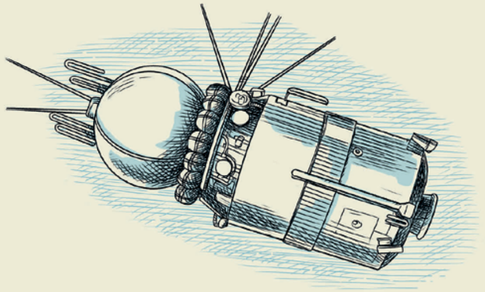
JOURNEYS

For kindly strangers encountered on my
own journeys, from Montenegro to Mongolia.

~ J.L.



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JOURNEYS

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HUMAN JOURNEYS

Journeys are in our genes – it seems humans have been programmed to be a travelling species; wandering and wondering our way around the planet. Of course, in the days of hunting and gathering, it was necessary to undertake daily journeys for food. Then, about 200,000 years ago, man began his voyages out of Africa and over the subsequent centuries colonised almost all corners of the globe by foot and on ocean-going craft.

They say that man 'settled' when he built farms, villages, towns and cities, but the wanderlust was never cured. People from all nations and generations have had the urge to travel, and our great explorers and voyagers have come from every culture on Earth.

From Aboriginals who walk through the outback using songs as maps, to Polynesians who made an empire of islands, from Mongolians who saw the world on horseback to an African named Hannibal who sat atop an elephant, different modes of transportation have been chosen according to the terrain in question.

In more modern times, the poles have been magnets to daring explorers, as have the mountaintops, and then the sky became the limit – could man fly? How far? And what about space travel? The limits are defined not by technology but by people's imagination – if people dare to dream it, then more often than not some brave voyager has fulfilled that dream. So this is a book of dreamers and doers, and of the wonderful stories they have brought back from faraway lands.



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