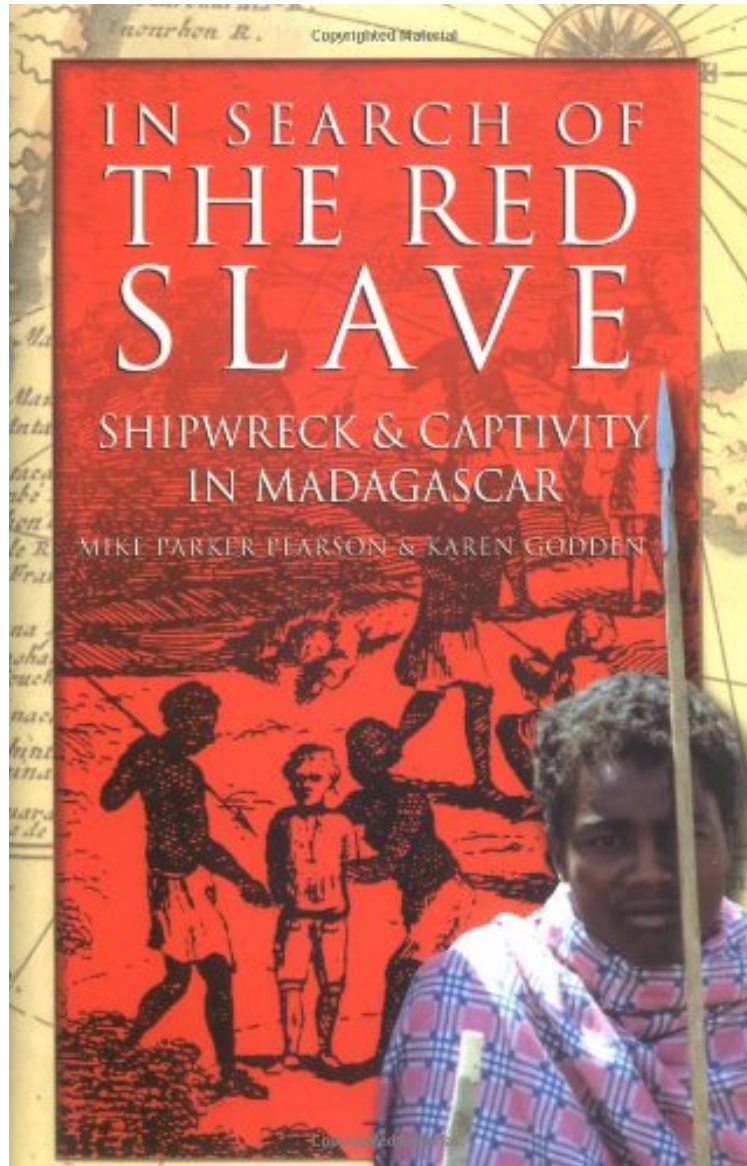


(Free) In Search of the Red Slave: Shipwreck Captivity in Madagascar

In Search of the Red Slave: Shipwreck Captivity in Madagascar

Mike P. Pearson

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Mike P. Pearson : In Search of the Red Slave: Shipwreck Captivity in Madagascar before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised In Search of the Red Slave: Shipwreck Captivity in Madagascar:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. this probably wont satisfy you to the fullest extentBy Peteit was clearly well researched and detailed, but I thought I was buying a book about a shipwreck survivor. Maybe I had not

been made aware of this as a study into the lost tribes of Madagascar, but it switched to an anthropology book quite quickly. I cannot fault the authors their obvious hard work and detail, however if you are after tales of shipwreck, this probably wont satisfy you to the fullest extent.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. "Drury was both English and Malagasy...a Cockney Tandroy, fully belonging to neither society"By sally tarboxMildly interesting account of the life of Londoner Robert Drury, who in 1701, aged 13, set out to forge a career at sea. The East Indiaman came to grief, and the teenager - who many years later was to publish his memoirs - found himself shipwrecked for many years in Madagascar, a harsh, violent and primitive world.The archaeologist author gives plenty of background information - life in 1700s London, piracy in the Indian Ocean, the East India company...Then we follow him and his colleagues as they attempt to find traces of Drury's life in modern-day Madagascar. Hampered by the temporary villages of the people, the lack of written records and Drury's own unreliable memories and phonetic spelling of local names ("King Hosintany... turns up in Drury's book under the delightful name of Wozington"), they nonetheless manage to locate many of the locations, while giving a picture of life in the remote south of the island.The book finishes by looking at the controversy that persists over the book: was Drury really the author, or was it a later work by Daniel Defoe, a fiction masquerading as a true story? The research of the author leads him to conclude it is genuine, though likely edited by another.I learned a lot and it's well researched, but wasn't hugely gripped by the writing.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Malagasy history - fascinating story.By MermamaIf you are interested in the history of Madagascar, anthropology and just history in general, this is a great read. I found it a fascinating story - and history is just a collection of stories that endure long enough for you to find them. Very well-written.

Published in 1729, *Madagascar: or, Robert Drury's Journal, during Fifteen Years Captivity on that Island*, describes the adventures of Robert Drury, an English sailor who was shipwrecked off the coast of Madagascar while still a teenager. After witnessing the massacre of his shipmates, he spent the next fourteen years living as a slave and fighting alongside the islanders in a world of enemy princes and raging civil wars. Rescued by an English ship at the age of twenty-nine, he returned to London but then made an extraordinary decision. He went back to Madagascar as a slave trader. Nearly 300 years later, Mike Parker Pearson, an archaeologist investigating the unique burial customs of Madagascar's Tandroy people, came across Drury's journal, and became hopeful that it would turn out to be a useful historical source, which might assist him with his investigations. Previously believed to be a hoax written by the novelist Daniel Defoe, the journal could have proved useless to Parker Pearson's research. However, he headed for Madagascar, with a team of archaeologists and the journal, in order to understand more about the Tandroy people and to attempt to uncover the truth behind Drury's story.