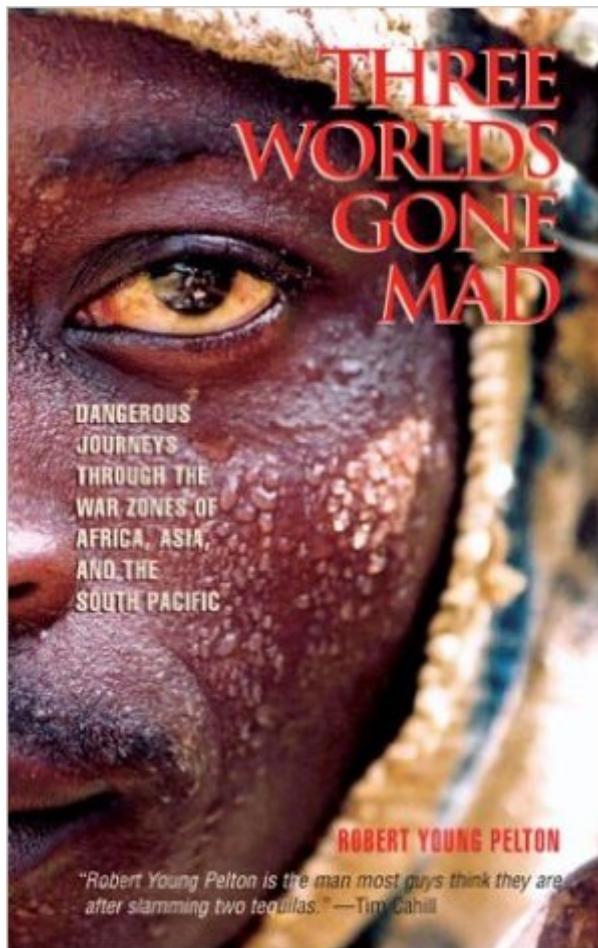


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Three Worlds Gone Mad: Dangerous Journeys Through The War Zones Of Africa, Asia, And The South Pacific



Synopsis

As the author of The World's Most Dangerous Places, Robert Young Pelton has come to know some of the most unusual and dangerous individuals in the world. In THE HUNTER, THE HAMMER, AND HEAVEN, he introduces an extraordinary cast of characters from three of the most war-ravaged countries on earth - the West African country of Sierra Leone, the breakaway republic of Chechnya, and a mysterious island in the South Pacific called Bougainville. In war-torn Sierra Leone, as he wanders through the world's most expensive peacekeeping mission, he meets an ex-mercenary who hunts pirates, a ragtag militia whose members believe they have supernatural powers, and white men with "diamond fever." In Chechnya, Pelton enters the jihad with three traveling companions - an American muhjad who wants to die, a young woman seeing her first war as a journalist, and a grumpy cameraman. Pelton brings this motley crew down the secret muj trail from Georgia and into terrorist-filled bunkers, suicide squad-manned front lines, and SCUD missile attacks. Finally, Pelton chronicles his two-year odyssey to meet one of the most elusive rebel leaders in the world - Francis Ona - who has survived numerous assassination attempts and who threatens to kill any white man who sets foot on his tiny island, Bougainville. Filled with tension and intrigue, THE HUNTER, THE HAMMER, AND HEAVEN offers a dramatic vision of war and humanity.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

where are the pictures? He goes to all these places, meets all these different personalities, admits that he has a camera and where are they? Now I don't need pictures in a book for me to read it but

his stories I think would be enhanced with photos of his journeys. The book is good and is part adventure/travel/survival/Third World political science. In his travels, Mr. Pelton does not seem to take any easy route to go anywhere. He gets smuggled into Chechnya and tracks down a rebel leader on his own choice. The rebels who are known for kidnapping foreigners and journalists are meanwhile being tracked and bombed by the Russian military. He goes to Bougainville when everyone including the people that live there tell him not to. Why? I think because as he feels that there is a story to tell and it usually is not the "popular" one fed to most news agencies. Case in point is his Chechnya visit, where again he chooses to go to the "terrorists", not to give them a voice, but to get the unpopular side of the story (especially when considering the lack of freedom of the press in Russia). It is an objective look at the history of the Chechnya/Russian relationship and the situation where atrocities are seen to be committed by both sides. He even "interviews" a captured Russian soldier whose handlers casually tell Mr. Pelton he will most likely be executed the next day. The part on Sierra Leone is equally impressive, probably because there has been more press about the atrocities and violence there. So as long as Mr. Pelton feels the need to travel to different "worlds gone mad", writing about the lesser known histories and/or conflicts, he will most likely have me as a reader of his books.

Robert Pelton (see him on YouTube) writes the way he lives: no embellishments, full of action and he loves to face the most dire challenges. Truly a man of adventure!! I will be getting every one of his books. He gives an on-the-spot appraisal of the places he experiences, no holds barred. Excellent read.

This is the same book (except for the cover) as *The Hunter, The Hammer, and Heaven* that was released years earlier. If you have this book then do not buy *T.W.G.M: D.J.* I buy just about every book Robert Young Pelton writes because he is a great writer and he writes from a geo-political standpoint. Since International Studies is my field, I find Pelton's firsthand experiences and the way he writes about them: candid, interesting, and useful. But on this publication I think that the author, publishing company, and whomever else was involved should have gotten together so as to not present to the public the exact same book that had been released (written text) except for the title and the picture on the cover. If you do not have the previous book then, "No problem," but a better book would be any edition of *The World's Most Dangerous Places* (same author.)

Robert Young Pelton is easily my favorite writer. He could write or talk about what he ate for

breakfast and I would probably love it. I own all of his books and although a few of them have the same stories, I still read them and loved them. No joke, this guy is my hero. If you want the straight story on some of the world's nastiest conflicts by a man who actuall GOES there, meets with all of the people who are actually involved, and tells their side of the story without any b.s. then this is your guy. Both Liberals and Conservatives love this guy and I bet he doesn't care either way. He just wants to tell the world what he sees.

The author shows his personal travel iternary of failed states in Africa, Europe and Asia. They are Sierra Leone, Chechnya, and Bouganville (part of Papua New Guinea). I have traveled widely and even visited some of Pelton's own 100 dangerous places, but I don't think I would travel to these destinations. The author shows the terror of the RUF, and describes the mercenaries of Executive Outcomes. In Chechnya, he shows the terror of the scorched earth policy of the Russians in their desire to conquer the breakaway province. In Bouganville, he shows how an out of touch government has taken liberties with a remote province. In all three, precious minerals are being exploited for the benefit of an elite. They are diamonds, oil, and copper.I don't know if I agree completely with all the author states. He relays quite a bit of the mercenaries tales, but these are soldiers of fortune who do not have the local population's interests at heart. In regards to the Chechens, I don't believe the Russians killed their own people to stage a conquest of this province. This is interesting reading, and it gives one man's perspectives.

I've read everything he has out. Loved it! It's current (as books go), funny, serious and a great read!

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