



The World's Last Mysteries

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A richly illustrated book that examines various mysteries from the past of human civilizations. It gives an in-depth view for the reader on enigmatic topics like Atlantis, Eldorado, Stonehenge, Easter Island, Indus Valley civilization, Teotihuacan, Pyramids of Egypt and Americas, Nazca lines etc. The text is accompanied with full color illustrations, photographs and maps.

The World's Last Mysteries Details

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From Reader Review The World's Last Mysteries for online ebook

Pramod Nair says

The World's Last Mysteries from *Reader's Digest* is an impressive coffee table book, which presents the reader with some of the most perplexing enigmas from the ancient civilizations. This lavishly illustrated title examines and presents the reader with some of the mysterious geographic locations and phenomenon often related to ancient history and gives him various theories and facts aimed at making him ponder about these pieces of puzzles in archaeology.

Read during my high school days in the 90s, I was hooked to it the moment I saw the *embossed great stone disc of the Aztec calendar* on the book cover and found each of the chapters presented in great depth with lucid text and studies not riddled with any bias. The photographs and maps, which accompany each article, are of superior quality and for me it was one of those early titles, which introduced some of the most mysterious locations and events in the world history.

Segmented into different sections the book starts of with a chapter on the lost civilization of *Atlantis*. It discusses the mythology and facts related to Atlantis in great detail followed by overviews on other fabled lands like *Eldorado* and *The Land of Queen Sheba*. One thing, which adds to the value of these articles, is the fact that they are never trying to sensationalize the shroud of mystery surrounding each event or locations; rather they provide some serious impressions on them, which ignite the thought process of the reader.

Some of the other mysteries discussed in this title are: *the giant stones of Easter Island, secrets of Stonehenge, Mysterious ancient cities like Teotihuacan, the Indus Valley civilization, Tihuanaco and Jericho, Secrets of Pyramids, Angkor Wat, Nazca lines and the 1908 mysterious explosion in Siberia*.

One added feature of the book is the 22 page *Gazetteer of Mysterious Sites Around The World* presented at the end of the book which compiles a long listing of mysterious sites on our planet arranged by country, with black & white photographs. From a present viewpoint, with the overwhelming reach of technology most of the information found in this book may be easily available, but the book is worth alone for its superb photographs and schematic illustrations.

More details about the content of the book can be found [here](#)

Matthew says

Archeologist's, or Indiana Jones lovers may enjoy this. This may not be correct 100% in the modern day because this book I read was given to my dad from his father so it isn't a fairly new book. This book goes through hidden treasures, hidden societies, and many other mysteries in the world which have not been uncovered yet. This book describes the tale of Atlantis, the Stonehenge construction, and many undiscovered hidden treasures that have only been mentioned in legends. This book isn't a fit for everyone nor extremely entertaining, but it's very interesting.

Simon says

I bought this for practically nothing at a campus used book sale. On the basis of its publisher and its 1978

publishing date I expected it to be some kind of sporadically amusing "alternative archaeology" in the vein of Erich von Däniken or Graham Hancock. (if you're lucky, Helena Blavatsky)

Well, I was in for quite a surprise: The book in question is actually a rather sober overview on some of the cultures, locations and events in world history that either have been shrouded in the most myths or were still very little understood by science. It's also full of information on stuff I either never heard of like how the Sahara used to be green, or knew little about like the pre-Indo-European cultures in India as well as the builders of Angkor Wat and Great Zimbabwe. The more "out there" theories that were fashionable at the time are given a fair chance but also shot down if the facts don't really support them... to a point, that is. There's also quite a bit of information that in more recent years just has been proven wrong, though, and some unintentional hilarity when the authors describe the Mayan civilization as "primitive" - while stating that their mathematics and astronomy was much more complex than that of the ancient Greeks and Romans!

The thing I liked the most, though, was all the great-looking pictures of the sites described. The publishers have really taken advantage of the large format in which the book is printed.

Andrew says

Some out of date info now, but was a good read in the 80's growing up.

P.S. Winn says

Fascinating book with illustrations that takes readers into some of the places that have fascinated people for centuries. Well done book you need to grab in a hard cover.

Jacobus Arminius says

I think Reader's Digest released a few of these types of books. Mildly interesting for a bored adolescent.

Emile says

Excellent photography and documentation, well worth reading.

Mac says

Simple but elegant and well written. Great introduction for a young teenager on their path to a geography or history future.

Stephen says

This was supposed to be a fluffy Reader's Digest coffee table book. Someone messed up and actually did a great book. This has amazing pictures, great information, and very little fluff. I enjoyed it. It talked about various theories without lending itself to any single one.

Chris says

This book was intended to be a cheap, hacked-together cash cow for Reader's Digest, by preying on a naive public that wants sensationalist entertainments. But instead, somehow it turned out to be a valuable archive of various occult traditions and lost civilizations throughout the world.

Steven says

Interesting, however the book is now a little out dated

Walt says

Attractive photo-journalism

Gale says

“Unearthing Lost Civilizations Around the Globe”

A perfect coffee-table-companion for the armchair archaeologist, this luxury volume presents the stories of fabled and vanished cities and civilizations. The scholarly information includes color and black and white photographs with italicized captions, plus an artist's rendering of many walled sites or municipal complexes with numbered architectural details. An extensive Index follows the 318 pages. My only caveat is the vague references to “last century” discoveries--instead of stating the exact century.

Topics include: Atlantis, Eldorado, Land of the Queen of Sheba, Discoverers of the New World, Stonehenge, Easter Island, Teotihuacan, the Incas, Tower of Babel, both Egyptian and American pyramids. The last chapter presents brief looks at 8 areas of interest, such as the Olmecs, the Mayas, the Nazca roads and theories about the 1908 Siberian disaster. The last section consists of an alphabetized Gazetteer of mysterious sites around the world. Written by dozens of experts with specific areas of anthropological research this book poses many thought-provoking questions for future scientists.

January 4, 2016

Jenna says

Great mysteries.....it makes you wonder. An amazing places it compels you to go back in time, and see what happened to these places, and how it started. Mysteries are the conundrum of how an ancient people were able to build such massive structures without the benefit of today's knowledge and technology....a great puzzlement indeed.

James says

Some great pictures of Angkor Wat and other interesting sites around the world. Another of the books of my childhood.
