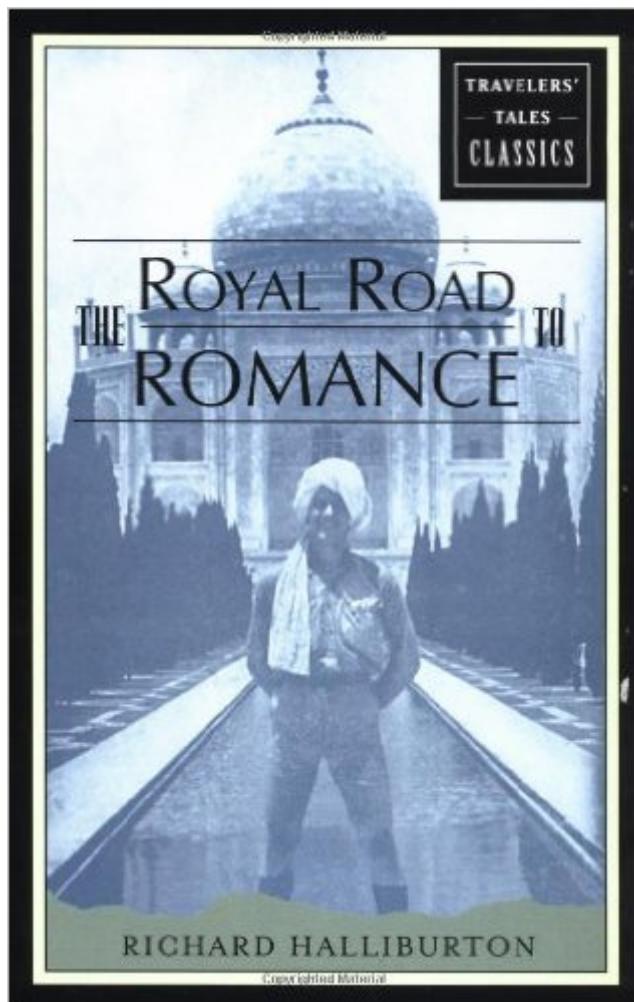


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The Royal Road To Romance (Travelers' Tales Classics)



Synopsis

When Richard Halliburton graduated from college, he chose adventure over a career, traveling the world with almost no money. The Royal Road to Romance chronicles what happened as a result, from a breakthrough Matterhorn ascent to being jailed for taking forbidden pictures on Gibraltar. "One of the most fascinating books of its kind ever written." - Detroit News

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Name and occupation?" "Halliburton - horizon chaser." So self-identifies Richard Halliburton, author and protagonist of this story of glorious adventure. One of my weaknesses as a reader is for travelogues. I read many of them, relishing the accounts of the obscure as well as the renowned. But truly, it's not my weakness so much as the genre's strength. Travel somehow turns unexceptional literary talents into Hemingways and Nabokovs; the experience of the exotic turns us all into wide-eyed children again, while simultaneously equipping us with powers of description and evocation that we never otherwise master. I have wondered where so many great travel writers learned their craft. Having now read Halliburton, I see that his was clearly the forerunner of much of the great traveloguing of more recent decades. Halliburton begins the story in his dorm room at Princeton, where his classmates are poring over various snooze-inducing studies. Halliburton, feeling stifled and bored, ventures outside to escape, and feels his youthful spirit calling to him in the night: "I wanted to swim in the Hellespont where Lord Byron swam, float down the Nile in a butterfly

boat, make love to a pale Kashmiri maiden beside the Shalimar, dance to the castanets of Granada gypsies, commune in solitude with the moonlit Taj Mahal, hunt tigers in a Bengal jungle. . ."And so begins an unsurpassable story of true-life adventure. Halliburton crosses the Atlantic, scales the Matterhorn, gets himself arrested on Gibraltar, wanders through the Alhambra, sleeps atop the Great Pyramid, hikes through the Himalayas, hides in the Taj Mahal at night, explores the temples of Angkor, survives a pirate attack in the South China Sea, and much more.

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