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burma is currently ruled by a harsh dictatorship unmoved by western activists and sanctions it is also the sight of the longest running conflict in the world drawing both on his own family s stories and his years of hands on political experience working with the united nations thant myint u has written an illuminating account of how burma s rich past informs its violent present and of how the world might transform the country s future in the river of lost footsteps thant myint u tells the story of modern burma in part through a telling of his own family s history in an interwoven narrative that is by turns lyrical dramatic and appalling his maternal grandfather u thant rose from being the schoolmaster of a small town in the irrawaddy delta to become the un secretary general in the 1960s and on his father s side the author is descended from a long line of courtiers who served at burma s court of ava for nearly two centuries through their stories and others he portrays burma s rise and decline in the modern world from the time of portuguese pirates and renegade mughal princes through the decades of british colonialism the devastation of world war ii a sixty year civil war that continues today military repression and the immergence of nobel prize laureate aung san suu kyi the river of lost footsteps is a work both personal and global a distinctive contribution that makes burma accessible and enthralling thant myint u is the author of where china meets india and has written articles for the new york times the washington post and the new statesman lyonel trouillot s harrowing novel depicts a night of blazing violence in modern day port au prince and recalls hundreds of years of violence stretching back even before the birth of haiti in the fires of revolution three narrators a madam a taxi driver and a post office employee describe in almost hallucinatory terms the escalating chaos of a bloody uprising that pits the partisans of the prophet against the murderous might of the great dictator deceased forever immortal of the drama of promise and betraval in haitian life inform s street of lost footsteps with the grim irony and savage tenderness characteristic of writers for whom the repetitiveness of history has gone beyond tragedy through farce and on into insanity with impressive originality and touching immediacy trouillot explores the nature of political oppression memory and truth reprint of the original first published in 1875 when the prodemocracy uprising was finally crushed there was a muted international response the united states japan the united kingdom and germany suspended bilateral aid but there was no pronounced outcry certainly not from the general public in europe or in north america nothing like the reaction to the massacre at tiananmen square a year later there were no calls for united nations action no urgent transatlantic diplomacy part of the reason was simple there were no television cameras present in the country at the time there was no cnn and no nightly news stories showing the depth of popular feeling or the violence that followed there were no pundits demanding retribution and little attention on capitol hill or at westminster much of the uprising had been in late august and early september just in time for the late summer holidays but the lack of response wasn t just attributable to the absence of television or to the fact that important people were vacationing in martha's vinevard or tuscany it was also because burma was almost entirely unknown to the extent that it was thought about at all it had the image of an exotic and dreamy backwater a gentle buddhist country lost in time and guietly isolated hardly the sort of location for a foreign policy crisis it was an offbeat tourist destination unspoiled compared with neighboring thailand perhaps even a model of an alternative approach to life unhurried and without the extremes of modern capitalism and communism prodemocracy demonstrations in burma it was like hearing about a coup in shangri la what was to be done with a place like that book jacket our footsteps always leads us back to those we love tim reads a poem in a magazine at an airport on returning home from a war in the middle east war that gave him pause about the steps he took in the past on his arrival home his family and the people in his hometown acted strangely towards him and put off by his return from the war he found himself caught in a triangle between his high school love and the love he met during the war his journey takes him to find the truth about his past and the people around him while searching for the love that he left behind visit danmacdonaldbooks com articles on the political conditions in orissa in 20th century this work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it this work was reproduced from the original artifact and remains as true to the original work as possible 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Consistent of the world from their very beginnings china and india have been walled off from each other by the towering summits of the himalayas by a vast and impenetrable jungle by hostile tribes and remote inland kingdoms stretching a thousand miles from calcutta across burma to the upper yangtze river soon this last great frontier will vanish the forests cut down dirt roads replaced by superhighways insurgencies crushed leaving china and india exposed to each other as never before this basic shift in geography as sudden and profound as the opening of the suez canal will lead to unprecedented connections among the three billion people of southeast asia and the far east what will this change mean thant myint u is in a unique position to know over the past few years he has traveled extensively across this vast territory where high speed trains and gleaming new shopping malls are now coming within striking distance of the last far flung rebellions and impoverished mountain communities and he has explored the new strategic centrality of burma where asia s two rising giant powers appear to be vying for supremacy at once a travelogue a work of history and an informed look into the future where china meets india takes us across the fast changing asian frontier giving us a masterful account of the region s long and rich history and its sudden significance for the rest of the world

The River of Lost Footsteps 2011-02-03 burma is currently ruled by a harsh dictatorship unmoved by western activists and sanctions it is also the sight of the longest running conflict in the world drawing both on his own family s stories and his years of hands on political experience working with the united nations thant myint u has written an illuminating account of how burma s rich past informs its violent present and of how the world might transform the country s future in the river of lost footsteps thant myint u tells the story of modern burma in part through a telling of his own family s history in an interwoven narrative that is by turns lyrical dramatic and appalling his maternal grandfather u thant rose from being the schoolmaster of a small town in the irrawaddy delta to become the un secretary general in the 1960s and on his father s side the author is descended from a long line of courtiers who served at burma s court of ava for nearly two centuries through their stories and others he portrays burma s rise and decline in the modern world from the time of portuguese pirates and renegade mughal princes through the decades of british colonialism the devastation of world war ii a sixty year civil war that continues today military repression and the immergence of nobel prize laureate aung san suu kyi the river of lost footsteps is a work both personal and global a distinctive contribution that makes burma accessible and enthralling thant myint u is the author of where china meets india and has written articles for the new york times the washington post and the new statesman

The Hall of Lost Footsteps 2011 lyonel trouillot s harrowing novel depicts a night of blazing violence in modern day port au prince and recalls hundreds of years of violence stretching back even before the birth of haiti in the fires of revolution three narrators a madam a taxi driver and a post office employee describe in almost hallucinatory terms the escalating chaos of a bloody uprising that pits the partisans of the prophet against the murderous might of the great dictator deceased forever immortal ø the drama of promise and betrayal in haitian life inform s street of lost footsteps with the grim irony and savage tenderness characteristic of writers for whom the repetitiveness of history has gone beyond tragedy through farce and on into insanity with impressive originality and touching immediacy trouillot explores the nature of political oppression memory and truth

Lost Footsteps 1994-03-01 reprint of the original first published in 1875

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