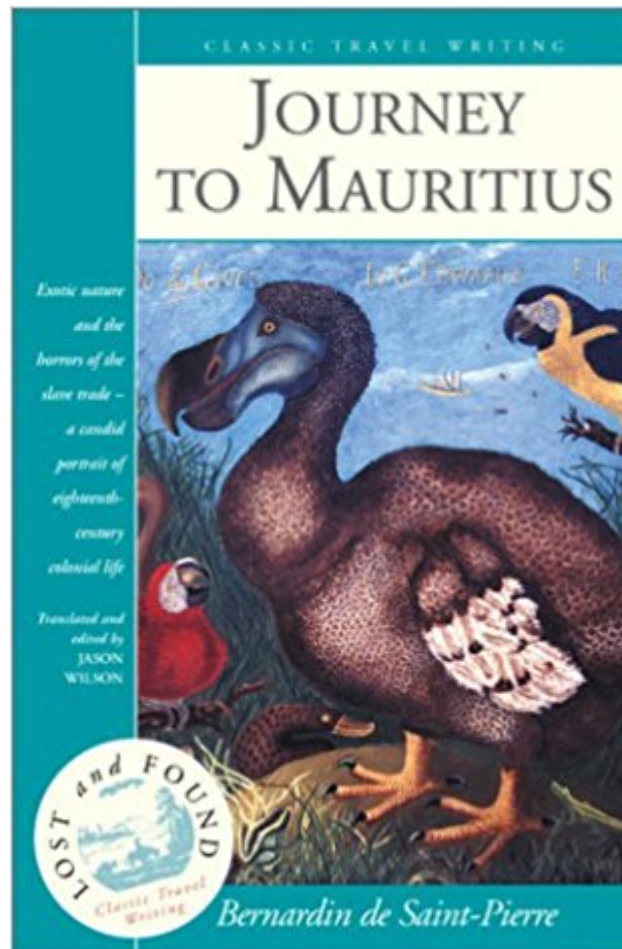




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Journey To Mauritius (Lost And Found: Classic Travel Writing)



Synopsis

Paul et Virginie (1787), an adolescent love story set in an exotic Indian Ocean island, was one of the literary sensations of the age. It was a huge critical and commercial success in France and abroad, a precursor of the Romantic movement. The novel's author, Jacques-Henri Bernardin de Saint-Pierre, had previously spent 28 months in the French colony of Ile de France (now Mauritius) in 1778-80. This extended exposure to the island not only inspired Paul et Virginie, but also led to one of the period's fullest and most fascinating accounts of a colonial society and its daily life. First published in 1773, Voyage à l'Isle de France is now available in this newly translated and annotated edition -- Journey to Mauritius. Mixing indignation with a lyrical appreciation of the island's beauty, Bernardin provides us with one of the earliest examples of a walking guide as he details Mauritius' sights and landscapes. An introduction sets this travel account in its historical context, discussing Bernardin's life and ideas.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"The most remarkable parts of the book are Bernadin's descriptions of the island's slaves, brought from Madagascar to work the sugar-cane fields. Bernadin was one of the first to denounce slavery having witnessed it...a fascinating record of eighteenth century colonial life and an inspiring example of independent thought." The Tablet --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

Saint-Pierre was a naturalist and influential social critic as well as a successful author. A military engineer by training, he was instrumental in popularizing pastoral fiction. Jason Wilson has written

has written for the Washington Post, Conde Nast Traveler, Travel + Leisure, and Salon.

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