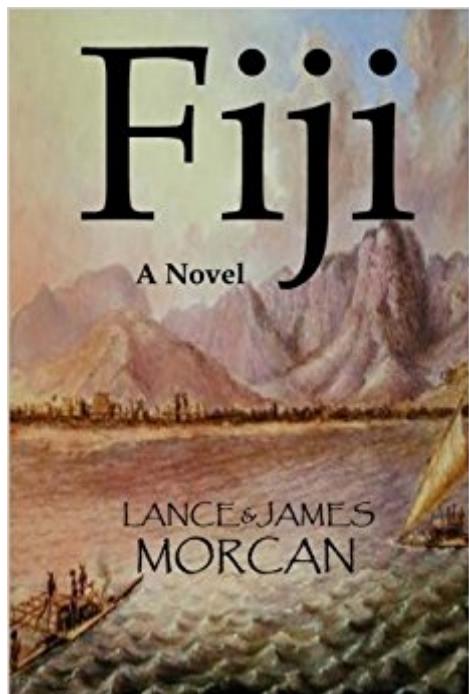


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# Fiji: A Novel



## Synopsis

Fiji is a spellbinding novel of adventure, cultural misunderstandings, religious conflict and sexual tension set in one of the most exotic and isolated places on earth. As the pharaohs of ancient Egypt build their mighty pyramids, and Chinese civilization evolves under the Shang Dynasty, adventurous seafarers from South East Asia begin to settle the far-flung islands of the South Pacific. The exotic archipelago of Fiji is one of the last island groups to be discovered and will remain hidden from the outside world for many centuries to come. By the mid-1800's, Fiji has become a melting pot of cannibals, warring native tribes, sailors, traders, prostitutes, escaped convicts and all manner of foreign undesirables. It's in this hostile environment an innocent young Englishwoman and a worldly American adventurer find themselves. Susannah Drake, a missionary, questions her calling to spread God's Word as she's torn between her spiritual and sexual selves. As her forbidden desires intensify, she turns to the scriptures and prayer to quash the sinful thoughts - without success. Nathan Johnson arrives to trade muskets to the Fijians and immediately finds himself at odds with Susannah. She despises him for introducing the white man's weapons to the very people she is trying to convert and he pities her for her naivety. Despite their differences, there's an undeniable chemistry between them. When their lives are suddenly endangered by marauding cannibals, Susannah and Nathan are forced to rely on each other for their very survival. Written by father-and-son writing team Lance & James Morcan (authors of The Orphan Trilogy), Fiji is an historical adventure-romance published by Sterling Gate Books. A feature film adaptation of Fiji is currently being developed. Reviews for Fiji: "Fun Adventure in Foreign Locales" -Jason Letts (author of 'The Inevitable Trilogy') "The extensive research is evident and the plot electrifying" -MyShelf.com "Exciting story from beginning to end" -Lynelle Clark (author of 'A Pirate's Wife') "A wonderfully entrancing read" -Joan McGrath (historical author) "Awesome book!" -A Bit Of Everything Reviews "History, sex, romance and some great adventures to boot" -BRAB Online Book Club "You'll enjoy the voyage this book takes you on" -Have You Heard Book Review "A fabulous novel, beautiful for its blunt rawness, exotic scenery, and fascinating storyline" -Historical Novel Review "A well-written, totally absorbing novel" -J.B. DiNizo (author of Comings and Goings) "The book is packed with adventure" -Karine Brégeon (author of 'Francette and the Mystery of the Deaf Soldier') "A fantastic combination of romance and action"-The Kindle Book Review UK "A perfect plot, flawless writing and a consistent storyline with no kinks or glitches throughout" -Review Buzz "The richly woven world of Fiji sometimes

comes across as a human Jurassic Park" -Greg Kuhn (author & quantum physicist) "A journey not only of adventure, but of heart, and most definitely of soul"-WelcomeHomeSoldier Reviews "Reminiscent of the great South Pacific tales of Jack London and James Michener" -John R. Lindermuth (historical novelist) Rambles Reviews

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"If you're a fan of adventure, history, even romance, you'll want to pick up a copy of Fiji: A Novel and brace yourself for the ride." -Susan M. Heim, author/editor of the bestselling 'Chicken Soup for the Soul' series "As a Fijian, I find the old traditions of our people fascinating and just as great as they are crude and gruesome. The novel touches on most of these now extinct practices, in mad detail and it's AWESOME!" -Random Writings Book Reviews (Suva, Fiji)

Lance & James Morcan are a father-and-son writing team based Down Under. Lance is a novelist/screenwriter/film producer living in New Zealand, while James is an actor/novelist/screenwriter/producer based in Sydney, Australia. They have co-authored five published novels which include the international thriller series THE ORPHAN TRILOGY (The Ninth Orphan / The Orphan Factory / The Orphan Uprising) and the historical adventure series THE WORLD DUOLOGY (World Odyssey / Fiji: A Novel). The Morcans' first non-fiction title, THE ORPHAN CONSPIRACIES, was published recently. Their production company, Morcan Motion Pictures, is developing The Ninth Orphan and Fiji into feature films.

I'm not really fond of love stories, because they seldom match with reality. However, this book set against the background of 19th century Fiji, by then an island group with tribal rules, is a very wonderful exception. I enjoyed every minute reading it and I felt sorry when I finished the book. I liked the way the authors handle the fierce and violent tribal rules, where even cannibalism is common. I loved the struggle between the two leading characters, who love one another but don't dare to admit it. Although the book is sometimes a little predictable, it kept me reading on and on and as said before I enjoyed it till the last page. I can't tell if the historical setting of the book is right, but the way the characters try to overcome their prejudices and admit they are in love is nice to read. When this would have been a real book and not a Kindle edition I certainly would have looked at the end to see if it has a "fairy-tale" "and they lived happily ever after" ending.

Ever since I read the Mutiny on the Bounty Trilogy as a teen, I have been drawn to exotic stories about the South Pacific. Fiji immediately drew my interest and I was more than pleased with this fascinating novel. If you like your stories straight up, told like it really was, and without any sugar coating, then Fiji is sure to please. This novel transcends gender and will appeal to both male and female readers. The characters in the story fascinated me, evolving and adapting to their circumstances and surroundings. The underlying romance that weaves itself through the story is beautifully written and credible as the couple move from intense dislike to meaningful love. This book had a bit of everything - sex, violence, humor, historic detail, and plenty of twists to keep one reading. A warning for all readers - in keeping with the authentic tone throughout, you will come across scenes of ritualistic slaughter and cannibalism. A fabulous novel, beautiful for its blunt rawness, exotic scenery, and fascinating storyline. Definitely one to pick up and read. The Kindle version is less than a dollar! A quality book for sure!

Sina of the Qopa tribe in Momi Bay was kidnapped by the Outcast Rambuka three months before the new missionaries from England arrived. Reverend Brian Drake and his daughter Susannah are coming to Momi Bay to convert the natives to Christianity. Reverend Drake has many plans for converting the natives. Susannah believes in what her father is doing yet she finds that she has feelings for Nathan Johnson. Nathan Johnson is only interested in making a profit by any means necessary. Nathan cannot stop thinking about Reverend Drake's daughter much to the Reverend's dismay. Nathan won't try to have a relationship with Susannah no matter what she is feeling right now. Iremaia is ratu of the Qopa tribe knows fighting the outcasts is deadly. Iremaia's son Joeli wants to defend Qopa tribe but doesn't think having muskets that Nathan Johnson brought with him

can help his people. What is Rambuka's next move? Will Iremaia use muskets? What will become of Reverend Drake and his daughter? Is Nathan willing to change? Will Sina be returned to the Qopa tribe? Your answers await you in Fiji: A Novel.

I was fascinated by this novel. I have never read anything about Fiji before, but I know someone who lived there for a few years and she confirmed the life styles portrayed in the book.

Well written story about the tensions among European/American traders and the natives of Ovalau as well as Viti Levu islands of Fiji. The tale begins in 1848 and describes the trade and interactions among the Â¢Âœwhite facesÂ¢Â• and the fishermen of the islands. The main characters are Sina of the Qopa clan in Momi Bay and her abductor Rambuka, the outcast from a cannibal tribe. In addition, thereÂ¢Â™s a hot American sea slug trader, Nathan Johnson and young Susannah Drake, the daughter of a grieving missionary. Nathan and Susannah have a love-hate relationship as they negotiate a painful confrontation among the Europeans, the Qopa fisherman, and the cannibal tribes with tragic results. SinaÂ¢Â™s role is essential in bridging the gap among the groups in various ways. I truly enjoyed reading about the complex set of economic and cultural issues that Fiji explores. I felt as though IÂ¢Â™d been transported across time and place.

From the very beginning when we witness the abduction of a girl by Rambuka, an 'Outcast', we know that we are in an exotic location --The Fiji Islands--with an underlying tone of mystery and danger. The novel is set in 1848, and the author has done his historical homework. We meet the daughter of a missionary, Susannah York, and an American trader and entrepreneur, Nathan Johnson. I couldn't read the novel without thinking of other swashbuckling tales of the Pacific, like 'Mutiny on the Bounty', and other thrillers depicting the natives of the Pacific, and the explorers who made contact with them, and traded with them. The romance between Nathan and Susannah grows in the midst of the exotic setting. Add sex, violence, strange rituals and cannibalism to the mix...and the authors have written a thrilling page-turner that will leave you wanting more!

Fiji is not only a great historical novel, but a story that makes you think about different cultures and the complicated life of the people travelling and living on those islands in the middle of 19th century. English missionaries, human sacrifice, tribal wars, cannibalism, exotic environments, adventure and romance are the elements that project the reader into an unknown exotic world. The characters are well developed and the storyline is excellent. I visited the islands a few years ago

and reading the novel I rediscovered their magic. I enjoyed Fiji and I would recommend this book to lovers of amazing historical novels.

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