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Shave My Spider! A Six-month Adventure Around Borneo, Vietnam, Mongolia, China, Laos And Cambodia



Synopsis

FROM THE AUTHOR OF NO.1 BESTSELLING TRAVEL COMEDY 'THAT BEAR ATE MY PANTS!' Tony James Slater is quite possibly the world's worst traveller. And yet, he's thinking of doing it for a living. Faced with buying a car and getting a real job or taking the money and blowing it on a six-month adventure around Asia, well, there really is no contest! Who wouldn't want to visit exotic places, like Borneo, Cambodia and China? Who wouldn't want to tackle the world's most dangerous hiking path, tangle with the Vietnamese Mafia, and suffer days in the dreaded Mongolian saddle? And who wouldn't want to try five-organ soup? All he has to do is survive long enough to realise his dreams. His rainbow-haired wife, Roo, is determined to keep him in one piece but he's not going to make it easy. Six months around Asia will make-or-break them. Literally. Join Tony and Roo on an epic journey through the weirdest and most wonderful things the continent can offer. Share their hopes and fears as they battle the wildlife, the elements, and the laws of probability to explore six fascinating and exotic countries. Together, they will prove one of the cardinal rules of travel: that nothing ever goes according to plan. Especially when you don't have one. Full of mischief and mayhem, this hilarious adventure is one you definitely don't want to miss. One thing's for sure; it ain't no holiday! This is a comedy travel memoir, covering Borneo, Vietnam, Mongolia, China, Laos and Cambodia.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Another hilarious adventure by Tony Slater. I have read all of his books and enjoyed each one of them. This book details Tony and his wife Roo's amazing 6 month journey around Asia. Not everything goes to plan and there are a few bumps and bruises (and bites) along the way, as well as a lot of blood, sweat, tears and laughter. Tony describes the things they are seeing and doing so well that you almost feel you are along for the ride. I can't wait for the next adventure.

Tony's 5th book continues the exciting adventures, now with added Roo. His ability to describe a situation so that you feel like you are there with them is wonderful. Nighttime adventures finding the toilet in Mongolia, Red Pandas and escaping the Chinese police seem to be part of the everyday life of Tony James Slater. Thankfully, he doesn't lose his eye.....now you have to read to find out what happened. Got get it. It will be the best laugh you have .

I was reading Rice Noodle Fish, as I love food+travel books, but for some reason I got bored with it very quickly, not that it wasn't good, but most of the places described are very exclusive and by invite only. Then I came across this book and decided to purchase it, because it sounded funny and I love Asia. Woah what a ride, I was hooked from first page. I was especially amused by China and the People's Park description - Tony, if you don't know this by now, the people there are just doing their daily exercise. Also, I was so angry with what happened in Vietnam, that I couldn't help going to Google and leaving a negative review at you know who's cafe. Doubt you would ever come to Singapore, but I would love to have your impression of it :)

As usual- Tony's new novel doesn't disappoint. (Disclaimer here-I have been a fan of his books since the first one-That Bear Ate My Pants) The story of his latest travels from Mongolia to Vietnam, with humorous travel disasters throughout, awaits the reader that picks up this latest novel. Tony and his wife prefer going to locations that are off the beaten path, and he gives the reader an inside view of sites that aren't normally on the typical "tourist" itineraries. Sometimes, this gets him into a bit of difficulty, with hilarious results. Tony has a great knack for getting into precarious situations, the

story of his mad dash onto a train away from guards toting machine guns due to a miscommunication over train ticket dates is just one of the stories that make this novel entertaining. If you want to learn from their experiences on what not to do when you travel to these countries, and avoid being dropped off in the middle of nowhere by a lost taxi cab driver, read this book!

Ever since I stumbled across "That Bear Ate My Pants" as a free Kindle book, I've been hooked on the works of Tony James Slater. His writing style is hilarious, his adventures are insane and exciting, and his books allow me to vicariously travel to locations I will probably never get a chance to see myself. I've eagerly devoured all four of his previous works -- the aforementioned "Bear" book (about his work at an animal sanctuary in Ecuador), "Don't Need the Whole Dog" (home life in England and volunteer work in Thailand), "Kamikaze Kangaroos" (a road trip around Australia), and "Can I Kiss Her Yet?" (marrying his girlfriend and hiking across Scotland) -- and purchased "Shave My Spider" as soon as I could upon its release. I suppose I should have waited for it to become a freebie too, but hey, Tony is an entertaining enough writer that I feel no guilt whatsoever at paying him for his books. While a good deal longer than his previous books, "Shave My Spider" is no less entertaining, and is not only a highly enjoyable and hilarious travelogue, but a wonderful portrait of many countries in eastern Asia. After coming into some money at the end of "Can I Kiss Her Yet?", Tony and his wife Roo decide to go on a whirlwind tour of Asia, covering such exotic locales as Borneo, Mongolia, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, and China. Along the way they encounter colorful personalities of all kinds -- an airheaded American on a river tour, a nasty and vengeful Australian expat living in Vietnam who gets back at Tony in a very underhanded way for an unflattering review of his tour experience, a friendly backpacking British couple who give them tips, and various locals who appear quite bemused by Tony and Roo's unabashed goofiness and bad luck -- and explore ancient ruins, wildlife-filled jungles, vast wilderness areas, and the crowded madness of most Asian cities. And before everything is over Tony will have ticked off locals in every country, been chased by the Chinese military, had a nasty run-in with one of the world's most dangerous insects, and come to the conclusion that as much as he loves traveling, he's pretty crap at it. Tony somehow manages to take even the worst situations he goes through (food poisoning, insect bites, being robbed or cheated, terrible bus rides, etc) and make them hilarious. His writing had me laughing out loud all the way through, something I haven't experienced in a travel book since Bill Bryson. And yet he also writes with heart, and isn't afraid to write about corruption, poverty, or the sad state of the governments in the areas he travels either. And while he may poke fun at some of the people he encounters, he's never mean-spirited about it... well, unless the target really deserves it... It would be

interesting, I think, to read about Roo's side of the story in a few of these instances. Perhaps Tony should convince her to write a book someday... Tony concludes this book with a hint as to where he's going next. And all I can say is... if he writes another book, I will eagerly buy it. He's one of the funniest writers I've encountered in a long time, and when I come across an independent publisher who not only makes me smile but writes well, I'm dang well going to support them however I can.

Tony James Slater and his wife Roo spent six months touring six countries (Borneo, Vietnam, Mongolia, China, Laos and Cambodia). As always, crazy situations followed them around. I love Tony's writing. First of all, he is flat out funny. I have a tendency to read multiple books at once, switching between them on my Kindle, and every time I'd laugh out loud while reading, various members of my family would ask if I was reading *Shave My Spider!* again. I also quite enjoy the bits of history he includes along with the anecdotes he tells. There either wasn't as much swearing in this book compared to his previous ones or I've gotten used to it (I'm pretty sure there is less). There are a few (very few) times words in sentences are repeated, but not enough to be overly annoying. I wholeheartedly recommend *Shave My Spider!*

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