



The Emperor's Treasure

Daniel Leston

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Upon returning to New England after a long hiatus overseas, Prof. David Manning quickly finds himself involved in yet another extraordinary archaeological adventure---one 500 years in the making. Drawn into an investigation of a mysterious and brutal murder in the desert country of West Texas, his determined effort to find the perpetrators sets him on the hunt for a lost Aztec treasure beyond all imagining.

Both are inextricably entwined.

Pitted against a ruthless, multi-millionaire descendant of one of the original conquistadors---a man who will stop at nothing to gain the prize---Manning finds himself contending at every turn with an array of cold-blooded killers, all equally unwavering in their desire to see him dead.

*3rd Adventure of Professor David Manning

The Emperor's Treasure Details

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Author : Daniel Leston

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From Reader Review The Emperor's Treasure for online ebook

Dana Kerby says

Great read

Good characters and interesting plot. I could not put it down. I loved the ancient Mexico history aspect of the story.

April Rohrer says

Not great and not bad, action story about lost gold.

Sharon M. Turner says

Inca Gold!

A wonderfully tense story connecting past and present. The story begins over 500 years ago with a young man leading a huge caravan of gold artifacts to safety from invading Spanish conquistadors. Then current day heroes arrive to save the treasure and a young girl from conquerors again. Terrific read.

Randy Grossman says

I was really liked this book until a main character did a transformation from a thoughtful intellectual agent of the law to a foul mouthed jerk. It was enough to distract this reader from a active finale. I thought up to the final 1/4 of the book Mr Leston was careful and thoughtful with his language, but somewhere decided he needed to up his book movie rating. I will not be in a hurry to read more of this series.

Stanley McShane says

I tend to be a sucker for stories involving the Aztecs or Mayans, fascinating cultures, and sure--we hear the legends about the outrageous riches. In this clever plot, the treasure is whisked away before the Spanish conquistadors can complete their siege. The flashbacks to the young map maker give us a refreshing peak into the scenario explaining how the current circumstances have evolved. Unfortunately for a young archeological student bent on following his (native) sweetheart's ancient map, he gets a little too close. Following his brutal murder, his extremely wealthy grandparents enlist the aid of long time friend and pseudo-son, Prof. David Manning, who promises to look into a death summarily dismissed by the local (crooked) sheriff as a drug deal gone bad. Prof. Manning proves to be a pit bull, not only in his dogged effort at digging out the truth, but then setting up the dog fight that ends in the rescue of the young man's lover as well as the recovery of riches. Manning enjoys the help of the interim deputy after the death of the sheriff as

the bad guys will stop at nothing to cover their tracks and protect their cache. I thought the story flowed well enough to keep my attention and turning pages, but as has been noted before, this book is full of typos and other edit problems. The deputy was fleshed out well and very empathetic; less so Manning. Dialogue was fairly believable though the language began slipping later into the book making it necessary to step over the ca-ca. Recommended quick escapist read.

Connie Zinsmeister says

Excellently intriguing

Well thought-out plot of a secret robbery of Aztec treasure. The unexpected and unexplained death of a young friend starts an investigation that gets very complicated right from the start. Clever plans reveal what began hundreds of years ago. Great story.!

James Baquet says

This is the third of Leston's "Professor manning" series, and the third that I've read. And 20 pages in, I always ask myself "Why?"

Like the Detective Hiroshi stories, it's Dan Brownian, which makes for a fun read, but the proof-reading, and sometimes the actual writing, can be abysmal. To be fair, I bought the Kindle edition over two years ago, and maybe some corrections have been made (there is an update available). But "bi-product"? "Sinco de Mayo"? "there mutual attraction for one another"? (there <--> their? Seriously?)

Lots more sloppy editing: "the most probably answer," "he parked well from away from the few cars," "upon that insightful stratagem that his descendants had built upon," "could provide only marginally results," and more.

And then there were the poorly-worded things:

"David sat in one of the padded chairs across the desk..." What was the chair doing across the desk?

"Seven years younger than him at the time of their marriage..." And now?

"Exactly what costs had incurred for Ted to negotiated the loan of one of these three was a question that David hadn't asked." And I can see why!

Okay, maybe I'm a grammar Nazi. But when a reader is brought up short time and again by silly writing, it begins to interfere with the pleasure of reading. I expect more for my \$2.99!

Plot, characters, etc.? Okay. It ain't Tolstoy, but a pleasant few hours' diversion.

I notice that this book is not currently available in Kindle format. The paperback is a whopping \$44.76 + \$28.69 shipping. DON'T DO IT.

Loretta Gabriel says

Fast moving and thrilling story

The author has written an exciting story of greed and the effects it has on those involved. Sure to keep you interested in the story as well as entertained.

Jennifer says

I've had a dry spell in adventure books, but finally this one came along. I discovered this was Book 3 of the David Manning, Archaeologist series. However, it was a good read about an archaeologist and a sheriff who are teamed together to solve a murder that has Mayan antiquities thrown in and a decent story line. I will definitely go back and read the first two books by this same author.

Dixie Petersen says

Another exciting one for Leston!

This is the fourth book of Daniel Leston's I have read in about as many weeks. (I have to admit I have more hours in a day than most to read because I am on medical disability, however I have always gobbled up books!) This latest book was a fast paced exciting read, too! I enjoyed this one a great deal as I am really fascinated with Aztec and Mayan history, as well as the history of other Natives in the Americas. I have been to multiple sites of ruins in Central America. I grew up hearing legends because I live in the west and have been to many petroglyphs and pictographs (not certain of spelling on this one) cites as well.

This story was well written with just the right amount of detail (not too many details like my review is so it becomes boring, sorry). The characters are well developed and very pivotal to the story. I personally missed the "David and Elizabeth" duo doing the investigating, however, the addition of a new female character completed the plot and story line very well.

Katie says

Typos and missing words made me stop reading 3% in.

John says

Another "who dunnit" treasure quest, this one set in the desolation of western Texas. The story starts in the 16th century as Cortez and the Spanish conquistadors ravage the Aztec empire, but the Aztec treasure trove eludes him. Fast forward to the present, the apparent discovery of the treasure and it's surreptitious recovery,

results in a brutal murder of an archaeological student. Factor in a corrupt sheriff, an even more corrupt diplomat, and some greedy bankers in Switzerland, and there is the potential for a lot of mayhem. Prof. David Manning utilizes modern day technology to help unravel the mystery and tie up all the loose ends.

Christina says

Wow that was truly an enjoyable read! The characters were described in such a way that you felt like you knew them. The tension, the expectation, the wondering what was going to happen next kept me on the edge of my seat. It reminds me of Dan Brown's books but still distinctively its own. This is a book that you don't want to miss! Get ready for an intense ride!

Lori Tweddell says

Book Review

The book was interesting and I ENJOYED IT. The one criticism I have is the author needs to brush up on his weapons lingo. A Block is not a revolver. It is a semi automatic pistol. The difference being that a revolver which he called the Block several times, is loaded either one bullet at a time or with a speed loader. An automatic pistol is loaded with a magazine

Aila says

Might have been better if my version of the Kindle book didn't have so many spelling mistakes.
