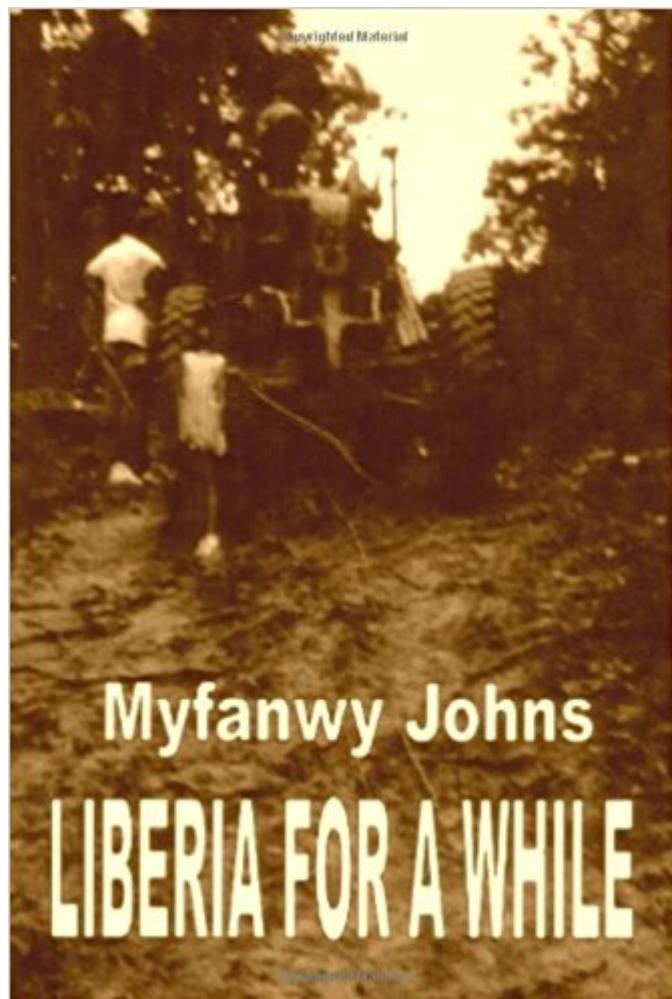


The book was found

Liberia For A While



Synopsis

In the 1960s mahogany and luxurious veneers were being exported to the world from rain forests in Africa. One company operated in Liberia and a young man went out on contract to work on a pilot scheme. Later his family would join him and their experience of living in the Liberian bush, getting to know and love the people, would remain with them for the rest of their lives. The bush Liberians were poor, but they had something that singled them out, they had personality and many of them were the unforgettable characters that magazines talk about. These are the anecdotes and stories that were collected during the time spent in the bush. Some will make you laugh and others will make you cry, but it was essentially a happy time and you will enjoy the tales that are told.

Book Information

Paperback: 214 pages

Publisher: lulu.com (April 23, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1409280225

ISBN-13: 978-1409280224

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.5 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #2,080,198 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #73 in Books > Travel > Africa > Coastal West Africa

Customer Reviews

This very readable book is an account of the time spent in Liberia by a British family in the 1960s. At the time, Liberia was a stable and developing country under the respected President Tubman. Written from letters sent back to Britain, the account of life in the Liberian bush is an entertaining social history of a short period in the life of a country now seemingly lost. The author's husband worked for East Asiatic, running a pilot scheme for harvesting hardwoods for furniture. Because the company out there was run on a shoe string, there was a lot of making do, especially for the Liberian workforce. These people had nothing at times, not even a roof over their heads and they made do with cardboard and women's magazines begged from Europeans. The book describes the decidedly unofficial things done to make the Liberians' life more comfortable. There are many anecdotes in the book - shopping for three months at a time and getting the goods- frozen and otherwise- to the bush plane and hoping nothing melted. Getting a parking ticket from the local

policeman when there was no traffic for over a hundred miles. Handling the men when there was a murder in the labour camp. The contrasts with British life are often amusing and often stark. A favorite was explaining the landing of men on the moon to people who didn't believe it because they couldn't see them. I'd recommend this book to anyone interested in Liberia's recent past, who wants to compare the fate of a growing economy with one going the other way or simply to anyone who wants to read an entertaining journal of life in Africa.

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