

[PDF] London to Kabul: The Journey That Led Me to Her

# London to Kabul: The Journey That Led Me to Her

Wayne G. Cox

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**Wayne G. Cox : London to Kabul: The Journey That Led Me to Her** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised London to Kabul: The Journey That Led Me to Her:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great Memoir of Travel, Love, and Self-Discovery in Middle East of the SeventiesBy Bruno OciepkaLondon to Kabul has appeals as a travel memoir, a spiritual journey, and a love story. In 1971, the author in his early twenties is accosted in a shop by a girl who says she “loves (his) soul” fifteen minutes after they meet. That powerful motivation is not at all superficial, though; within days he and his brother sell all their goods, join a commune in Atlanta, and embark without a safety net on the seven-year journey through Mediterranean Europe and the Upper Middle East (Turkey, Iran, and Afghanistan), ostensibly bringing love and Jesus to whomever they meet, but finding themselves in the process. Although his brother left the journey early, Wayne continued it until he met his better half. While Boomers had faith that Europe on-\$5-a-Day would carry them through the day in late 60’s / early 70’s, Wayne carried a more conventional Bible. He usually greeted each morning with no dollars a day in his pocket, but with a faith that he would survive and maybe even thrive, a little, both on temporal and spiritual planes. A member of the group then called the Children of God, he and his brothers and sisters made their way handing out literature, witnessing God’s love as they did so, and soliciting donations – a process they called “litnessing.” London to Kabul is much, much more than a memoir of this faith-group of the Sixties. It can be read as travel literature, describing the lifestyle and beauty of Greece and Cyprus, shedding light on the modernity of Iran, the backwardness of Afghanistan, and the meanness that can sometimes be Turkey. Cox sheds light on how each culture differs in its

hospitality to strangers, the way it approaches its own religion and that of others, and its more intimate mores. The observations he makes display a knowledge of Middle Eastern society that many American leaders can only guess at today, a knowledge gained through seven years of living in these lands and adjusting to their cultures, including his final "posting" in Cairo. Dealing with the eccentricities and happenstances of the officialdom of each country is especially instructive. Besides travel and culture, this narrative is also a straightforward, sincere peek into the mind of a decent man encountering the women of many lands. Few male memoirists are willing to share the intimate thoughts and judgments, the small and banal desires, about every woman they meet. When Wayne meets his lifelong companion, the sincerity of their love, the pain of their separations because of culture and circumstance, is palpable until they finally unite. From London to Kabul finally ends in America after a seven-year lifetime of experiences you'll enjoy and find enlightening. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A great read. By pbtay This is a well-written real life story of a young American traveling and living in the middle east in the 1970's, before it got so violent for Westerners to do so. It ends with a beautifully told love story that could have been lifted from a Hemingway novel. A great read.

When Wayne walked in stoned to the Warren Stanley shoe store in Orlando, Florida, one December day of 1971, he had no idea it would lead him halfway around the world to Afghanistan. Inside the store, a girl from a group called the Children of God approached him and invited him to join them. Needing more than the "peace and love" of the hippie movement of the 1960s and feeling they were in a spiritual void, Wayne and his brother joined the group, a group that gave them a purpose for living. Many great countries later, Wayne looked into the eyes of an Arab girl, a girl who melted him and loved him like no other. Soon the love between them was all that mattered. Not their backgrounds, not their nationalities, not their religions. A true story.