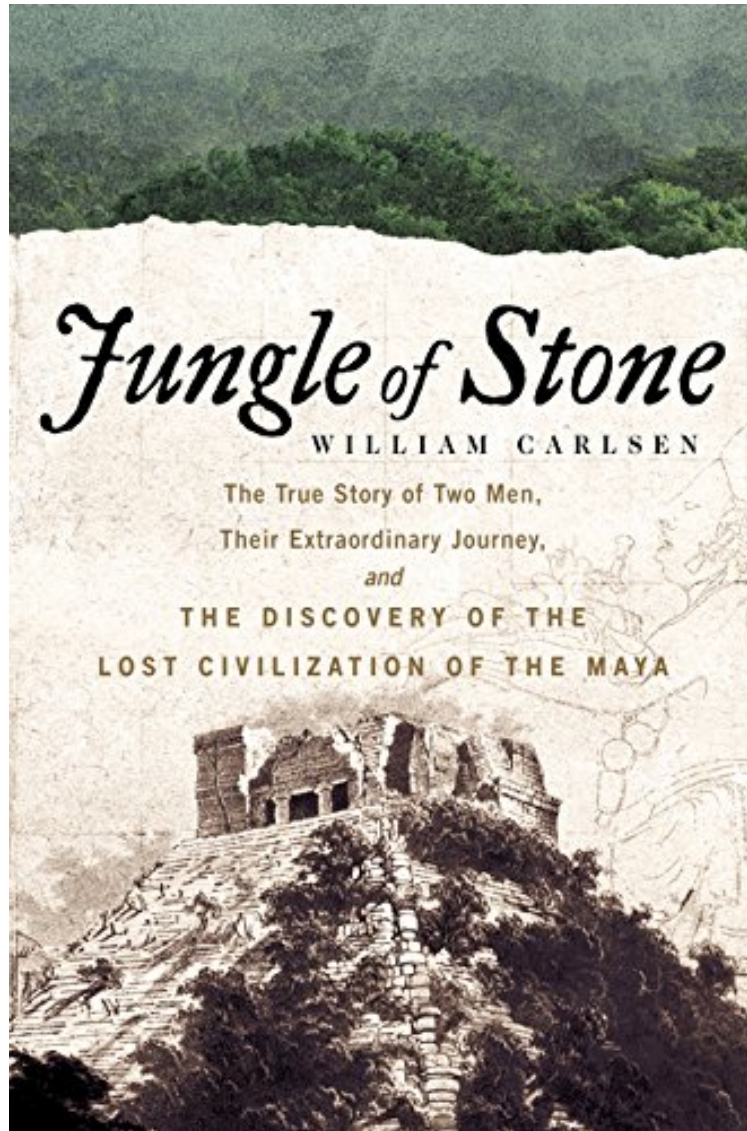


[Read ebook] Jungle of Stone: The Extraordinary Journey of John L. Stephens and Frederick Catherwood, and the Discovery of the Lost Civilization of the Maya

Jungle of Stone: The Extraordinary Journey of John L. Stephens and Frederick Catherwood, and the Discovery of the Lost Civilization of the Maya

William Carlsen

ePub | *DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#214307 in Books Carlsen William 2016-04-26 2016-04-26 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x 1.37 x 6.00l, .0 #File Name: 0062407392544 pages Jungle of Stone The True Story of Two Men Their Extraordinary Journey and the Discovery of the Lost Civilization of the Maya | File size: 15.Mb

William Carlsen : Jungle of Stone: The Extraordinary Journey of John L. Stephens and Frederick Catherwood, and the Discovery of the Lost Civilization of the Maya before purchasing it in order to gage whether

or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Jungle of Stone: The Extraordinary Journey of John L. Stephens and Frederick Catherwood, and the Discovery of the Lost Civilization of the Maya*:

37 of 37 people found the following review helpful. Brilliant Narrative of the Discovery of Mayan Ruins By Brent Siegel A brilliantly written page turner about the discovery of the major Mayan ruins in the first half of the nineteenth century. Mr. Carlsen's writing gives the reader a real sense of the challenges faced by these adventurers, one of whom, John Stephens was a great travel writer and the other, Frederick Catherwood, was a brilliant artist. Mr. Carlsen includes many of Catherwood's drawings and offsets some of them with current photographs of the same sites so the reader gets a real sense of the detail that went into these drawings. Anyone with any interest in the history of early civilizations, particularly in the Western Hemisphere should read this book. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The book is a must-read for anyone interested in the Mayan civilization and its amazing architecture. The entire story of discovery by William Carlsen is fascinating. Edgar Allen Poe called the original book by John Lloyd Stephens, "perhaps the most interesting book of travel ever published". (Yes, I said "Edgar Allen Poe")! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Gripping 19th Century exploration of places people still fear to go! By R. Hudson Reads like an adventure novel, except it's all true. A tale of two men who are opposites personally but together they changed the world of archaeology that grabs your attention and doesn't let go. Plan on reading this way past your bed time. A worthy companion to this book is *The Lost Cities of the Maya: The Life, Art, and Discoveries of Frederick Catherwood*. This large format collection of Catherwood's illustrations is not to be missed, it is the closest to visiting these sites you'll get without a passport and vaccinations.

New York Times Bestseller (Expeditions) Thrilling. A captivating history of two men who dramatically changed their contemporaries view of the past. Kirkus (starred review) "[An] adventure tale that make[s] Indiana Jones seem tame. Library Journal In 1839, rumors of extraordinary yet baffling stone ruins buried within the unmapped jungles of Central America reached two of the worlds most intrepid travelers. Seized by the reports, American diplomat John Lloyd Stephens and British artist Frederick Catherwood both already celebrated for their adventures in Egypt, the Holy Land, Greece, and Rome sailed together out of New York Harbor on an expedition into the forbidding rainforests of present-day Honduras, Guatemala, and Mexico. What they found would upend the West's understanding of human history. In the tradition of *Lost City of Z* and *In the Kingdom of Ice*, former San Francisco Chronicle journalist and Pulitzer Prize finalist William Carlsen reveals the remarkable story of the discovery of the ancient Maya. Enduring disease, war, and the torments of nature and terrain, Stephens and Catherwood meticulously uncovered and documented the remains of an astonishing civilization that had flourished in the Americas at the same time as classic Greece and Rome and had been its rival in art, architecture, and power. Their masterful book about the experience, written by Stephens and illustrated by Catherwood, became a sensation, hailed by Edgar Allan Poe as perhaps the most interesting book of travel ever published and recognized today as the birth of American archaeology. Most important, Stephens and Catherwood were the first to grasp the significance of the Maya remains, understanding that their antiquity and sophistication overturned the West's assumptions about the development of civilization. By the time of the flowering of classical Greece (400 b.c.), the Maya were already constructing pyramids and temples around central plazas. Within a few hundred years the structures took on a monumental scale that required millions of man-hours of labor, and technical and organizational expertise. Over the next millennium, dozens of city-states evolved, each governed by powerful lords, some with populations larger than any city in Europe at the time, and connected by road-like causeways of crushed stone. The Maya developed a cohesive, unified cosmology, an array of common gods, a creation story, and a shared artistic and architectural vision. They created stucco and stone monuments and bas reliefs, sculpting figures and hieroglyphs with refined artistic skill. At their peak, an estimated ten million people occupied the Maya's heartland on the Yucatan Peninsula, a region where only half a million now live. And yet by the time the Spanish reached the New World, the Maya had all but disappeared; they would remain a mystery for the next three hundred years. Today, the tables are turned: the Maya are justly famous, if sometimes misunderstood, while Stephens and Catherwood have been nearly forgotten. Based on Carlsen's rigorous research and his own 1,500-mile journey throughout the Yucatan and Central America, *Jungle of Stone* is equally a thrilling adventure narrative and a revelatory work of history that corrects our understanding of Stephens, Catherwood, and the Maya themselves.

The book succeeds in all ways. A highly readable, fascinating historical narrative. (Providence Journal) Carlsen's cogent and well-written dual biography successfully illuminates the fascinating tale of these intrepid pioneers of a lost civilization. ... [An] adventure tale that make[s] Indiana Jones seem tame. (Library Journal) [A] gripping, informative history. (San Jose Mercury News) Thrilling. ... A captivating history of two men who dramatically changed their contemporaries view of the past. (Kirkus s (starred review)) Lively. ... Aply researching [Stephens and Catherwood] and affectingly describing their friendship, Carlsen makes an exemplary contribution to the lost-cities genre. (Booklist

(starred review))Jungle of Stone is a tale of two men that makes Indiana Jones look like a stay-at-home slacker. Full of astonishing adventures and breathtaking discoveries. [Carlsen] brings both research skills and a gift for narrative to this book. Thrilling. (Tampa Bay Times)Carlsen is an engaging guide, at home in the jungle. ... There's plenty to like in [his] account. (Wall Street Journal)Carlsons book brings these important explorers back to the limelight they so richly deserve. (The Explorers Journal: The Official Quarterly of The Explorers Club)Carlsons masterful chronicle of [Stephens and Catherwoods] explorations is a welcome excursion to a fascinating story set in the golden age of exploration. (The Missourian)With verve and vigor... Carlsen finely explicates the challenges of the Catherwood-Stephens expedition and the wonders they found. (Publishers Weekly)If you're hankering for a good adventure, there is no better book this spring. This account reads like an adventure novel, but it has the added benefit of being completely true. Armchair explorers, history buffs, and anyone who loves a good journey: Don't miss this book. (Bookish)From the Back CoverIn 1839, rumors of extraordinary yet baffling stone ruins buried within the unmapped jungles of Central America reached two of the world's most intrepid travelers. Seized by the reports, American diplomat John Lloyd Stephens and British artist Frederick Catherwoodboth already celebrated for their adventures in Egypt, the Holy Land, Greece, and Rome sailed together out of New York Harbor on an expedition into the forbidding rainforests of present-day Honduras, Guatemala, and Mexico. What they found would rewrite the West's understanding of human history. In the tradition of *Lost City of Z* and *In the Kingdom of Ice*, former San Francisco Chronicle journalist and Pulitzer Prize finalist William Carlsen reveals the extraordinary story of the discovery of the ancient Maya. Enduring disease, war, and the torments of nature and terrain, Stephens and Catherwood meticulously uncovered and documented the remains of an astonishing civilization that had flourished in the Americas at the same time as classic Greece and Rome and had been its rival in art, architecture, and power. Their remarkable book about the experience, written by Stephens and illustrated by Catherwood, became a sensation, hailed by Edgar Allan Poe as perhaps the most interesting book of travel ever published and recognized today as the birth of American archaeology. Most important, Stephens and Catherwood were the first to grasp the significance of the Mayan remains, understanding that their antiquity and sophistication overturned the West's assumptions about the development of civilization. By the time of the flowering of classical Greece (400 b.c.), the Maya were already constructing pyramids and temples around central plazas. Within a few hundred years the structures took on a monumental scale that required millions of man-hours of labor, and technical and organizational expertise. Over the next millennium, dozens of city-states evolved, each governed by powerful lords, some with populations larger than any city in Europe at the time, and connected by road-like causeways of crushed stone. The Maya developed a cohesive, unified cosmology, an array of common gods, a creation story, and a shared artistic and architectural vision. They created stucco and stone monuments and bas-reliefs, sculpting figures and hieroglyphs with refined artistic skill. At their peak, an estimated ten million people occupied the Maya's heartland on the Yucatan Peninsula, a region where only half a million now live. And yet by the time the Spanish reached the New World, the Maya had all but disappeared; they would remain a mystery for the next three hundred years. Today, the tables are turned: the Maya are justly famous, if sometimes misunderstood, while Stephens and Catherwood have been all but forgotten. Based on Carlsen's rigorous research and his own 2,500-mile journey throughout the Yucatan and Central America, *Jungle of Stone* is equally a thrilling adventure narrative and a revelatory work of history that corrects our understanding of Stephens, Catherwood, and the Maya themselves. Thrilling. . . . A captivating history. Kirkus s (Starred)About the AuthorWilliam Carlsen was a reporter for two decades at the San Francisco Chronicle, where he was a finalist for the 1999 Pulitzer Prize for explanatory reporting. He has also worked for the New York Times and taught journalism at the University of California, Berkeley. He and his wife lived for many years in Antigua, Guatemala; they currently reside in Sonoma County, California.