



In an Antique Land: History in the Guise of a Traveler s Tale

By Amitav Ghosh

Random House USA Inc, United States, 1994. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Reprint. 201 x 130 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. In an Antique Land is a brilliant hybrid, a subversive history in the guise of a traveller s tale. It tells the story of two Indians in Egypt. The first was a twelfth-century slave; the second is Amitav Ghosh, who stumbled upon the slave in the margins of letters that were written by the slave s master. His curiosity piqued - even ill-defined, the slave s presence in the records of medieval history was completely out of the ordinary - Ghosh journeyed to Egypt in 1980 to try to fill in the details of the slave s life. His search - which would last for ten years - began in a tiny village two hours from Alexandria where Ghosh found himself among people for whom the world outside was still replete with wonders of the unknown. There was Abu-Ali, his gargantuan landlord; Khamees the Rat, the beady-eyed local wit; his adversary, the Imam; Zaghoul the weaver (once so obsessed with a girl that he spent his nights kneeling outside her window to listen to the sound of her...

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