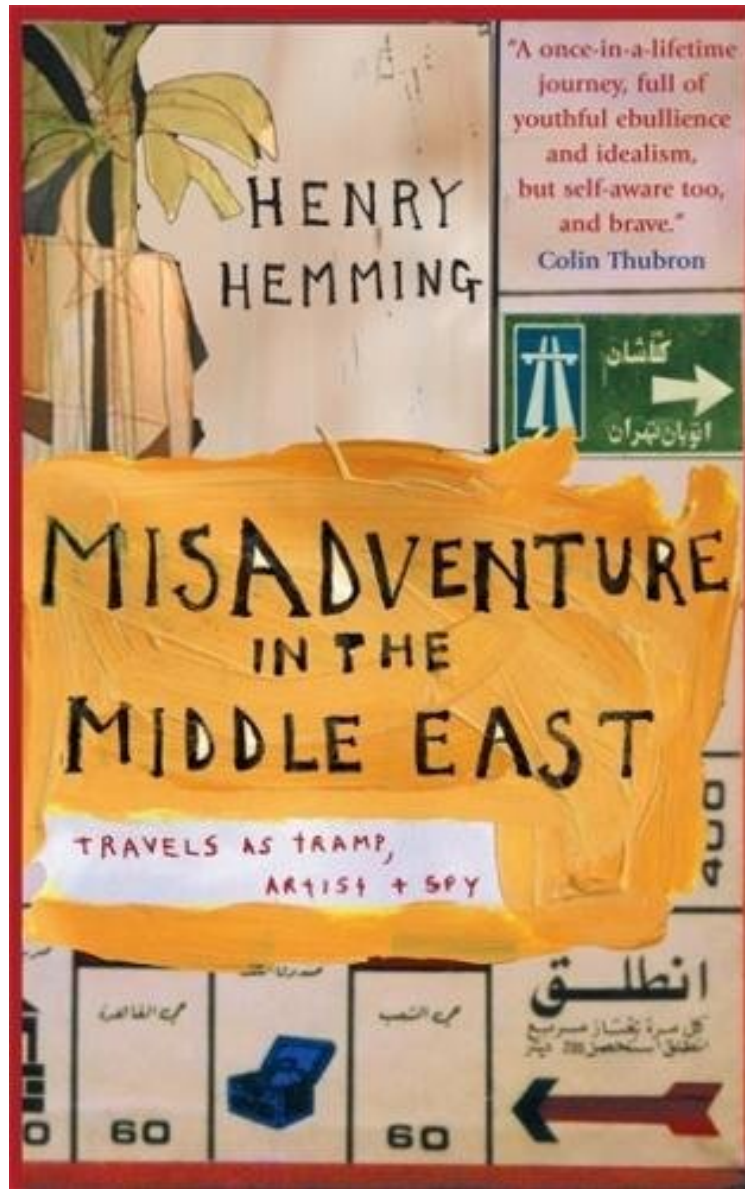


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Misadventure in the Middle East: Travels as a Tramp, Artist and Spy

Henry Hemming

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Henry Hemming : Misadventure in the Middle East: Travels as a Tramp, Artist and Spy before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Misadventure in the Middle East: Travels as a Tramp, Artist and Spy:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A fun read, partially because you know he got home ...By k woodchick
If the author was my son, I would've shot him when he got home. Actually he reminds me often of some of those incidents your children tell you about after they've returned from travel to a less than "safe" country. A fun read, partially because you know he got home all right or he wouldn't have written the book. Naive artist type- great fun.
4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Brilliant
By C. Cook
"Misadventure in the Middle East" is a beautifully written, fun and easy read while at the same time being very topical and insightful. Full of funny anecdotes about what the author and his cohorts ran into while spending a year in a pickup truck driving throughout the middle east making art, while at the same time infused with insight and held together with an exciting and constantly developing story line. I read it in a day or two of travel - couldn't put it down. Must reading for anyone interested in the middle east, art or travel. His website's great too - [...]
4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. mashallah
By Prudence W. Kent
bought it after spending 1 month travelling in Iran was missing the ME vibe. I like his book alot. It is very true he looks at things objectively- and its funny too. he does so many random things in random polaces I like that as well. BTW, Iran is the friendliest country i have ever visited- such warm, giving people. And I am even an American.

When Henry Hemming set out in a pick-up truck called Yasmine to make a portrait of the Middle East, he had no idea what he would find or where he would be able to go - he wasn't even sure how he would earn enough money to stay on the road for a year. Henry Hemming's extraordinary journey takes him from the drug-fuelled ski-slopes of Iran via some of the region's secret beaches, palaces, army barracks, police cells, nightclubs, torture chambers, brothels and artists' studios to a Fourth of July party with American GIs in one of Saddam's former palaces. Everywhere he goes his status as artist gets him into places he would not have been allowed otherwise. As the invasion of Iraq intensifies, he realises that to finish his portrait of the region he must go to Baghdad and find the artistic renaissance there that he has heard about. In so doing he will risk his life. Throughout, he meets young people who share their dreams, doubts and passions, revealing a young and unpredictable Middle East that flies beneath the radar of nightly news bulletins. In these meetings, he also begins to understand what he himself represents, be it British spy, Muslim extremist, jihadi, tramp, bohemian, street-cleaner, Baghdadi, or, from time to time, artist. *Misadventure in the Middle East* offers a unique, evocative and highly original account of his journey.

Hemming's insights and observations on crossing borders and boundaries - whether physical or in the mind - make him an ideal guide. We need more ambassadors like this.
Emel - The Muslim Lifestyle Magazine
The brilliantly-written account of a daring journey, by turns hilarious and poignant, and a timely antidote to current misconceptions about the Middle East. Essential reading.
Jason Elliot, author of *Mirrors of the Unseen* and *An Unexpected Light*
Hemming offers a refreshing innocence and openness, a voracious appetite for experience and encounter that makes him an honest and empathetic writer. He is funny with it. This is unusual and entertaining. Hemming is a fresh new voice, idealistic, engaging and human.
The Spectator
A well written tale of artistic sincerity and youthful bravura.
The Telegraph
Misadventure in the Middle East is more than a gripping story of a dangerous expedition. It is a journey of self- discovery and an exploration of what it is to be an artist in a fractured world.
John Mole, author of *It??s All Greek To Me!* and *Mind Your Manners*
Misadventure in the Middle East is an engaging and highly readable account of a life-changing experience.
Wanderlust
A fantastic journey, full of surprising incidents and exciting encounters, in which you never know where the travellers will end up next. High-spirited and often amusing, Hemming??s book also grapples with some of the big issues in the Middle East today.
Nicholas Jubber, author of *The Prester Quest* and winner of the Dolman Best First Travel Book Award
A once-in-a-lifetime journey, full of youthful ebullience and idealism, but self-aware and brave too.
Colin Thubron, author of *Shadow of the Silk Road* and *The Lost Heart of Asia*
From the Publisher
"The brilliantly-written account of a daring journey, by turns hilarious and poignant, and a timely antidote to current misconceptions about the Middle East. Essential reading." --Jason Elliot, author of *Mirrors of the Unseen* and *An Unexpected Light*
About the Author
Henry's art book got some wonderful review coverage including a wonderful quote from Michael Palin. He is extremely well-connected and has written articles for *Islamica*, *Resurgence*, *Nomad* and *The Middle East* and now works in a cramped Hackney studio.