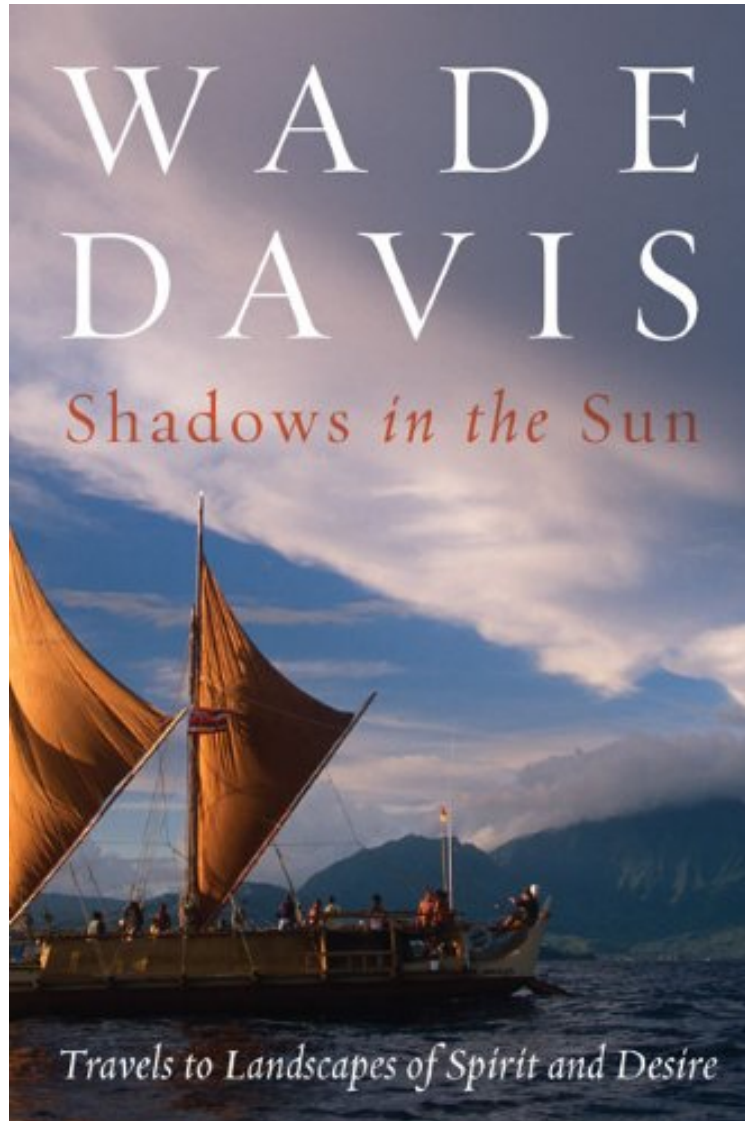


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Shadows in the Sun: Travels to Landscapes of Spirit and Desire

Wade Davis

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Wade Davis : Shadows in the Sun: Travels to Landscapes of Spirit and Desire before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Shadows in the Sun: Travels to Landscapes of Spirit and Desire:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Writing to increase the readers' understanding and appreciation of the communities described.By Eleanor BergI haven't finished reading this book but I enjoy Wade Davis' writing very much indeed. This is not an armchair traveler's book as Wade Davis does not avoid diffulties facing some, probably

all, indigenous communities. Brief histories of the communities described add to the overall interest of the writing. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This copy went to one of my former students trying ...By Michael T. Suderman This copy went to one of my former students trying to define his place in this world. I have one of the first editions of this book and many others authored by Wade Davis. Wade has the art of taking sensitive subject matter and presenting it in a clear, concise method which makes very readable. Whenever I need a pick me up for the soul I reread a chapter or two. The original edition has a permanent place on my desk. I think of the content of this book as my roadmap to humanity. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Review of *Shadows in the Sun* By Bill Neylon Each book Mr. Davis has written educates the reader more and more. The statistics he presents stagger the mind, and his botanical knowledge is unsurpassed. Each of his works are entertaining and thoroughly informative. Anyone will be enriched by reading of his travels, experiences, and his passion for our world and the living things in it. Bill Neylon

Ranging from the British Columbian wilderness to the jungles of the Amazon and the polar ice of the Arctic Circle, *Shadows in the Sun* is a testament to a world where spirits still stalk the land and seize the human heart. Its essays and stories, though distilled from travels in widely separated parts of the world, are fundamentally about landscape and character, the wisdom of lives drawn directly from the land, the hunger of those who seek to rediscover such understanding, and the consequences of failure.

.com Renowned anthropologist Wade Davis shows us how preserving the diversity of the world's cultures and spiritual beliefs is just as important as preserving our endangered plants, insects, and animals. In this collection of personal essays, Davis tells of dramatic personal adventures during which he visits and often lives with indigenous communities in the remote regions of the world. He offers reports of toad-smoking shamanistic journeys in the forests, tracking an elusive cloud leopard in the mountains of Tibet, and a soulful lament for the lost American buffalo. Although he has been called a modern-day Indiana Jones, Davis has far more integrity. His stories are not in service to self-glorification, but rather to one resounding theme: If there is one lesson I have drawn from my travels, it is that cultural and biological diversity are far more than the foundation of stability; they are an article of faith, a fundamental truth that indicates the way things are supposed to be.... There is a fire burning over the Earth, taking with it plants and animals, cultures, languages, ancient skills, and visionary wisdom. Quelling this flame and reinventing the poetry of diversity is the most important challenge of our times. --Gail Hudson From *Library Journal* Davis, who holds a Harvard Ph.D. in ethnobotany and degrees in biology and anthropology, is also a prolific writer (e.g., *One River*, LJ 7/96). His current work is an eclectic collection of essays, some previously published, dealing with topics that include hallucinogenic plants (of which he partakes), toad licking, disappearing rain forests, Haitian voodoo, and the elusive clouded leopard. While at first glance these may not seem related, an overall appreciation for native cultures and for the natural world is evident throughout. Davis is straightforward and clear but not quite spellbinding. Still, this enjoyable read takes the armchair traveler to places few have written about. Recommended for all travel collections. ?Kathleen A. Shanahan, American Univ. Lib., Washington, DC Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. From *Booklist* Anthropologist and ethnobotanist Davis has sojourned in places where people still live in harmony with the earth, remote communities at the base of the Himalayas, on the ice of the Arctic, or deep in the center of the rain forests. In essays so sensitively written their pristine language reflects the landscapes they describe, Davis chronicles his unusual adventures and striking observations as a welcome guest in these spiritually vibrant enclaves now threatened by industrial invasion. Drawing on the great wealth of botanical, anthropological, and historical knowledge from which he created his magnum opus about the , *One River* (1996), Davis delves into the mysteries of South American shamanic healing and Haiti's voodoo religion, relates the maddening story of the fight to save the rain forests of Borneo, and describes the ingenuity of the Inuit. Truly global in thought and deed, poetic and outspoken, Davis deftly illuminates the little understood connection between biodiversity and cultural diversity and strongly suggests that more be done to preserve what's left of wilderness. Donna Seaman