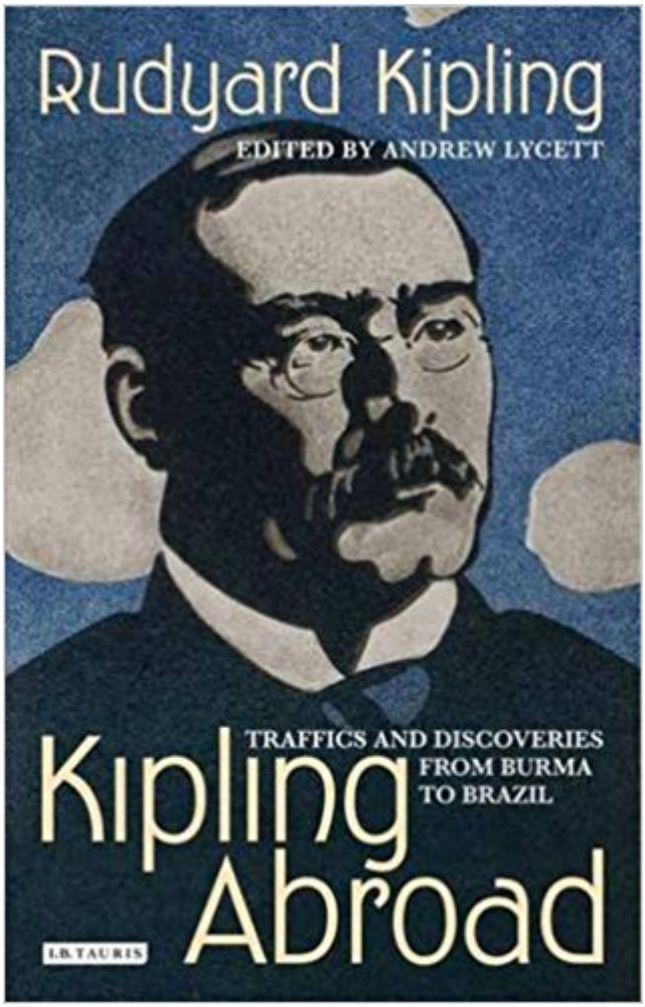
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Kipling Abroad: Traffics And Discoveries From Burma To Brazil



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Synopsis

Rudyard Kipling’s genius for evoking the sights, sounds, and atmosphere of a place was crystallised in his fiction, in which he introduced Victorian and later readers to the drama and exoticism of the East. KiplingÃ¢â ¬â„¢s poetry, journalism, and letters also encapsulated the spirit of the places he visited, from Egypt, India and Brazil to the United States and Southern Africa. Introduced and edited by Andrew Lycett, Kipling Abroad captures the range, curiosity and sheer talent of this beloved author, revealing as much about Kipling himself as it does about the places he visited, and staking a claim for his recognition as the father of modern travel writing.

Book Information

Hardcover: 256 pages

Publisher: I.B.Tauris (January 19, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1848850727

ISBN-13: 978-1848850729

Product Dimensions: 5.9 x 1.2 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 2.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #1,536,700 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #69 inÃ Â Books > Travel > Asia > Myanmar #203 inÃ Â Books > Travel > South America > Brazil > General #4115 inÃ Â Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Writing > Travel

Customer Reviews

Praise for KIPLING ABROAD:*Andrew Lycett has had the good idea of making a collection of KiplingÃ¢â ¬â„¢s travel writing...[he] has compiled a very enjoyable anthology. There is scarcely a single piece that isnÃ¢â ¬â„¢t worth reaing. KiplingÃ¢â ¬â„¢s keen observation and gift for illuminating phrase are everywhere apparent and book will be welcomed by aficionados.* --Allan Massie, Literary Review*This perfect bedside book collects the most descriptive and revealing of his travel writings...Kipling comes across as an engaging travel companion- thoughtful, curious and acute- and a writer perfectly able to evoke and crystallise the sights, sounds and spirit of a place.* --Clover Stroud, Sunday Telegraph*[Kipling] was one of the great travel writers... But despite his wonderful fluency, quality inevitably suffers with volume, making a selection such as this particularly valuable. This excellent selection shows us once again, if we were in any doubt, that this man really could write.*Ã Â -- Jad Adams, The Guardian*KiplingÃ¢â ¬â„¢s biographer Andrew Lycett presents

a useful anthology of the authorÃ¢â ¬â„¢s travel writings, drawing on letters and journalism as well as on KiplingÃ¢â ¬â„¢s published books and poems.* --London Review Bookshop*Yet it is increasingly clear from this excellent selection of travel writing across five continents that (Kipling) is at his strongest in Indian and Egypt, as if the east were not a place that he must describe, but a part of his very being that he must express...For all his sins (which were many), this excellent selection shows us once again, if we were in any doubt, that this man really could write.* --Jad Adams, The Guardian*KiplingÃ¢â ¬â„¢s native India is well covered, but also to be found here are his impressions of the United States and descriptions of the Caribbean, Egypt, South Africa, the British Isles and Japan.* --London Review of BooksÃ¢â ¬Å“If Kipling has been a closed book to you until now, this is a good place to start before heading over the mountains to his marvellous poetry and fiction.Ã¢â ¬Â• -- Alasdair Buchan, DiplomatÃ Â Ã Â *A sensitive illustration of the awareness expressed by Kipling in his poetry.* -- Elizabeth Lowry, Times Literary Supplement, May 2010PRAISE FOR Ã¢â ¬Å“The Man Who Created Sherlock HolmesÃ¢â ¬Â•*Comprehensive and action-packed.... The first [biography] to incorporate private family papers that became available only after the death of the author's last surviving offspring.... We see Conan Doyle's flaws as clearly as his virtues....* -- The Washington Post *Lycett seamlessly interweaves Conan Doyle's letters, autobiography, and published travel writing.... The most detailed map yet published.* -- Los Angeles Times *[An] excellent biography.... Comprehensive and authoritative, it is undoubtedly the best account of Doyle to date, and the best we are likely to get.* -- The Sunday Times *[A] sympathetic new biography...shrewd and thorough...entertaining.* -- The Independent on Sunday Ã Â

Andrew Lycett is author of the definitive biography of Rudyard Kipling. As a former foreign correspondent, he has travelled widely and worked in most parts of the world written about by Kipling, legendary author of The Jungle Book and winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature.Ã Â Lycett's other books include much praisedÃ Â biographies of Ian Fleming, Dylan Thomas and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. He is a member of the Council of the Kipling Society and a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society.

I am astonished that Andrew Lycett chose to subtitle this volume Traffics and Discoveries from Burma to Brazil. I had thought I was buying Kipling's Traffics and Discoveries (1904) which is the third work highlighted in John Carey's Pure Pleasure (A guide to the 20th century's most enjoyable books, Faber and Faber 2000). When the book arrived, I was surprised to see texts dating from as late as 1937. This volume, in fact, has almost nothing in common with Kipling's 1904 book. My usual

practice is to read the book Carey treats then read his short explanation of why he included it. Imagine my frustration when I read (just now) that Kipling's original volume includes three short stories that Lycett doesn't include. For example:" Wireless', one of the three masterpieces in this collection, is a weird tale that points up the uncommonness of the common man ... The second of this volume's classic stories, 'Mrs Bathurst', is also about unexpected depths in seemingly ordinary people ... The third of the masterpieces, 'They', is Kipling's tenderest story." Not one of these in Lycett! What on earth did Lycett think he was doing subtitling his selection of Kipling's travel writing with the title of the 1904 volume? The actual editing is sometimes slack. On page 128, I was wondering what this meant: "No old man Butler did not go hunting alone, but waited till Buck came back from town." Now, old man Butler ...? No! From a transcript of the NY 1908 edition on the internet: "No,old man Butler did not go hunting ... " Ah, that makes sense. And now to the maps. Why, if someone thought maps were an addition, are they not more detailed? Only one city marked on the map of Canada - Toronto. Plenty of room for the names of the other places mentioned in the Canada section. Oh well, off to search for a copy of the 1904 first edition, or a reprint, to read those three stories!

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