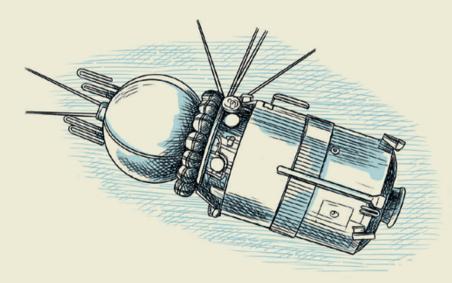
JOURNEYS

For kindly strangers encountered on my own journeys, from Montenegro to Mongolia.

~ J.L.



360 DEGREES, an imprint of Tiger Tales 5 River Road, Suite 128, Wilton, CT 06897 Published in the United States 20XX Originally published in Great Britain 20XX by Caterpillar Books Text by Jonathan Litton Text copyright © 20XX Caterpillar Books Illustrated by XXXXXXXXXXXXX Illustrations copyright © 20XX Caterpillar Books ISBN-13: XXX-XXXXXXXXXXXXXX ISBN-10: X-XXXXXX-XXX Printed in China CPB/XXXX/XXXX/XXXX All rights reserved 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

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JOURNEYS

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HUMAN JOURNEYS

Journeys are in our genes – it seems humans have been programmed to be a travelling species; wandering and wondering our way around the planet. Of course, in the days of hunting and gathering, it was necessary to undertake daily journeys for food. Then, about 200,000 years ago, man began his voyages out of Africa and over the subsequent centuries colonised almost all corners of the globe by foot and on ocean-going craft.

They say that man 'settled' when he built farms, villages, towns and cities, but the wanderlust was never cured. People from all nations and generations have had the urge to travel, and our great explorers and voyagers have come from every culture on Earth.

From Aboriginals who walk through the outback using songs as maps, to Polynesians who made an empire of islands, from Mongolians who saw the world on horseback to an African named Hannibal who sat atop an elephant, different modes of transportation have been chosen according to the terrain in question.

In more modern times, the poles have been magnets to daring explorers, as have the mountaintops, and then the sky became the limit – could man fly? How far? And what about space travel? The limits are defined not by technology but by people's imagination – if people dare to dream it, then more often than not some brave voyager has fulfilled that dream. So this is a book of dreamers and doers, and of the wonderful stories they have brought back from faraway lands.



CONTENTS

4
7
8
10
12
14
16
18
20
22
24
26
28
30
32

Section 2 – Land	35
Early Travel Writers	36
Across the Alps	38
The Far, Far East	40
Ibn Battuta	42
To Timbuktu	44
The Wild, Wild West	46
A Sense of the World	48
In Saharan Sands	50
The Pony Express	52
Special Delivery	53
Crossing a Continent	54
Painting Plants	56
Livingstone and Stanley	58
Pilgrimage of Peace	60
Section 3 – Ice and Snow	61
The Cable Guys	62
The Northwest Passage	64
The Northeast Passage	65

Race to the South Pole	66
Forget Me Not!	68
Shackleton's Journey	70
To Tibet	72
On Top of the World	74
An African in Greenland	76
Section 4 – Man and Machine	77
Around the World on	
a Penny Farthing	78
Around the World in 72 Days	80
The Great Race	82
Trailblazers	84
Fearless Fliers	86
Up and Down and Round	
and Round	88
Motorcycle Diaries	90
Out of This World	92
To the Moon and Back	94
Wherever Next?	96