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The World's Richest Busboy



Synopsis

-Featured in Islands Magazine, February 2014
Southern California native J.J. Brito takes an exciting ride of freedom in this fun, cleverly written and inspiring account of youthful discovery. Starting at age seventeen, J.J. saves his modest tips from delivering pizzas and bussing tables so he could travel to find the perfect waves he once doodled on his high school notebooks. Stretching every dollar to its limit, he lives out of a station wagon in South Africa, island hops through Indonesia, hitches across Australia, sails the Caribbean, and rides an old motorcycle (rigged with surfboard racks) from California to Costa Rica. Throughout his travels he endures tricky border crossings, a desert sandstorm, punishing surf, and being thrown into a Central American jail. However, the perks of paradise are never far away, J.J. finds himself gliding through a glass-like tunnel inside an emerald green wave in Nicaragua, sharing an incredible session with thousands of dolphins churning the waters in the Indian Ocean, and being welcomed into the homes of people on every corner of the earth. Through his diverse experiences he learns about the overwhelming beauty of nature, the generosity of the human spirit, and the unpredictability of life on the road. Along the way he realizes he is indeed "The World's Richest Busboy."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I picked up this book and couldn't put it down because the author made me feel as if I was sitting next to him listening to the stories. This personal touch was very well received. The author's lessons learned influenced me to reflect on my own life lessons throughout the book. The author has an incredible passion for life, a unique ability to create lasting relationships with travelers throughout his journey, and share his emotions with the reader.

Somebody recommended this book to me a few months ago. I don't get much time to read with my schedule but I trusted the guy and thought, "what the heck, I'll give it a shot". Well, I was certainly in for a pleasant surprise. JJ Brito's book is a whimsical adventure tale of his adventures scouring the planet for the perfect wave and, along the way, encounters a whole lot of mischief and cultural life experiences. I enjoyed this book from start to finish. It's easy and relaxing to read and enjoyable for the summer. My wife really liked it too. She wants to meet him and get his autograph. It'd be great if he wrote a sequel at some point. I would pick it up in a second.

While on a recent visit to Florida, I met the author at a small town farmers market where he set up a booth to market his book, *The World's Richest Bus Boy*. He struck me as a quite adventuresome and sincere guy with an interesting story to tell. It's a well told memoir of extensive journey through the South Pacific, Mexico, and Central America via low budget, backpack, and motorcycle with lots of surfing. It is rapidly told with solid voice, focusing on the events and people more than the places themselves. People come in and out of the story, barely staying long enough to make an impression. As a novel, this would be a weakness; but as a memoir I took it as being told just how it happened: a solo adventure that crossed paths with many people for relatively brief periods. As one mate strolls away without looking back, the author writes "Sometimes that's how it is when you make friends on the road. You find that your time is up, often prematurely, and, as this girl had, you simply turn and walk away." I found that profound and so true.

Great read, it took you to the places visited by JJ and some of the characters he met. When surfing I could visualize the wave and the ride. The escapades he found himself were I am sure challenging and humorous. A well written story and makes me dream of such a life style and locations. I am sure there were more romantic liaisons than JJ lets on in the book and I would have liked to have explored those more, plus the ending was rather short, short enough to leave me wondering at any rate.

I found this by abject accident. Kindle recommended it and I bit. Brito has a style much like Dexter Filkins -- he places you directly in the story -- his adventure becomes a communal experience. I wish I knew more folks like Brito -- someone that sees a dream and spends their life chasing it and living it. This is a hope-full (O'Hanlon, 1988) book about a possibly hope-full (O'Hanlon, 1988) world. When Brito finds himself in a pinch, people - strangers - pitch in to help. Read the book to explore mighty Mother Ocean. He better write another one . . .

For all you fans of IN SEARCH OF CAPTAIN ZERO, this is a MUST read. Much like Allan Weisbecker, J.J. Brito takes his readers along with him on a journey that strays far from the yellow brick road. Even so, the characters he meets along the way are every bit as interesting as the Cowardly Lion or Scarecrow. Most of us had the itch to backpack through Europe or wherever when we were young, but due to extenuating circumstances, some of us never actually got around to it. Remember EUROPE ON 5 DOLLARS A DAY? Well, now you have the chance to fulfill that dream for the mere cost of THE WORLD'S RICHEST BUSBOY. Hop on the back of Brito's 1982 Honda XL motorcycle and get ready for the trip of a lifetime from Huntington Beach all the way to Costa Rica. Along the way, through the wonderful prose of Brito, you will meet a few surfer dudes, a handful of pretty señoritas, and a bunch of good folks eager to lend a hand to an adventure-seeking Yank. A book about youthful dreams, unbridled adventure, and growing up all in one. I can only hope that Brito is working on the sequel. Pura Vida!

Lives here in St Augustine. He's lived the dream few of us get to live, and here's his story. The person who inhabits this delightful book is the person I've met. This story isn't a fantasy, just a fantastic adventure.

This is a truly amazing book, I think I liked best the part about his motorcycle adventures,,,,, I had a hard time putting this book down,, and I am looking forward to another book soon, to see where his adventures take him next...

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