

Lost Trails, Lost Cities



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Synopsis

Letters, manuscripts, and other records written by Colonel Percy Harrison Fawcett were compiled by his son, Brian, in *Lost Trails, Lost Cities* (Funk & Wagnalls, 1953; also titled *Exploration Fawcett*). In this chronicle, the Colonel detailed his adventures in Mato Grosso, South America, as he searched for the ruins of an ancient lost city ("I call it 'Z' for the sake of convenience," he wrote) between 1906 and 1925. Though his journal ended with his strange disappearance sometime after 29 May 1925, his story continued long after.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Letters, manuscripts, and other records written by Colonel Percy Harrison Fawcett were compiled by his son, Brian, in *Lost Trails, Lost Cities* (Funk & Wagnalls, 1953; also titled *Exploration Fawcett*). In this chronicle, the Colonel detailed his adventures in Mato Grosso, South America, as he searched for the ruins of an ancient lost city ("I call it 'Z' for the sake of convenience," he wrote) between 1906 and 1925. Though his journal ended with his strange disappearance sometime after 29 May 1925, his story continued long after.

Book described accurately, it is old but in good shape. Received in a timely manner. As this book of travels was edited by Colonel Percy Fawcett's son, I don't know if much embellishment has occurred. It is a very detailed account of what was seen on several expeditions, a great book for people with a penchant for history, archaeology, anthropology, and world- health studies. I have not finished reading the text, but there appears to be no mention of the family he left behind except for a short dedication in the front of the book. For that I am puzzled, although I realize that the early 1900's were a rejection of Victorian times; the world was replacing old rules and religion with a

"modernist" view toward life. I don't know how much he missed his wife, Nina, [plus children], or if he wanted to live out his life in the jungle and die there. I think he had a fatalistic view of life. Glad to receive and read this book before I see the movie, "The lost city of Z."

Very interesting reading about early 1900's culture and Col. Fawcett. People can argue about the veracity of certain statements (anaconda lengths or description of certain snakes) but other descriptions widely ridiculed such as the "double nosed dog" were later verified, so who knows, it may be Fawcett was not far off the mark. Either way, it is a very interesting account of the trials and tribulations of an early explorer of the and pleasurable reading of some of the stories passed around of lost cities and civilizations at that time.

THE book to have on Col. Percy Fawcett!

As described.

Good book good read very well written very good on details I very very much enjoyed reading the book

This is a fun read on a very interesting real-life character. There will be renewed interest with a coming book and Brad Pitt Movie - Lost City of Z

In 1921 Col. P. H. Fawcett set down the narrative of his first 7 trips into the heart of the lost world of the Basin and its mountain ramparts of Bolivia and Peru (beginning in 1906). He was searching for the fabled City of Gold which had lured many a conquistador. He never returned from his 8th trip. He simply walked into the jungle and was never heard from again. This book was edited by Brian Fawcett - after waiting a number of years to make sure he wasn't coming back. B&W photos, maps, and line drawings illustrate. Fascinating reading. An overlooked classic.

The story of an Englishman and former soldier obsessed with discovering "lost cities" in Brazil and Bolivia. Fawcett is most famous because he never returned from his last expedition and was never found though several attempts were made to find him. A rugged adventurer, he may have been the model for Indiana Jones. This book, edited by Fawcett's son, is taken from his notes and letters. The story has its high points but is tedious at times. Particularly poignant is Fawcett's love of the harsh

and unforgiving land and its native inhabitants. The book is most interesting for its glimpse into South America at the turn of the last century, and of the cultural and colonial prejudices prevalent at that time. And there are more than a few "tall tales" to peak the reader's interest. Still, the narrative description of rivers, jungles, and hardship seemed repetitive at times and there was more discussion of surveying and daily activities than of legends and lost cities. All in all, the book is highly interesting and a welcome departure from the dangers of life in a cube farm.

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