

DAVID JIMÉNEZ

Born in Barcelona in 1971, David is an award-winning author and journalist, a columnist for the Spanish edition of the *New York Times* and a feature writer for *Vanity Fair*. He is a former editor-in-chief of *El Mundo*, the second largest newspaper in Spain. Praised by critics as the “Spanish Kapuscinski”, he has covered conflicts, revolutions and crises in more than twenty countries. His reports have been published in *the Guardian*, the *Sunday Times*, the *Toronto Star* and *Corriere della Sera*, and he has contributed to CNN and the BBC. A Nieman fellow at Harvard University, Jiménez is the author of four books and has been translated into English, Chinese, German, Italian and Catalan.



A combination of history, culture and geopolitical analysis that will delight anyone interested in travel, literature or Asian culture. A journey through the depths of human nature and a thrilling search for the elusive mystery of the Orient.



The Opium Diaries

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Rudyard Kipling found doom in the brothels of colonial India; Conrad discovered in Borneo a destiny made for “men without guts” and Graham Greene was trapped between clouds of opium in the decadence of Saigon.

David Jiménez follows in the footsteps of legendary writers who were bewitched by the magic of the Orient, travels through the settings of their books and embarks on an odyssey to solve the great mystery: what is the secret that has driven travelers, explorers and writers to the East since the time of Marco Polo?

The author delves into the Burma where George Orwell lived as an imperial policeman; the China where the mythical reporter Martha Gellhorn suffered her “trip to hell” in the company of Hemingway; or the crazy Philippines described by Manu Leguineche.

Legendary war hotels, remote islands, lost worlds and fascinating characters are the protagonists of a journey in which Jiménez reveals what remains - and what has vanished - of the Asia that inspired literary figures. The result is an adventure through a continent in turmoil, a journey through the depths of human nature and a fast-paced, obsessive search for the mystery of the Orient.