

The Golden Dream: Seekers Of El Dorado

By Robert Silverberg

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One of the most persistent legends in the annals of New World exploration is that of the Land of God. Its mythical site was located over vast areas of South American (and later, North America); it drove some men mad with greed and, often as not, to their deaths.

In this amazing history of quest and adventure, Robert Silverberg traces the fate of Old World explorers lured westward by the myth of El Dorado. From the German conquistadores, licensed by the Spanish king to operate out of Venezuela; to the journeys of Gonzalo Pizarro in the Amazon basin; to the nearly miraculous voyage of Orellana as far as the mouth of the Amazon (where he encountered the warlike women, who, according to his chronicler, gave the river its name); violence and bloodshed accompanied the determined adventurers. Sir Walter Raleigh (and a host of others) spent small fortunes and many lives trying to locate Manoa, a city that was rumored to be El Dorado.

It was the naturalist Humboldt in the nineteenth century who turned attention back to Lake Guatavita, where gold was indeed found-though much less than the mythic El Dorado. Too little, in fact, to be worth the cost of extracting it. And so the legend died.

With the historian's attention to fact and the novelist's gift for the dramatic, Silverberg recreates the legend of El Dorado.

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Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

One of the most persistent legends in the annals of New Worlds exploration is that of the Land of Gold. Its mythical site was located over vast areas of South America (and later, North America); it drove some men mad with greed and, often as not, to their deaths. In this amazing history of quest and adventure, Robert Silverberg traces the fate of Old World explorers lured westward by the myth of El Dorado. From the German conquistadores, licensed by the Spanish king to operate out of Venezuela; to the journeys of Gonzalo Pizarro in the Amazon basin; to the nearly miraculous voyage of Orellana as far as the mouth of the Amazon (where he encountered the warlike women, who, according to his chronicler, gave the river its name); violence and bloodshed accompanied the determined adventurers. Sir Walter Raleigh (and a host of others) spent small fortunes and many lives trying to locate Manoa, a city that was rumored to be El Dorado. It was the naturalist Humboldt in the nineteenth century who turned attention back to Lake Guatavita, where gold was indeed found - though much less than the mythic El Dorado. Too little, in fact, to be worth the cost of extracting it. And so the legend died. With the historian's attention to fact and the novelist's gift for the dramatic, Silverberg recreates the legend of El Dorado.

About the Author

Robert Silverberg, author of such science fiction classics as *Lord Valentine's Castle*, also writes books reflecting his special interest in myth, history, archaeology, and anthropology.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Bobby House:

Reading a book tends to be new life style on this era globalization. With reading you can get a lot of information that can give you benefit in your life. Along with book everyone in this world can share their idea. Books can also inspire a lot of people. Lots of author can inspire their particular reader with their story as well as their experience. Not only the storyplot that share in the ebooks. But also they write about the ability about something that you need example. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your sons or daughters, there are many kinds of book which exist now. The authors on this planet always try to improve their expertise in writing, they also doing some research before they write to the book. One of them is this The Golden Dream: Seekers Of El Dorado.

Helen McCleary:

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Salina Rodriguez:

The Golden Dream: Seekers Of El Dorado can be one of your beginner books that are good idea. Most of us recommend that straight away because this guide has good vocabulary which could increase your knowledge in vocabulary, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The article writer giving his/her effort to get every word into enjoyment arrangement in writing The Golden Dream: Seekers Of El Dorado however doesn't forget the main stage, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource information that maybe you can be one among it. This great information can drawn you into completely new stage of crucial contemplating.

Alberto Alvarez:

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