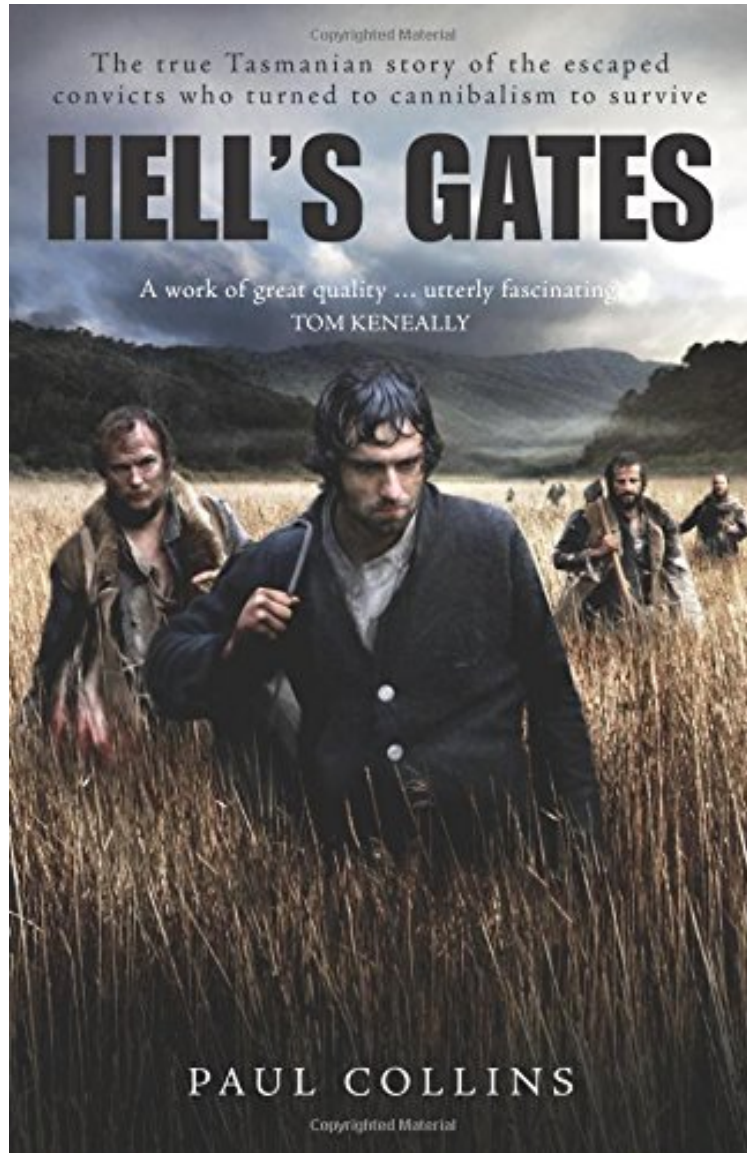


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Hell's Gates: Van Diemen's Land

Paul Collins

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Paul Collins : Hell's Gates: Van Diemen's Land before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hell's Gates: Van Diemen's Land:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Hells gateBy daisyI liked this book even though it is interpreted through historical evidence of the time. But what I liked the most is the description of Tasmania and its forests and how the white man is capable of the destruction of nature and the aborigines that inhabited those lands. It is sad how the European white culture and its religious beliefs destroyed the aboriginal peoples and culture. So much for the

human interpretation of the bible, only when it suits the white peoples needs.0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Four StarsBy PeterEnlightening1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Shell's GatesBy KateThis is a historical narrative about the prison system that was used to colonize Australian and Tasmania, the horrors of its implementation and the despairation of the convicts who suffered there. It is centered in Hobart Town where prisoner punishment of 25 to 100 lashes could be administered for laziness or insubordination, drunkenness and petty crimes. In 1822 the labor prison was established at Sarah Island on Macquarie Harbour in Van Diemen's land (Tasmania).The escape of group of prisoners, whose sole survivor was an Irishman named Pierce, who was recaptured having survived by cannibalism and returned to prison, only to escape again, kill and cannibalize again.This story also gives history to the cold rain forest, the history of colonization and the genocide of the Aboriginal natives as a back story to the history of this area. Very interesting.

Alexander Pearce and seven of his fellow convicts escaped from gaol in 1822 into one of the most unique and beautiful places on earth - the Tasmanian wilderness. This classic Australian story details the men's attempt to free themselves from the most isolated of penal settlements in the world, only to find themselves facing hostile natives, impenetrable landscape, and a harrowing fate of violence, murder and cannibalism. Paul Collins' riveting narrative of hardship and desperation, vividly reconstructs this amazing story with a keen eye for the follies of human nature. Now also an awardwinning Australian film with tie-in cover.

About the AuthorPaul Collins is an historian, writer, author of ten books and broadcaster, often heard on the ABC.