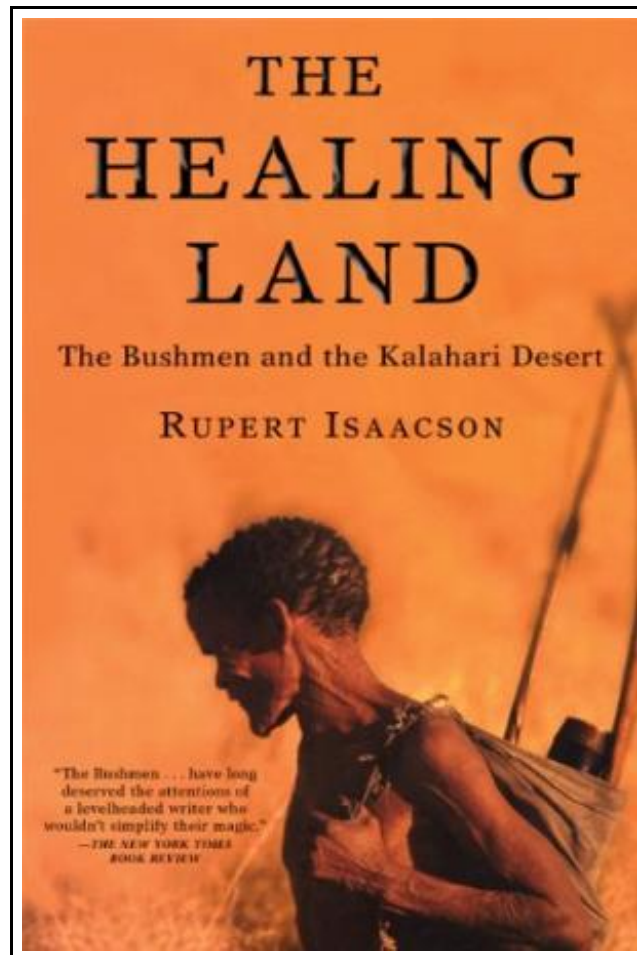


The Healing Land: The Bushmen and the Kalahari Desert



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Reviews

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(Prof. Martine Lesch)

THE HEALING LAND: THE BUSHMEN AND THE KALAHARI DESERT



Grove Press / Atlantic Monthly Press, United States, 2004. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Reprint. 208 x 137 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Acclaimed by Rian Malan as full of mystery, magic and strange coincidence, *The Healing Land* is a moving account of a remarkable personal journey through the Kalahari desert. Although brought up in grey, drearily ordinary London, Rupert Isaacson's links to Africa have always been strong. His mother was once a South African and his father was raised in what was then Rhodesia. Isaacson senior fled to England with no regrets, but Polly, Rupert's mother kept her memories of Africa alive, and handed them on to her children via the Bushmen nursery stories and remembrances of her early life there. Thus, from an early age, Isaacson was fascinated: Long before I ever went to southern Africa, its names and regions had been described to me so many times that I could picture them in my mind's eye. Isaacson's relatives, mostly his grandfather Robbie, a Rhodesian farmer, frequently visited with exotic gifts and stories in tow, leaving the little boy wide-eyed and curious to go to the land of his ancestors. At eight, Isaacson finally visited Robbie in Africa, and found the place as seductively, intensely exciting as all the stories had led [him] to expect. He also witnessed the other, less pleasant side of Africa. The war for independence was still being fought, and his grandfather's farm was fenced in with barbed wire and guarded by armed men. This first visit, however, sealed his connection to the African continent, and from then on he considered himself part English, part African. His curiosity now knew no boundaries and by the time he was twenty he embarked on his first solo trip to Africa....



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