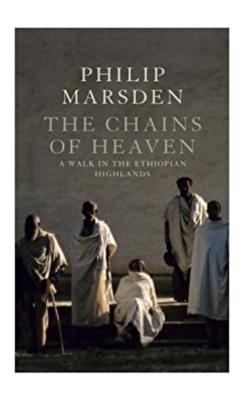
The book was found

Chains Of Heaven





Book Information

Hardcover: 320 pages

Publisher: HARPER COLLINS 0 PUB; First Edition edition (2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0007173474

ISBN-13: 978-0007173471

Product Dimensions: 5.7 x 1.3 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (4 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,857,686 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #76 in Books > Travel > Africa >

Ethiopia & Diibouti #5206 in Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides >

Writing > Travel

Customer Reviews

A lot of readers are coming to this book because Lonely Planet Ethiopia says it is the one book to read if one is planning a visit. This is an account of Marsden's travels on foot (with mules and guides) around Northern Ethiopia. He first went to Ethiopia when he was 21 years old, but had to leave because the DERG had made the place too dangerous for young backpackers. He returns to Ethiopia a few times after that, but most of this account is based on the trip he made 21 years after his first trip, when he was 42 years old. As a reader, you get a sense of how tedious and difficult the trip was - constant heat every day, high altitude, interviewing older peasants about their DERG resistance as young men - these are simple people who give him simple answers without any analysis of the role they played. Then there is the Ethiopian food that doesn't agree with him, the immense weariness of the dry season, the semi-starvation of Ethiopian Lent, etc... Marsden is a great prose stylist - he makes a tedious trip interesting, and his research into Ethiopian lore is fascinating - he includes wonderful vignettes on Prester John and The Book of Enoch. Lonely Planet Ethiopia borrowed heavily from this book. The book has the same slow, gracious, almost worn-out pace that I imagine he encountered in many of the people. (NOTE: I am reviewing after reading only 150 pages, and I have not been to Ethiopia myself.) Marsden also does a great job of exploring Ethiopian Christianity, whose believers put a far heavier emphasis on demons and demonic possession than do most western Christians. Mary is heavily venerated in Ethiopia - not at all surprising in an atavistic Christianity full of demons. For a reader in the right mood, this book can take you away to a completely different time and place. But I will say that this is a slowly moving

story, and I found it a good book to skip around in. The stories that give the reader a break from the main travel account offer some of the most entertaining reading - check out the part where Emperor Menelik learns to drive. One other thing I will note is that this is not an account of modern Ethiopia today - this book was originally published only a decade ago, but it feels older. There is no description of upscale eco-lodges, or the Aid Parade run amok in Addis Ababa, or the legion of well-meaning white folk descending to take home an Ethiopian orphan. It is just a simple tale of a seemingly endless journey on foot from one church to the next monastery, with a backwards glance at the people he met along the way, and the way in which Marsden remembered them, or let them tell a bit of their own story.

Finally Mr. Marsden returns to Ethiopia and gets to travel to the places denied him on his first visit 20 years ago in his first memoir "A FAR COUNTRY: TRAVELS IN ETHIOPIA (CENTURY TRAVELLERS)". He journeys from Lalibela all the way up to Axum stopping at at a multitude of villages and churches along the way. In typical Marsden fashion, what makes the book a gem is the historical information about the country the he mixes into his memoir; as well as the popular myths and legends surrounding the locations. I'd also highly recommend Marsden's historical biography of Emperor Tewodros, "The Barefoot Emperor: An Ethiopian Tragedy".

This book was delivered on timely basis and in good condition. The book is not something that I find to be interesting or eye-opener.

Wonderful book to read before my trip to Ethiopia! These are a beautiful people that have had a very hard life.

Download to continue reading...

Chains (Chains Series) Chains of Heaven Heaven is Beyond Your Wildest Expectations: Ten True Stories of Experiencing Heaven Flight to Heaven: A Plane Crash...A Lone Survivor...A Journey to Heaven-and Back Heaven's Gate: The Remarkable Journey of One Man Who Finds out If Heaven Is for Real When Heaven Weeps: The Heaven Trilogy, Book 2 What If This Is Heaven?: How Our Cultural Myths Prevent Us from Experiencing Heaven on Earth To Heaven and Back: A Doctor's Extraordinary Account of Her Death, Heaven, Angels, and Life Again: A True Story Heaven is for Real: A Little Boy's Astounding Story of His Trip to Heaven and Back The Glory of Heaven (Second Edition): The Truth about Heaven, Angels, and Eternal Life Heaven is for Real for Kids: A Little Boy's Astounding Story of His Trip to Heaven and Back Alice in Chains: The Untold Story Beneath

These Chains: The Beneath Series, Book 3 Beaded Wild Animals: Puffy Critters for Key Chains, Dangles, and Jewelry (Design Originals) Wild Animal Paper Chains What Are Food Chains and Webs? (Science of Living Things (Paperback)) Who Eats What?: Food Chains and Food Webs (Let's-Read-and-Find-Out Science 2) Secrets of the Garden: Food Chains and the Food Web in Our Backyard Paracord!: How to Make the Best Bracelets, Lanyards, Key Chains, Buckles, and More Rise of the Tyrant - Volume 2 of Change to Chains: The 6,000 Year Quest for Global Power

<u>Dmca</u>