# Winner of the Thomas Cook/Daily Telegraph Travel Book Award Travels in Dictionary Land "This book is a classic" Independent

# Yemen: Travels in Dictionary Land

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TIM MACKINTOSH-SMITH

## **Reviews**

This publication is fantastic. We have read through and i am certain that i will planning to read yet again yet again down the road. You wont feel monotony at at any time of your respective time (that's what catalogs are for concerning when you request me).

(Alec Langosh)

### YEMEN: TRAVELS IN DICTIONARY LAND



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John Murray General Publishing Division. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Yemen: Travels in Dictionary Land, Tim Mackintosh-Smith, Our ideas of the Arabian Peninusula have been hijacked: by images of the desert, by oil, by the Gulf War. But there is another Arabia. For the Classical geographers Yemen was a fabulous land where flying serpents guarded sacred incense groves. Medieval Arab visitors told of disappearing islands and menstruating mountains. Vita Sackville-West found Aden 'precisely the most repulsive corner of the world'. Arguably the most fascinating but least known country in the Arab world, Yemen has a way of attracting comment that ranges from the superficial to the wildly fictitious. In Yemen: Travels in Dictionary Land, Tim Mackintosh-Smith writes with an intimacy and depth of knowledge gained through over twenty years among the Yemenis. He is a travelling companion of the best sort - erudite, witty and eccentric. Crossing mountain, desert, ocean and three millennia of history, he portrays hyrax hunters and dhow skippers, a noseless regicide, and a sword-wielding tyrant with a passion for Heinz Russian salad. Yet even the ordinary Yemenis are extraordinary: their family tree goes back to Noah and is rooted in a land which, in the words of a contemporary poet, has become the dictionary of its people. Every page of this book is dashed - like the land it describes - with the marvellous.

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