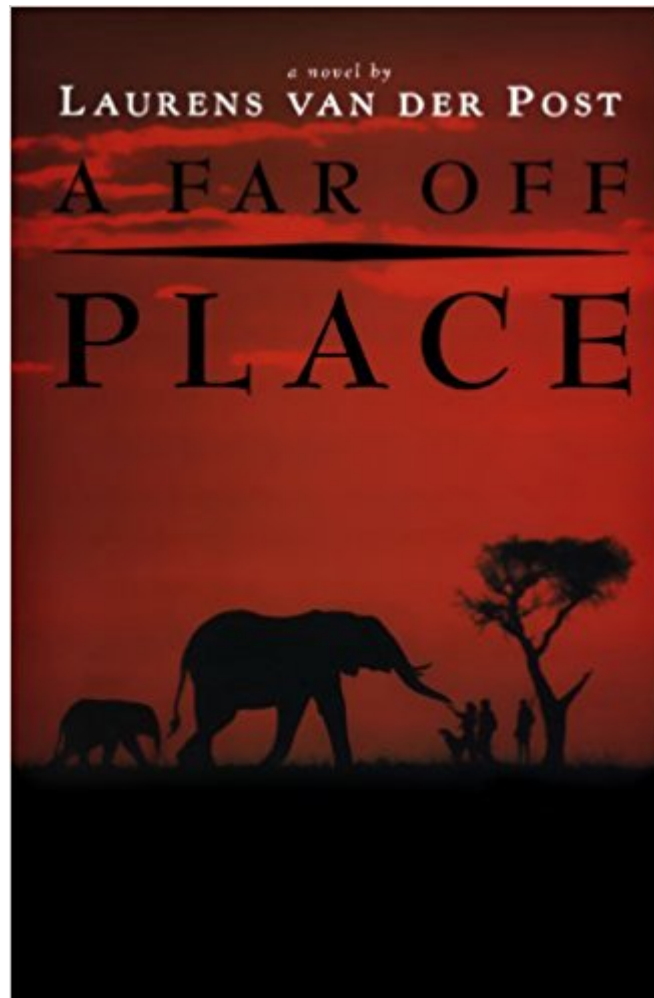




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# A Far-Off Place



## Synopsis

The story of a long, perilous journey undertaken by four survivors of a massacre: a teenage boy of European descent, a young white girl, and two Bushmen. The basis for a major film release from Walt Disney Pictures.

## Book Information

Series: Harvest/HBJ Book

Paperback: 324 pages

Publisher: Mariner Books (November 8, 1978)

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 38 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #442,987 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #42 in Books > Travel > Africa > South Africa > General #1717 in Books > Travel > Travel Writing #13001 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Contemporary

## Customer Reviews

'With a loving, mystical awareness of the physical world, Colonel van der Post creates a compelling vision of small human creatures against a vast landscape...An infinitely subtle book' (Sunday Telegraph - Janice Elliot)

The extraordinary life of Laurens van der Post is not easily capsulized. Author of many books, farmer, soldier, prisoner of war, political adviser to British heads of state, educator, humanitarian, philosopher, explorer, and conservationist are titles that barely indicate the depth and breadth of this rare individual. Born in 1906 in the interior of southern Africa, he lived among the people who created the first blueprint for life on earth, becoming the principal chronicler of the Stone Age Kalahari Bushmen. He was also one of C.G. Jung's closest friends for sixteen years. Van der Post dedicated his life to teaching the meaning and value of indigenous cultures in the modern world, a world he felt is in danger of losing its spiritual identity to technology, prejudice, empty values, and a lack of understanding of the interconnectedness of all life on earth. Awarded a knighthood (the C.B.E.) in 1981, Sir Laurens died after his 90th birthday, in December, 1996. He has written the

following books: A Far Off Place The Heart of the Hunterâ A Story Like the Wind

Laurens van der Post is one of my favorite writers. Through his storytelling he stirs the spirit of the African bush that is imprinted in all of us and awakens the memory of forgotten a soulful and simple world. Van der Post brings this side our our world and inner selves back to life and "A Story Like the Wind" and the sequel "A Far off Place", again do not disappoint. Through Francois, his dog Hinza, and Bushman Xhabbo and Noonie he takes us not only on an epic journey and adventure through Africas heart, but on the journey of a boy growing up in the world and the contrasting soulful, simple life of the Bushman A Far Off Place (Harvest/Hbj Book)

The sequel to A Story Like The Wind. I read this as a teen and loved it as an adventure story. Reading it as an adult there are many nuances that I missed especially knowing that a friend's parents wee murdered in Zimbabwe I now find it a far more disturbing story but infinitely worth reading. It is a pity it is no longer in print. A candidate for kindle?

I learned a lot about living in the desert successfully from this is old-fashioned book about a boy coming of age. I loved the authorial philosophical comments, the super dog, and even the entrance of the British Navy--but not because I thought the book was great literature. The book is old enough that the hero can't see the racial inequality in which he lives and to which he objects. This book is the sequel to A Song on the Wind. If you are going to pick just one to read, read that one. It has the same great super dog.

If you read the first book "A Story Like the Wind", nothing will stop you from reading this one. So there's not much to say except that it moves forward faster. If you haven't read "A Story Like the Wind" it is a readers book, exceptionally well written. He can expand a simple moment into an entire chapter of beautiful description, heart and wisdom.

If you are a Bushman at heart, OR a reincarnated Bushman, with memories that flood your being, then get this book. My original book has come apart as I am sure that at one point I slept with my head on this book dreaming the story. Have tears even now. AND read "A Story Like the Wind" first. For me - the two books together identify so many internal feelings I have felt as far back as I remember. "It" just makes sense.

I recommend reading "A Story Like the Wind" first--this is a sequel. These novels have a great sense of place--set in places most of us don't know, and I was pleased with the characters and story-telling.

Wonderful writing and enthralling story. Must start with A story Like The Wind. Avoid the movie. Does not portray the real story and strong humanitarian and anti racist message of Van Der Post.

Wonder why Laurens Van Der Post did not win a Nobel Prize for Literature - this one, the sequel to A Story Like the Wind, tell much about the human condition that destroys the wisdom of the earth and its peoples for possessions and power and the suffering and the courage of the characters who seek a more human life!

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