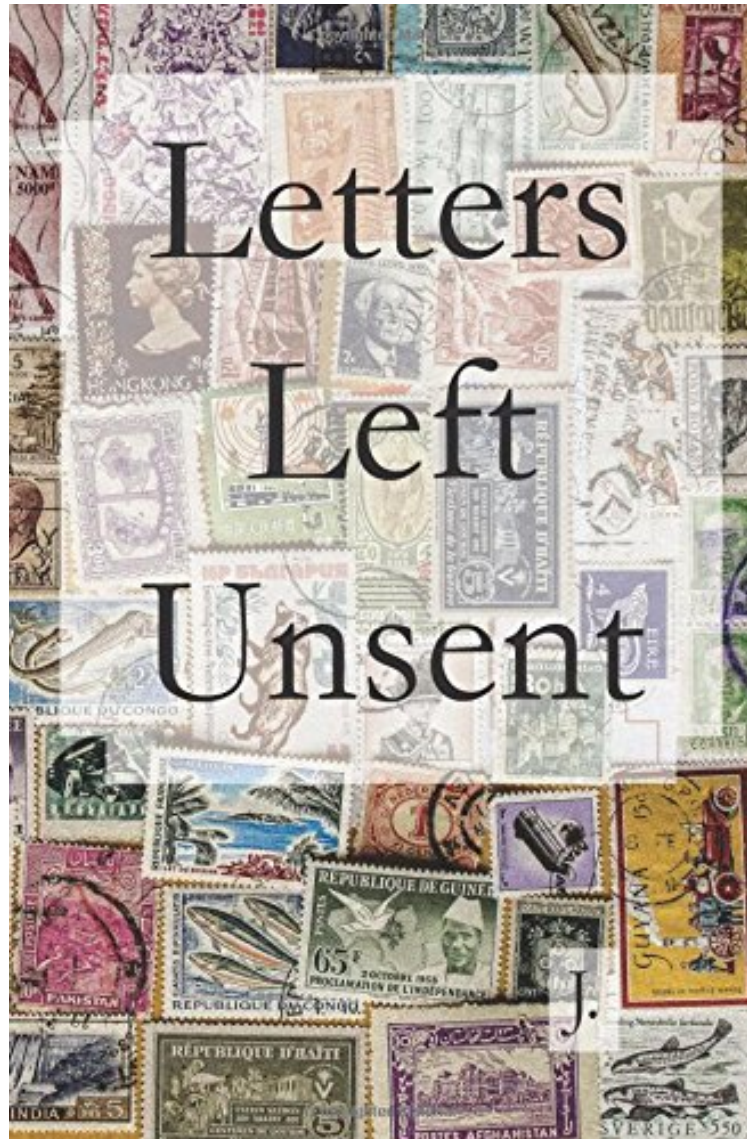


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Letters Left Unsent

J.

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J. : Letters Left Unsent before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Letters Left Unsent:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Must read for those thinking about "saving the world" By Dr. Tom Arcaro J shares with us some of his best blog posts written at various times over his 20+ years on the front lines of the aid industry. This book is a must read for wannabe's because it will -if they read it with an open and critical mind- sober them to the complexities of both emergency response aid and development work. Reading this will give them an

insider's view that will extend and compliment the host of other 'tell-all' memoirs on the market in the last several years. My recommendation for newbie readers is that you really take time to consider the messages -large and small- that run throughout the chapters. The book is a 'page-turner' and you can read through it quickly. Don't. Pause, discuss, brood, navel gaze, and then read on. For the experienced aid worker there likely isn't anything that you haven't read about or been through yourself, but I think that hearing the thoughts of this particular silverback might be good medicine. I agree with the premise behind this book: that it is good to write and then to share these cathartic moments with others, especially with those who are more new to the field. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Should be required reading By CH This was a great read. I've been doing emergency response work for the last decade and I feel like book has validated every thought I've ever had about it, both positive and negative. I feel like this should be required reading for every bright eyed, bushy tailed grad student who is trying to break into the field with visions of hugging orphans. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. almost perfect By jaytill Wonderfully written, sharp and to the point. Almost perfect because there are segments where more detail and more personal bias would've been appreciated. But it was honest and true. A great entertaining read.

Letters Left Unsent is a rare look into the work and life of a humanitarian through the eyes of a full-time, professional aid worker as he grapples with the question of how to be an aid worker, and what it means. Aid worker, blogger, and humanitarian fiction author, J., pulls together a collection of previously published blog posts and articles, edited and distilled for use by students, instructors, and anyone who has ever dreamed of being a humanitarian.

"Self-reflective, but without Western indulgences; insightful, but without the morality of 'telling it all'; and passionate, but without romantic defense or cynical dismissal." Tobias Denskus Aidnography "Aid work aspirants will find it eye-opening. Those in aid work will appreciate that J has finally put words to so many aspects of our experience that we find difficult." Kelsey Hoppe, Editor/Author Chasing Misery "Reading his words are like hitting a release valve. Throughout his book, I found myself nodding and laughing, relieved that someone finally understands..." Beyond The Shelterbelt About the Author J. is a full-time professional humanitarian worker with more than twenty years of experience in the aid industry. He currently holds a real aid world day job at a real humanitarian organization as a disaster response manager. He writes about humanitarian work in his spare time with a personal computer because he enjoys it and because he believes that there is not nearly enough popular culture out there specifically for aid workers. In a previous blogosphere life J. wrote a blog about aid work called Tales From the Hood (talesfromthehood.com). These days he is half owner/blogger of the uber-awesome Stuff Expat Aid Workers Like (stuffexpataidworkerslike.com). These days he occasionally blogs about serious topics at AidSpeak (aidspeak.wordpress.com). Learn more at evilgeniuspub.wix.com/evilgenius