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Lost Civilizations: The Secret Histories and Suppressed Technologies of the Ancients

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Forget your bullwhip and fedora. *Lost Civilizations: The Secret Histories and Suppressed Technologies of the Ancients* by Jim Willis is a globetrotting adventure exploring the true origins of the human race. Discover these archeological mysteries without encountering spiders, scorpions, poison darts or snakes. Thoughtful and thought-provoking, Jim Willis compassionately examines archeology (the scientific evidence in stone and artifacts) and mythology (the evidence in stories that attempts to explain meaning and purpose). He presents a gentle style of writing that betrays the significance of his words. Who are we? Where did we come from? *Lost Civilizations* follows information where it leads rather than where we have been taught it should go. Willis writes, "The problem doesn't come from lack of evidence. The problem lies in how the evidence is interpreted." It is a matter of people "looking at history through their own prejudiced lenses." Experts see what they want to see and then write the textbooks that train those who follow. We

don't think about it. We assume it to be true. Which brings us to one theme of *Lost Civilizations*. "It's becoming plain that we are not the pinnacle of civilized success. Others have come before us. They have seen the destruction of their civilization. Sometimes it happened gradually. Sometimes almost overnight. But they saw it rise. And they saw it fall." Do civilizations come with a shelf life? Willis asks, "When intellectual capacity outstrips the ethical and moral ability to behave responsibly, is the end in sight? "Only by a study of the past will we find out." Civilizations might end for any number of reasons: catastrophes and calamities, economic inequalities and internal strife, war, assimilation, and, believe it or not, even climate change. The reader is drawn deeper and deeper into antiquity and beyond. There is no escape. Torch in hand, Jim Willis leads us to amazing places. Many of our civilizations are older than anyone ever imagined. Much older. Tomorrow's technologies are revealing the secrets from our ancient past. Satellites and all manner of penetrating energies are locating lost cities in jungles, underground, and underwater. DNA studies are telling tales. Why did we build the great megaliths? What reason was sufficient for us to go to all that trouble over a very long, long period of time? Why? Willis keeps us awake at night. "We are a species suffering from amnesia. How can we possibly figure out where we're going if we don't know where we've been? Why have we forgotten such a monumental motivation that obviously meant so much to our ancestors? Why was the reason allowed to die out? Why can't we remember?" Why? Why? Why? Humanity has lost something. We are retracing our steps in order to find it Where did we lose something that was once so important to us? *Lost Civilizations: The Secret Histories and Suppressed Technologies of the Ancients* by Jim Willis is an amazing asset in our search for answers. It is richly illustrated, and its helpful bibliography and extensive index add to its usefulness. Highly recommended.