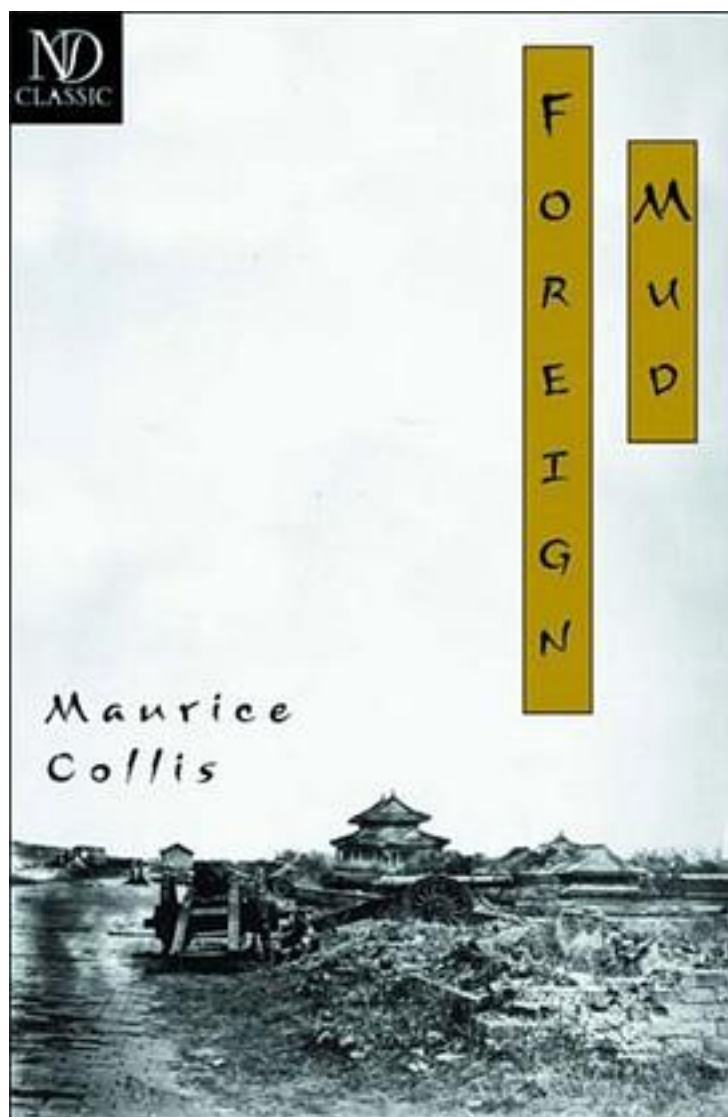


Foreign Mud



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著者:Maurice Collis

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Another enduring work by the brilliant historian Maurice Collis. First published in 1946 and long out of print, *Foreign Mud* is a marvelous historical reconstruction of the events surrounding the illegal trade of opium in Canton during the 1830s and the Opium Wars between Britain and China that followed. Based largely on voluminous documents written by British doctors, missionaries, merchants, and government officials, Collis's tale, far from being a dry assemblage of dates and facts, is a fascinating example of twentieth-century Orientalist literature: "...you must picture the broad river puckered with little waves, the green sweep of the rice, on the horizon blue hills; you must conjure the many sorts of passing craft, the Mandarin house-boats, dainty and lacquered, the streamers and lanterns of passenger boats, the high tilted junks with demon-painted sterns; and you must plunge these images into a light more intense than we know in these countries, into a warmer wind and an air, purer and more scented than we can sniff except in dreams." Collis describes, in all its complexities, a moment in time when China is forced, after more than two thousand years of self-contained sufficiency, to open its doors to the culture, commerce, and evangelization of the West—the casus belli, foreign mud: the opium the British grew and shipped from India. Interspersed with various maps, plans, and illustrations, *Foreign Mud* is a historical narrative the reader will find more entertaining than any Spielberg film.

作者介绍:

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标签

鸦片战争

历史

opium

Canton

评论

从英国人角度看鸦片战争，本书里面罗列了很多英国政客商人之间对于鸦片战争跟贸易的视角，对于为什么会有战争有比较透彻的分析。身在香港，着实应该理解香港的来龙去脉

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书评

中国跟英国属于完全不同基因的两个团体。两个国家都按照自己的轨迹发展了很久，然后在1830年，终于展开正面的交锋。在这之前的中国的闭关锁国自然是对统治有利的，而英国这个西方最强大的国家，它的力量完全来自于海外贸易，并且其人民也在不遗余力的把海上贸易推进到地球的每...

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