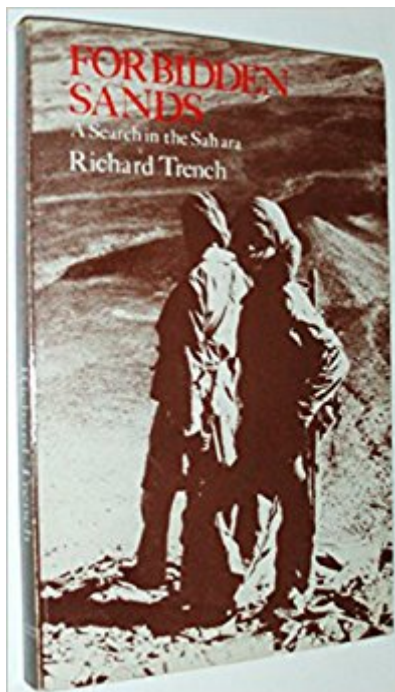


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# Forbidden Sands



## Synopsis

A Young Man Travels across the Western Sahara to Timbuktu on a journey few Europeans have taken. Death nearly catches up with him in a sandstorm, the entire caravan nearly perishes of thirst, there are rumbles of war from the Spanish Sahara. When the author returned a year later the Polisario were in charge in Mali and the world in this book had vanished. This was truly the Last Caravan. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

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## Customer Reviews

In 1974 Richard Trench decided to undertake a journalistic investigation of the salt mines in Taoudenni, Mali, which were thought to be the site of slave labor done by prisoners. Salt mining in this part of Africa is an important part of history and lore; salt has been carried to market by camel caravan for centuries, and it was at times so rare that it was reportedly worth its weight in gold. Trench's journey required a carefully planned overland trip on camelback. Trench lived and traveled with nomads through the Sahara to Taoudenni then on to Timbuktu. His account of the journey -- his relationship with his guides, the difficulties of desert travel, encounters with government officials -- is very good reading. "Forbidden Sands" also contains the fruits of his research into the historical record of the region. (Ibn Battuta and Rene Caillie, for example.) A great book for armchair travelers or readers interested in the Eastern Sahara and Mali.

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