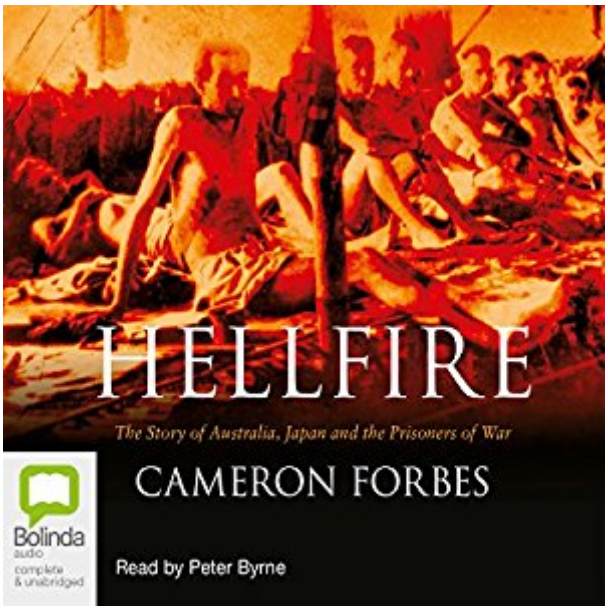
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Hellfire



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Synopsis

For months during 1943 there was no night in Hellfire Pass. By the light of flares, carbide lamps and bamboo fires, men near-naked and skeletal cut a passage through stone to make way for a railway. Among these men were some of the 22,000 Australian soldiers taken prisoner by the Japanese during World War II. In camps across Asia and the Pacific, they struggled, died, and survived with a little help from their mates. Their experiences became a defining feature of the war, just as Hellfire Pass was to become a defining symbol of what every prisoner experienced. Hellfire details the individual stories of those caught up in history: the Hudson bomber pilot attacking the Japanese invasion force on Day One; the prisoner of war who refused to be blindfolded for his execution, and another who coped with misery and death by sketching plumbago flowers; the man the atom bomb didn't kill in Nagasaki and whose homecoming helped change Australia. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

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Customer Reviews

Cameron Forbes takes you on a journey way beyond where others fear to go. For any Australian not to know the history of Hellfire Pass is simply un-Australian. Forbes explains the campaign and it's subsequent repercussions for both sides fluently, intimately and passionately. We will be visiting this area next month to pay our respects. Having read Hellfire, it's as though we've already been there.

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