

(Download) Road to Osambre

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John Ridgway

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John Ridgway : Road to Osambre before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Road to Osambre:

John Ridgway, one of England's pioneering adventurers, chronicles his most daring expedition to date. Osambre is seven days' walk from the nearest road, in the middle of a dense jungle, 1,800 meters above sea level.

From Publishers WeeklyOn his Journey in 1970, British adventurer Ridgway visited an idyllic plantation, Osambre, deep in the Peruvian jungle and a seven-day walk from the nearest road. Fifteen years later, he planned a family holiday that would include a trek in the Andes and a return visit to his friend Elvin Berg at Osambre. With his wife, 18-year-old daughter and two young men from his Ardmores School of Adventure, Ridgway embarked on the riskiest expedition of his colorful career. The area leading to Osambre had been terrorized by guerrillas, the "Shining Path," who were fighting with government forces. Food was scarce, and foreigners were under suspicion. Beset with altitude sickness, colds and fever, Ridgway's party learned that Elvin Berg had been murdered by guerrillas, his family scattered. As they began the homeward journey, they found Berg's seven-year-old daughter Elizabeth and set in motion efforts to adopt her. This is an extraordinary story of endurance and adventure that will grip readers. Photos. Copyright 1987 Reed Business Information, Inc.From Library JournalIn 1970, while leading the expedition described

in his Journey (1974), the author came across a "Garden of Eden" in a remote, jungle-clad corner of Peru. Here in Osambre he met the Bergsa Norwegian-Indian family whose idyllic life and son, Elvin, made a lasting favorable impression. Fifteen years later, Ridgway, his wife and daughter, and two companions trek back to Osambre in search of Elvin Berg. This journal quickly dispels the romance of Ridgway's notion with the grinding reality of daily privations and the squalor seen and experienced. In fact, it is the continuous chronicling of flies, tarantulas, and such things as fried guinea pig served with "front teeth and whiskers still intact" which becomes the story. Episodes recounting operations of the "Shining Path," Maoist guerrillas, are of interest, but not enough to enliven this plodding account and its anticlimax. Jerry Maioli, Western Lib. Network, Olympia, Wash. Copyright 1987 Reed Business Information, Inc.