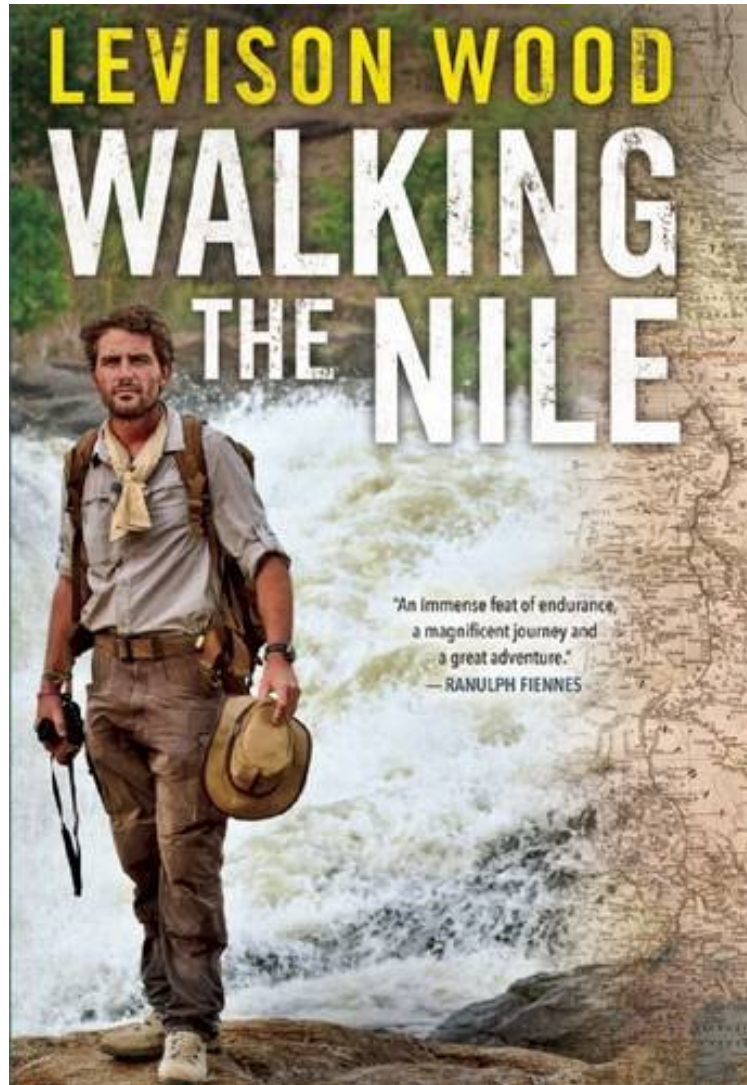


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Walking the Nile

Levison Wood

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Levison Wood : Walking the Nile before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Walking the Nile:

46 of 48 people found the following review helpful. Great ReadBy CustomerI have been in search of another great travel story since I finished The Long Way Round and The Long Way Down by Ewan McGregor and Charlie Boorman and this is most definitely it. Levison Wood makes Bear Gryll's look like an amateur with his fantastic story of his trek up the Nile - crocodiles, pythons, close encounters with rebel forces, this book has it all7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Great read...By Alison D DThis was a really interesting read, I learned so much about the areas along the Nile, the people, vegetation, animals, previous explorers and political problems still ongoing in a

lot of the areas. Levison Wood, a former British soldier, a writer and explorer decides he wants to be the first to have walked the whole length of the Nile, a journey that would take him 4,250 miles and through many diverse landscapes. When asked why he wanted to do this journey, his ultimate response was The Nile was there and I wanted to walk it. He had Guides that walked with him through different parts of the continent, needing to change as the languages did. Friends and reporters would occasionally walk small part with him. There was Tragedy, fear and amazement to witness throughout this journey. This is a journey well worth reading. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Meh. Not terrible, but could be much better. By A. N. Walking the Nile is just okay. Wood's writing is serviceable, but certainly not compelling. There's just no "oomph" to it, nothing to make you want to keep turning the pages. While ostensibly a book about walking the distance of the Nile, it's much more a book about how messed up all the African nations he traveled through are. At that, it's not a bad book by any means, but again, the writing isn't compelling enough to hold my interest. Most of the actual walking isn't even included in the book. Instead, Wood mostly includes discussions of the cities he sees and occasionally the villages. I'm sure many will find it a worthwhile read, but for me it was just okay.

The Nile, one of the world's great rivers, has long been an object of fascination and obsession. From Alexander the Great and Nero, to Victorian adventurers David Livingstone, John Hanning Speke, and Henry Morton Stanley, the river has seduced men and led them into wild adventures. English writer, photographer, and explorer Levison Wood is just the latest. His *Walking the Nile* is a captivating account of a remarkable and unparalleled Nile journey. Starting in November 2013 in a forest in Rwanda, where a modest spring spouts a trickle of clear, cold water, Wood set forth on foot, aiming to become the first person to walk the entire length of the fabled river. He followed the Nile for nine months, over 4,000 miles, through six nations: Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, South Sudan, the Republic of Sudan, and Egypt to the Mediterranean coast. Like his predecessors, Wood camped in the wild, foraged for food, and trudged through rainforest, swamp, savannah, and desert, enduring life-threatening conditions at every turn. He traversed sandstorms, flash floods, minefields, and more, becoming a local celebrity in Uganda, where a popular rap song was written about him, and a potential enemy of the state in South Sudan, where he found himself caught in a civil war and detained by the secret police. As well as recounting his triumphs, like escaping a charging hippo and staving off wild crocodiles, Wood's gripping account recalls the loss of Matthew Power, a journalist who died suddenly from heat exhaustion during their trek. As Wood walks on, often joined by local guides who help him to navigate foreign languages and customs, *Walking the Nile* maps out African history and contemporary life. An inimitable tale of survival, resilience, and sheer willpower, *Walking the Nile* is an inspiring chronicle of an epic journey down the lifeline of civilization in northern Africa.

.com An Best Book of February 2016: In November 2013, Levison Wood set out on an improbable and dangerous undertaking: walking the 4,000 miles of the Nile River from the trickle of its Rwandan headwaters to its Egyptian delta, a trek that would take him through six countries, strife and civil wars, swamps and sandstorms, thousands of years of history, and personal tragedy. *Walking the Nile* is Wood's account of the expedition, a briskly paced blend of gripping adventure tale and a portrait of modern Africa, full of objective hazards including crocodiles, minefields, and secret police. But why? Even Wood has trouble answering that question, but "ultimately, it came down to one thing. The Nile was there, and I wanted to walk it." George Mallory would be proud. --Jon Foro Praise for Levison Wood and *Walking the Nile*: An Best Book of the Year (Nonfiction) Wood's interest, as well as his talents as a writer, lie . . . in finding out what life was like in corners of the world that do not always make it into our headlines and in capturing the character and foibles of the people who inhabit them . . . Mr. Wood has a good eye for detail and a better ear for dialogue . . . What's more, unlike many explorers who went before him, Mr. Wood seems to have remained composed and charming throughout. Wall Street Journal Gripping . . . Collecting these stories let alone doing so beautifully requires a variety of lucky skills. Wood emerges as a dutiful and brave guide. Los Angeles Times *Walking the Nile* continues the illustrious tradition of travel adventures stretching from Marco Polo to Henry W. Longfellow to Bear Grylls . . . Wood's remarkable achievement is one each reader can savor vicariously . . . This worthy effort . . . should satisfy even the most jaded armchair adventurers. Lincoln Journal Star A travelogue vivid enough to feel the burning sands in our soles. John Sandford, Minneapolis Star Tribune Moments of sheer beauty and splendor are expertly juxtaposed with descriptions of the harshness of life for millions living in Africa, giving this account a depth and humbleness not often found in memoir/adventure writing. Wood has set a standard that will be hard to surpass. Shelf Awareness *Walking the Nile* has enticed many explorers, but Wood provides an up-to-the-minute portrait of the nations and people that claim the world's longest river . . . Wood is a sharp observer and authoritative writer. He takes pains to describe the Rwandan conflict, the Egyptian revolution, the Sudanese civil war, and all the culture clashes in between . . . A bold travelogue, illuminating great swathes of modern Africa. Kirkus s [An] ambitious attempt . . . the opinions of the people [Wood] encounters . . . are dynamic and at times surprising . . . These voices, seen through the lens of Wood's words, make this memoir a success. Publishers Weekly [Wood], in addition to being adventurous, determined, and rugged, is also very reflective . . . A collection of anecdotes that seem to be

plucked from a Kipling adventure novel . . . From the terrifying to the exotic, Levison Wood has encountered just about everything imaginable, and then some . . . What comes through just as clearly as botany, geology, hydrology and zoology is the remarkable variety of cultures and people he meets along this unique expedition, presenting for us their lives, their work, their societies, and their history. CentralJersey.com An immense feat of endurance, a magnificent journey and a great adventure. Ranulph Fiennes Many have attempted this holy grail of an expedition so I admire Levis determination and courage to pull this off. Bear Grylls Obsession, sacrifice, bravery, death the themes of great expedition tales havent changed since Odysseus set sail. The adventurer Levison Wood has accomplished a doubly impressive feat, not only walking the Nile but capturing that experience in this lovely, evocative book. Mark Adams, New York Times bestselling author of Turn Right at Machu Pichu In the macho, adrenaline-fuelled arena of TV adventurers, Levison Wood is that rare beast: the real deal. Radio Times (UK) Unlike a great many pretenders, [Wood] is the real deal: a former paratrooper, a major in the Army Reserve and as hard as nails. Sunday Telegraph (UK) Wood is not most men . . . He has earned a reputation as a real-life action man. Mirror (UK) Britains best-loved adventurer. Times (UK)