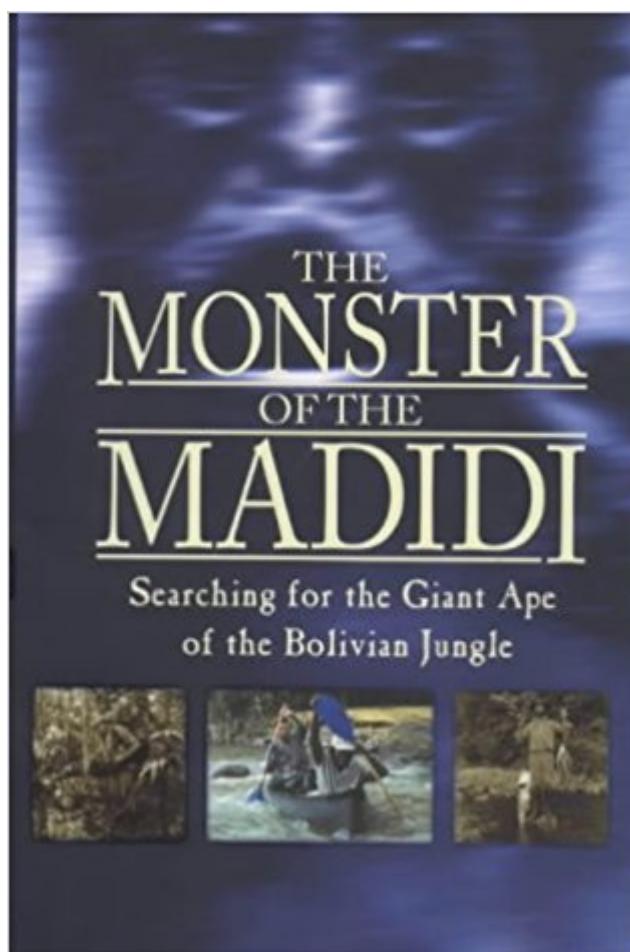The book was found

The Monster Of The Madidi: Searching For The Giant Ape Of The Bolivian Jungle

Synopsis

The hard evidence amounted to a grainy photo published in a 1929 London newspaper. Sitting on a packing case, propped up with a large stick, was what purported to be the body of a giant apeÃ¢â ¬â •the Ã¢â ¬Å"Mono Rey.Ã¢â ¬Â• It was said to have inhabited the dense jungles of northern Bolivia, around the Madidi riverÃ¢â ¬â •but the last person to explore the region, the redoubtable Major Percy Harrison Fawcett back in the 1920s, had since disappeared without a trace. For Simon Chapman, however, the jungle is the only place to be, and the denser and more remote the better. Which is why Chapman, along with two eccentric companions, took an all-too-collapsible canoe into the swamps and rainforests of Bolivia to find the mythical monster of the Madidi. By turns gripping, comic, and touching, and with a superb awareness of the natural world, The Monster of the Madidi marks the debut of an exceptional new travel writer.

Book Information

Hardcover: 256 pages

Publisher: Aurum Press; First Printing edition (March 1, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1854107496

ISBN-13: 978-1854107497

Package Dimensions: 8.6 x 5.7 x 1.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars   3 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,585,126 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)   #54 inÃ Â Books > Travel > South America > Bolivia   #219 inÃ Â Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Zoology > Primatology   #436 inÃ Â Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Endangered Species

Customer Reviews

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mythical monster of the Madidi. By turns gripping, comic, and touching, and with a superb awareness of the natural world, The Monster of the Madidi marks the debut of an exceptional new travel writer. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Simon Chapman has written travel features for BBC Wildlife, Wanderlust, Global Adventure and Birdwatch magazines. He lives in Lancaster.

I don't read a great deal of adventure/travel writing, but Simon Chapman's The Monster of the Madidi is a fantastic romp through the jungles of Bolivia. The premise of the trip is a search for the legendary DeLoys' ape, of which we have only a photo from the 1920s and plenty of local accounts of its reality. I won't reveal if Simon found the ape, but the story of the search makes great reading full of log jams, murky jungles, "hostile" locals, inept flight officials, screaming monkeys, hitch hiking Australians, and--well you get the picture. A fun read.

I had imagined Bolivia to be a land of rocky landscapes - but no, there is a large area of rainforest too, full of tapirs, jaguars and monkeys.Schoolteacher Simon Chapman, a jungle enthusiast (the book is dedicated to 'Carolyn, who understands my tree frog dreams') sets out on a journey inspired by a (mythical?) giant ape which lives there. He is also keen to recreate the journey of the 1920s explorer who claimed to have found the beast.Here he describes a journey on foot and with collapsible dinghy through unchartered territory. Where the thick vegetation stops the GPS working, where snakes, flies and fungus beset them, and where differences of personality cause problems between the group. And where it's all too easy to get lost...Well written account; I'm giving it *3 because as a female reader it's a bit blokey and not exactly my 'thing', but for afficionados of true-life adventure I would recommend it.

The author has an amazing ability to paint the Bolivian jungle for you and put you right there in the middle of the adventure. It's hard to put down.

The Monster of the Madidi: Searching for the Giant Ape of the Bolivian Jungle Bolivia: Bolivia Travel Guide for Your Perfect Bolivian Adventure!: Written by Local Bolivian Travel Expert (Travel to Bolivia, Travel Bolivia, Bolivia Travel) Bolivia: Bolivia Travel Guide for Your Perfect Bolivian Adventure!: Written by Local Bolivian Travel Expert Flemish Giant Rabbits: Flemish Giant Rabbit Breeding, Buying, Care, Cost, Keeping, Health, Supplies, Food, Rescue and More Included! A

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