



Flood of Fire: A Novel (The Ibis Trilogy)

By Amitav Ghosh

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Flood of Fire: A Novel (The Ibis Trilogy) By Amitav Ghosh

The stunningly vibrant final novel in the bestselling Ibis Trilogy

It is 1839 and China has embargoed the trade of opium, yet too much is at stake in the lucrative business and the British Foreign Secretary has ordered the colonial government in India to assemble an expeditionary force for an attack to reinstate the trade. Among those consigned is Kesri Singh, a soldier in the army of the East India Company. He makes his way eastward on the *Hind*, a transport ship that will carry him from Bengal to Hong Kong.

Along the way, many characters from the Ibis Trilogy come aboard, including Zachary Reid, a young American speculator in opium futures, and Shireen, the widow of an opium merchant whose mysterious death in China has compelled her to seek out his lost son. The *Hind* docks in Hong Kong just as war breaks out and opium "pours into the market like monsoon flood." From Bombay to Calcutta, from naval engagements to the decks of a hospital ship, among embezzlement, profiteering, and espionage, Amitav Ghosh charts a breathless course through the culminating moment of the British opium trade and vexed colonial history.

With all the verve of the first two novels in the trilogy, *Flood of Fire* completes Ghosh's unprecedented reenvisioning of the nineteenth-century war on drugs. With remarkable historic vision and a vibrant cast of characters, Ghosh brings the Opium Wars to bear on the contemporary moment with the storytelling that has charmed readers around the world.

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Editorial Review

Review

“Ghosh imbues his narrative with historical sweep and the lavish sights and sounds of southern Asia, beautifully dramatizing the rise of Hong Kong and the strained legacy of European colonialism.” ?*O: The Oprah Magazine*

“[*Flood of Fire*] brims with wonderful historical details, clearly the result of prodigious research. . . . Ghosh has so much passion for his subject, so much care for his characters and such a command of his prose that readers will find it easy to surrender to the story.” ?Laila Lalami, *The New York Times Book Review*

“*Flood of Fire* is, for my money, the best of the three volumes: It adds colorful threads to the plot, weaving them into the existing story and tying them off in a most satisfactory way. Further, the novel provides highly dramatic depictions of key land and sea battles of the First Opium War. Beyond that, it presents a savvy account of the influence of the opium lobby on British foreign policy and the mental contortions of the "Apostles of Liberty" who identified the diabolical trade, so destructive of the people of both India and China, with freedom, commercial righteousness and religious enlightenment - all virtuously bestowed with guns and gunboats.” ?Katherine A. Powers, *Chicago Tribune*

“[Combines] a historian's affection for the archive with an anthropologist's appreciation of the thickness of local realities and a novelist's gift for plot, character, and language . . . Ghosh fashions a history that seems always on the move, vibrantly and restlessly progressing toward its conclusion.” ?*Bookforum*

“A writer of uncommon talent who combines literary flair with a rare seriousness of purpose . . . His descriptions bring a lost world to life.” ?*The Washington Post Book World*

“Dashing . . . This novel unfolds like those paper landscapes that expand under water: Each character, each situation, expands into its own world. All are woven into a four-dimensional tapestry depicting the explosive force of cultural exchange driven by the immense wealth to be derived from unchained desire.” ?Ann Klefstad, *Minneapolis Star Tribune*

“The [Ibis Trilogy] books are not only operatic-big personalities, lots of drama-but a compelling and vividly imagined chronicling of the height of British colonialism, and the development of modern Asia.” ?Hanya Yanagihara, author of *A Little Life*, *Harper's Bazaar*

“A writer of supreme skill and intelligence.” ?*The Atlantic Monthly*

About the Author

Amitav Ghosh was born in Calcutta in 1956. He grew up in Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and India. Ghosh studied at the Universities of Delhi and Oxford and published the first of his eight novels, *The Circle of Reason*, in 1986. He divides his time between Kolkata and Goa, India, and Brooklyn. The first novel in the Ibis Trilogy, *Sea of Poppies*, was short-listed for the Man Booker Prize, and Ghosh was a finalist for the 2015 Man Booker International Prize.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

David Cain:

This book untitled Flood of Fire: A Novel (The Ibis Trilogy) to be one of several books in which best seller in this year, this is because when you read this guide you can get a lot of benefit into it. You will easily to buy this particular book in the book store or you can order it by way of online. The publisher of the book sells the e-book too. It makes you quickly to read this book, because you can read this book in your Touch screen phone. So there is no reason to you to past this reserve from your list.

Jared Hoskins:

Your reading 6th sense will not betray you, why because this Flood of Fire: A Novel (The Ibis Trilogy) publication written by well-known writer we are excited for well how to make book which might be understand by anyone who have read the book. Written within good manner for you, dripping every ideas and producing skill only for eliminate your own personal hunger then you still doubt Flood of Fire: A Novel (The Ibis Trilogy) as good book not merely by the cover but also through the content. This is one guide that can break don't evaluate book by its handle, so do you still needing a different sixth sense to pick this specific!? Oh come on your examining sixth sense already said so why you have to listening to an additional sixth sense.

Michael Rodriguez:

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