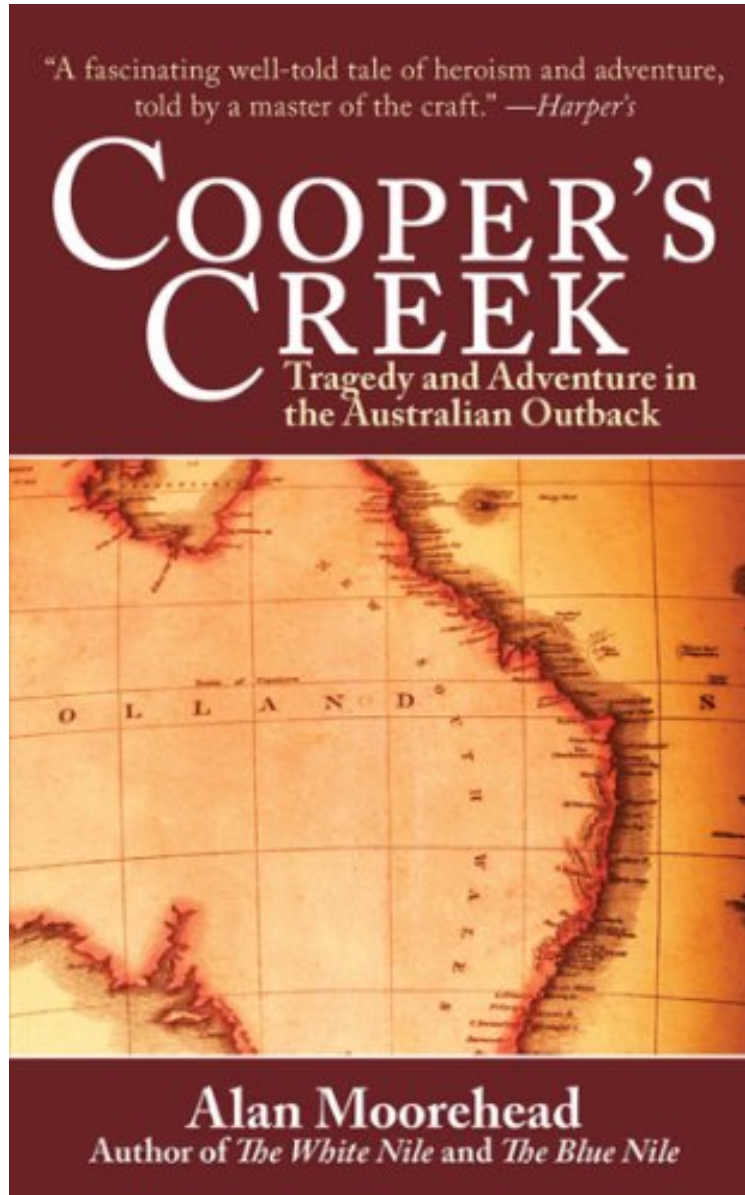


(Read download) Cooper's Creek: Tragedy and Adventure in the Australian Outback

Cooper's Creek: Tragedy and Adventure in the Australian Outback

Alan Moorehead

**Download PDF / ePub / DOC / audiobook / ebooks*



DOWNLOAD



+

READ ONLINE

#444277 in Books 2010-08-01Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.50 x 5.30 x 5.50l, .51 #File Name: 1616080221224 pages | File size: 33.Mb

Alan Moorehead : Cooper's Creek: Tragedy and Adventure in the Australian Outback before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Cooper's Creek: Tragedy and Adventure in the Australian Outback:

18 of 18 people found the following review helpful. What a great little book!By D. D. LeDuThis is a great little book. It tells of a journey of exploration that went wrong, of rescues that were inept, and other treks that went off like

clockwork - all woven into a well-told tale. Most such stories fall into one of two categories: Follies dripping with ineptness, irony and tragedy (such as Scott's fatal expedition to the South Pole); or well-planned and executed journeys that are practically dull and boring in their expert execution (Amundsen's successful "first" to the South Pole). "Cooper's Creek" has both - and more. In 1860-61 an expedition northwards from Melbourne across the largely unknown interior to the north coast of Australia ended with the deaths of three of the four explorers that had made the final dash. The fourth lived due to rescue by the local natives (the "black gentlemen"). The outcome was made more dramatic and tragic because men of the base depot upon whom the four depended had returned south one day before the exploring party returned. There are dozens of "what ifs" that could have changed the outcome. These (along with the interplay between individuals and supporters) make this book as much a mystery or detective story as a tale of adventure. It is also both interesting and tragic to read of these outsiders suffering and dying as they trek through groups of black gentlemen who have mastered the country. You can't but wonder to what extent the explorers seeming contempt of the native Australians must have, in the end, turned to admiration.

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Challenging and Tragic Early Exploration in the Australian Outback By Steven Ledbetter I've been a staunch admirer of Alan Moorehead's best-known books about the exploration of little-known areas of the world (The Blue Nile and The White Nile) for many years. Happily I discovered that he had written a book about the dangerous and ultimately deadly attempt to fill in the map of the center of Australia soon after the middle of the 19th century, and I discovered it shortly before leaving for a trip to Australia, so the timing could not have been more perfect. The expedition seemed at first to have been very well planned, but human failings, misunderstandings, ego, arrogance, bad weather, and some singularly unfortunate decisions that were not in themselves bad ones and were fully in character ultimately led to tragedy. The center of Australia--a hot, waterless desert much of the year, inhabited by Aborigines, with whom the white settlers so far had very little connection--could hardly be more different than the Nile valley and the heavily populated jungles of East Africa that were the settings of the two earlier books, yet as before Moorehead combines an account of the almost superhuman exertions of the party to survive and the interaction of personalities that made the chances so risky. One does not need to be crossing the Australian outback to be captivated by the book, though it is a gripping companion for such an experience. But, as always, Moorehead reveals the strengths and weaknesses of men in a very challenging situation, and makes it compulsively readable.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Australia's early exploration By terry The early days of Australian discovery are in many ways similar to the extreme conditions encountered by Lewis and Clarke with a few exceptions. Australian explorers had to deal with impossible heat, little water and inconsistent support from the Australian government and the exploration society that was supposed to be backing them. Food supplies were often scarce and subsistence living hit or miss. This is a fascinating, detailed account of the courageous group of marginally experienced explorers who set out to find potential arable land for future settlers and to explore the vast outback. Despite the experience of the group's leaders, most of the group died in the effort. This detailed account is taken from journals and first hand reports of the few survivors and tells of the daily fight for survival in a hostile land.

In 1860, an expedition set out from Melbourne, Australia, into the interior of the country, with the mission to find a route to the northern coast. Headed by Robert O'Hara Burke and William John Wills, the party of adventurers, scientists, and camels set out into the outback hoping to find enough water and to keep adequate food stores for their trek into the bush. Almost one year later, Burke, Wills, and two others from their party, Gray and King, reached the northern shore but on their journey back, they were stranded at Cooper's Creek where all but King perished. Cooper's Creek is a gripping, intense historical narrative about the harshness of the Australian outback and the people who were brave enough to go into the very depths of that uncharted country.

About the Author Alan Moorehead was born in 1910 in Melbourne, Australia, and served as a foreign correspondent, winning international recognition for his reporting during WWII. Moorehead was the author of Cooper's Creek, The White Nile, The Blue Nile, and more than twenty other books. He passed away in 1983.