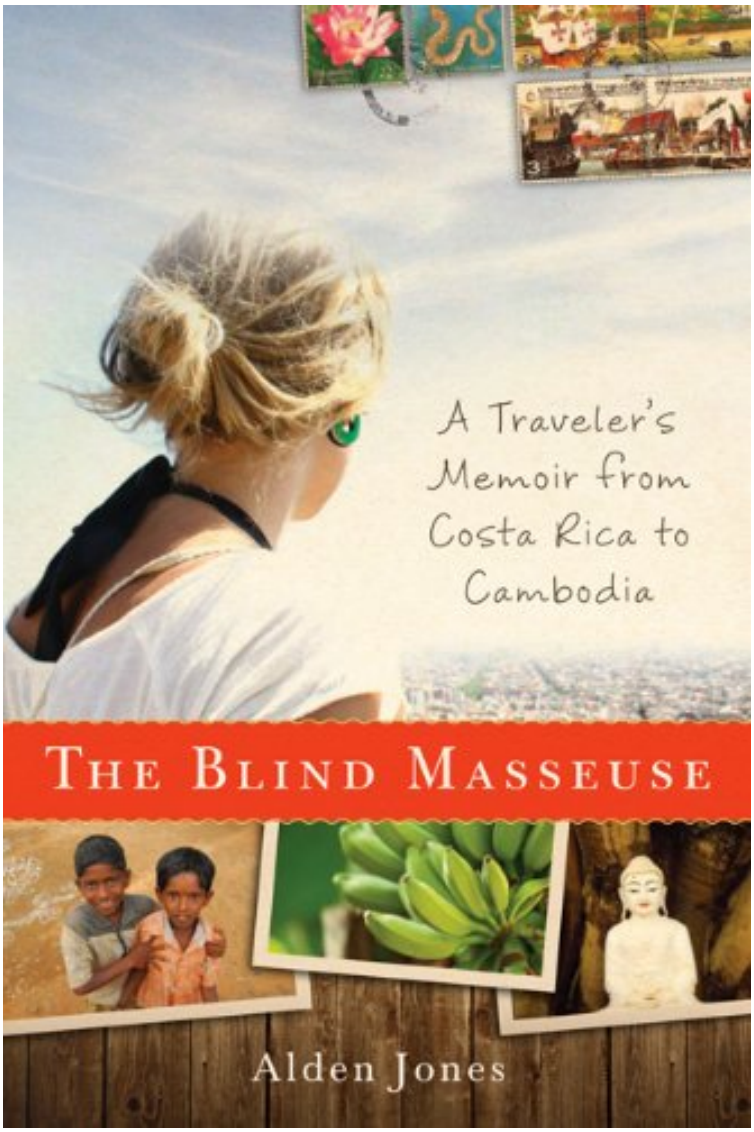

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Alden Jones : The Blind Masseuse: A Traveler's Memoir from Costa Rica to Cambodia before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Blind Masseuse: A Traveler's Memoir from Costa Rica to Cambodia:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A wonderful read!By Danelle K. BooneI finished reading The Blind Masseuse on a recent flight. Oh, how I could relate! The past subjunctive, the mad cab driver in Cairo, not wanting to

grow up at 27....and all the wonderful people you meet while traveling the world. It brought back a lot of memories. And not just because I had the pleasure to meet and travel with Alden several years ago, but because I could really connect with her writing and her sentiments. I could visualize each of the characters and see myself in the various locales. Not only did it bring me back to reflect on past experiences; it inspired me to keep traveling and exploring the world.It is difficult to pick a favorite chapter as I related to them all. "I know what you did in Egypt" stands out as my favorite and has inspired me to read the letters from Flaubert, to which she responded with humor, thought and intrigue.This is a book that I will read again, and recommend to all who have that sense of wanderlust that we share.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Alden Jones - brava!By S. SmithI love a clever book that reads with ease. "The Blind Masseuse: A Traveler's Memoir from Costa Rica to Cambodia" is that book. It is especially exciting for the avid traveler (and has made a great gift for friends!)."Is there a right way and a wrong way to travel?" asks Jones - forcing the travel enthusiast in all of us to dig deeper into our motivations and expectations. It's been a while since a book has kept me wanting more, kept me turning and turning. But Jones writes in a way that makes you feel as if you are simultaneously present in the pages and sitting next to her as she recounts her journeys. Left me reflecting and looking forward to more from Jones!1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Uses of TravelBy Suzanne L. HarrisAlden Jones uses travel to stimulate experience that takes her both outside her familiar world and inside her increasing self-awareness. Ever self-critical and touchingly honest, we see her evolve as a traveler and a woman, always with sincere respect for the peoples and places she visits. Her gentle humor about the act of travel--or she would ask--is it tourism?--is a question that becomes blurrier to her, like her own photos of Burma, as she matures. Her letter to Flaubert is a gem in itself.I agree with the other reviews that she is a wonderful story teller, and I look forward to reading stories that go even more deeply into the lives of the people she has observed.

"Jones takes us straight to the heart and to the resonating pulse of exotic pin dots most of us never have the nerve to explore. In writing both lyric and colloquial, she captures the voices that emerge in each landscape and setting, from the yips of spotted hyenas to the jangle of vendors in urban streets south of the border of the everyday. The Blind Masseuseis an expedition into the interior life of a smart, engaging American woman who makes us feel at home no matter how far from home she takes us." --Maria Flook, author of Invisible Eden"Wonderful travel writing, in the line of Innocents Abroad by Mark Twain. Alden Jones is humorous like Twain without being cynical; she treats all her amazing encounters and strangers with mucho love. She makes highly entertaining and fresh stories out of culture clash, traveling as an observant gringa, fluent in Spanish. She arrives at many deep insights about other cultures and ours, while transcending the form of travelogue into amazing and dramatic story-telling." --Josip Novakovich, Man Booker International Prize finalist, 2013"Alden Jones's refreshing humor, young perspective, and informed cultural awareness make The Blind Masseuse stand out from other travel memoirs. This is a smart and entertaining read."--Lucy Bledsoe, author of The Big Bang Symphony"A witty and daring chronicle." --The Rumpus