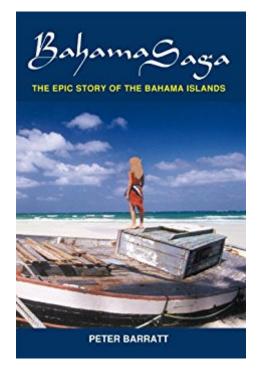
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Bahama Saga: The Epic Story Of The Bahama Islands





Synopsis

"BAHAMA SAGA is a chronicle of the human presence on a uniquearchipelago of the Americas. The story takes its title from a fewinvented characters and the romantic and beautiful country of seven hundredsub-tropical islands. The confetti of Bahamian islands has, at different times, been a locusfor the three races of the planet. After the original Amerindian inhabitantsperished, the Bahamas remained uninhabited for nearly 150 yearsuntil people from Bermuda - largely of English and African stock -re-settled the islands commencing in 1648. Not long afterwards many more Africans were brought to the Bahamas in bondage. Their descendants today hold the destiny of the islands in their hands. The geographical location of the Bahamas allowed the islands to play a brief, butimportant part in the history of the modern world. The eastern islands protrude out into the Atlantic Ocean so as to make them one of the nearest partsof the Americas to Europe andit was here that an explorer from Europe madea historic landfall at what, for him at least, was a 'New Worldâ ™. It was just over five hundred years agothat Christopher Columbus in 1492 â `sailedthe ocean blueâ ™. The islands on the western side are a mere 50 miles fromthe United States. Throughout time, events on the North American continent have had amajor affect upon the history of the Bahama story relates. "

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Peter Barratt's Bahama Saga: The Epic Story of the Bahama Islands lives up to its title. The epic is a sensuous sweep of Bahamian history, a vivid result of his love affair with the Islands. From the first chapter, when humans set foot in the Americas, to the last chapter, when the flag of Independence lifts into the Bahamian sky, Barratt's epic is richly textured with historical detail and human motivation."Saga" is a wonderful cross-genre, a blurring of distinctions between genres as with opera and straight play. Barratt's cast of fictional personalities plays against the backdrop of exciting episodes in Bahamian history complete with their choruses of fated Lucayans, lustful Spaniards, adventurous Bermudians, bold pirates, enslaved Africans, exiled Loyalists, thirsty rum-runners, sun-worshipping tourists. The book is structured in two parts. In Part I, the Lucayans discover and colonize the Bahamas; Columbus and the Conguistadors re-discover and de-populate the Bahamas. Part II follows the major waves of re-colonization by the Eleutheran Adventurers, African Slaves and American Loyalists; the book closes with chapters on Emancipation and the political/economic development of the Bahamas. The author uses an informal voice, even for the historical narration. In true "saga" fashion, asides and digressions abound to enlighten and amuse. In much the style of classic epics or 18th century English novels, Barratt's historical and fictional narratives mix and mingle as he traces two families of different races down through the centuries until they merge at the end. Barratt creates the story of Tsgot, the first explorer to discover the Bahama Islands.

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