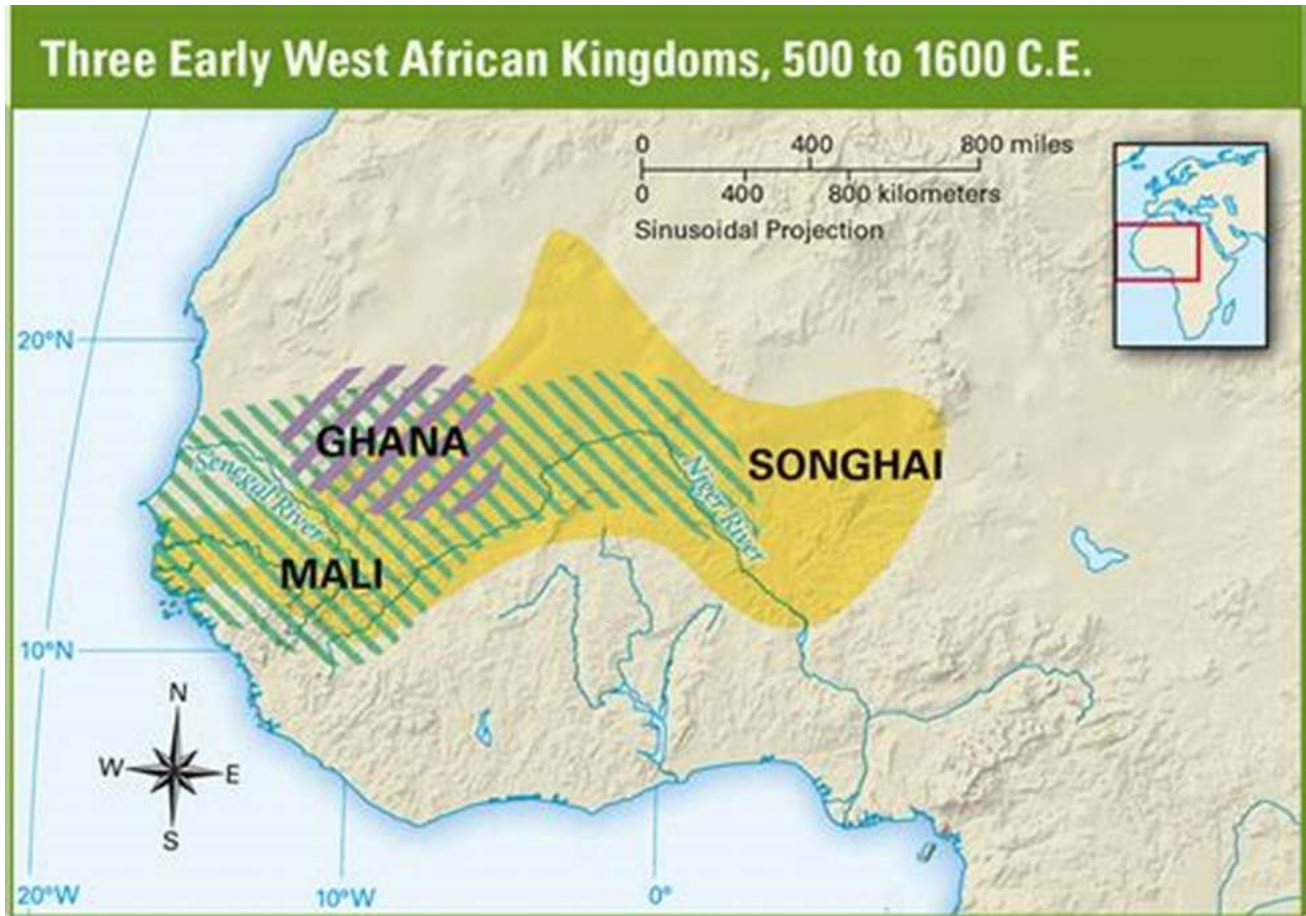


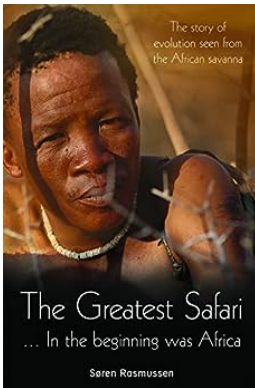
In The Beginning Was Africa: Unraveling the Roots of Civilization



When we think of the cradle of civilization, our minds often wander to ancient Mesopotamia, Egypt, or even the Indus Valley. However, it's time to challenge this conventional narrative and turn our gaze towards the true birthplace of human civilization – Africa. *In The Beginning Was Africa* is a revelatory journey that takes us back in time, uncovering Africa's pivotal role in the development and progress of humanity.

Ancient Roots: Where It All Began

From the Great Rift Valley to the Nile River, Africa boasts a rich tapestry of ancient civilizations dating back thousands of years. Archaeological discoveries have shed light on the once flourishing empires of Mali, Songhai, and Ghana, which dominated the western regions of Africa before the arrival of European colonial powers. However, these empires are just the tip of the iceberg.



The Greatest Safari: In the Beginning Was Africa: The Story of Evolution Seen from the Savannah

by Brian Lawrenson (Kindle Edition)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 95951 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 465 pages
Hardcover	: 86 pages
Item Weight	: 1.52 pounds
Dimensions	: 7.48 x 0.75 x 8.27 inches
Paperback	: 252 pages



Ancient Egypt: The Jewel of Africa

Ancient Egypt, with its majestic pyramids and intricate hieroglyphics, captures our imagination like no other civilization. The ancient Egyptians were pioneers in fields such as medicine, astronomy, and engineering. They developed advanced agricultural techniques, created a complex legal system, and even built grand architectural marvels that still stand today.



The Kingdom of Kush: The African Pharaohs

The Kingdom of Kush, located in present-day Sudan, emerged as a powerful empire that rivaled the mighty Egyptians. Its pharaohs ruled with magnificence, leaving behind cultural legacies that shaped the region for centuries. The Meroitic script, unique to Kush, continues to puzzle historians until today, providing a fascinating glimpse into an advanced civilization that is often overlooked.

Indigenous Knowledge and Contribution to Science

Africa's contributions to science and knowledge are abundant, yet often forgotten. Traditional African societies developed sophisticated systems of medicine, making use of local plants and herbs to heal ailments. The knowledge passed

down through generations formed the basis for modern medicine. Moreover, African astronomers meticulously mapped the skies, charting the celestial bodies with incredible accuracy.

The Axum Empire: Ancient Maritime Pioneers

The Axum Empire, located in present-day Ethiopia, commanded a vast and powerful naval fleet that dominated the Red Sea. Through extensive trade networks, the Axumites connected Africa with the rest of the world, leaving a lasting impact on global commerce. The empire's architectural marvels, such as the towering obelisks of Axum, stand as a testament to their engineering prowess.

Art and Culture: A Vibrant African Tapestry

Africa's cultural heritage is incredibly diverse and storied. From the rich symbolism found in African masks to the rhythmic beats of traditional music, the continent's artistic contributions are undeniable. African art and culture have influenced countless artists and musicians worldwide, leaving an indelible mark on the global cultural landscape.

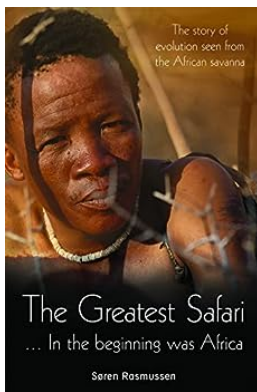
Great Zimbabwe: The Enigma of Stonewalls

The colossal stone structures of Great Zimbabwe stand as a testament to the advanced architectural skills of their creators. These intricate stonewalls remain a mystery, their purposes and methods of construction still debated among archaeologists. Nevertheless, they serve as a symbol of Africa's architectural brilliance and demonstrate the sophistication of the societies that thrived within their walls.

As we delve into the depths of Africa's rich history, we uncover a story that challenges our preconceived notions of where it all began. From ancient

kingdoms to contributions in science, medicine, and the arts, Africa has played a crucial role in shaping human civilization. It is time to acknowledge and celebrate the incredible legacy left behind by the civilizations that emerged from this remarkable continent. In *The Beginning Was Africa* is a captivating journey that unveils the true roots of civilization, reconnecting us with a past that has often been overlooked.

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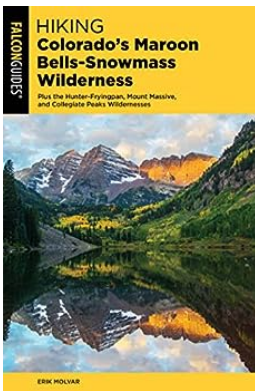
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Why does the zebra have stripes and the elephant a long trunk? How did the giraffe acquire a long neck and why does a hippopotamus lie in muddy water all day? How does an acacia tree kill grazing wild? Do wild animals speak to each other and do they have feelings?

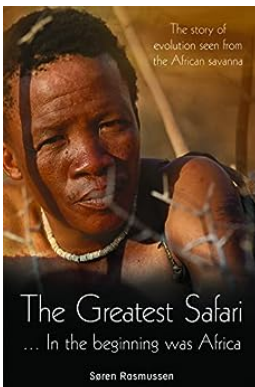
In *The Greatest Safari*, the reader is taken on an African adventure and told stories about the feelings, senses and communication of the savannah's many inhabitants. From sausage trees, cycads, termites and ants to lions, hyenas, bats and gorillas.

This book deals with the mechanisms that propelled life. We humans have acquired the facility of feeling we are something special, and thus also the feeling that we constitute an evolutionary zenith. In contradiction to this, nature is indifferent and within its boundaries there is only one criterion for success, namely survival. What the brain can produce in terms of poetry and nuclear physics is beneath notice compared with the ability to survive. If we accept the prehistoric people *Homo habilis* and *Homo erectus* as the first human beings on Earth, bacteria are still thousands of times older and are currently the most successful organism.



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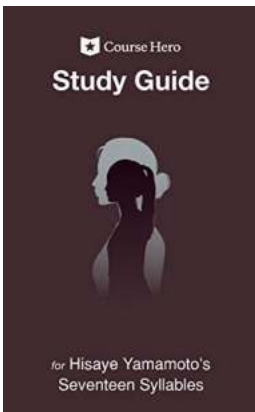
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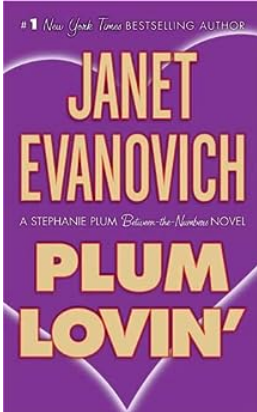
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