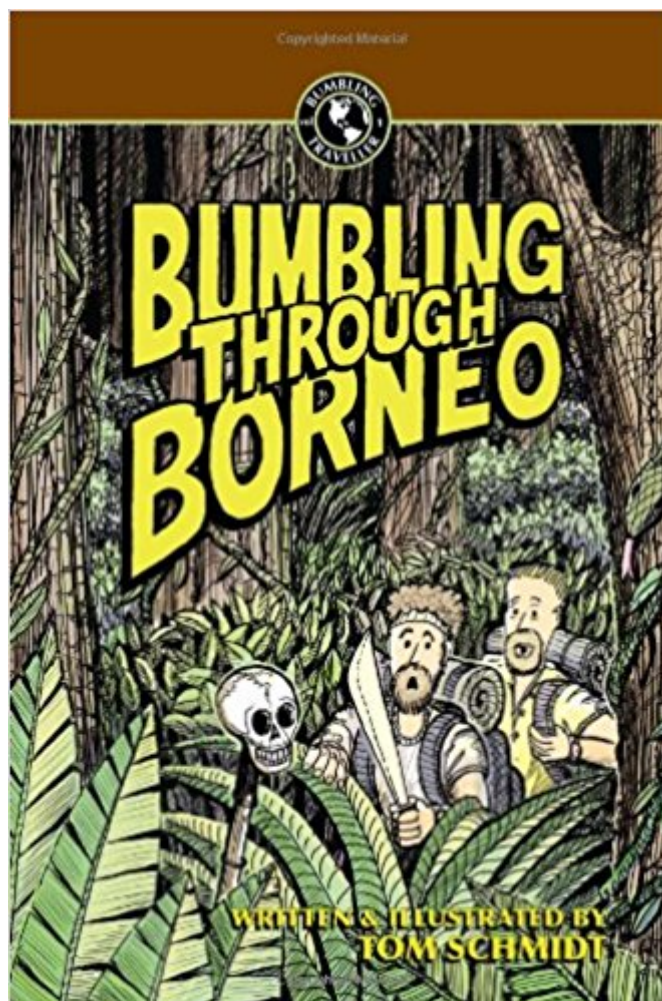


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# Bumbling Through Borneo (Bumbling Traveller Adventure Series)



## Synopsis

SILVER MEDAL WINNER in THE 2009 INDEPENDENT PUBLISHERS BOOK AWARDS and BRONZE MEDAL WINNER in THE 2009 MOONBEAM CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARDS! NAMED ONE OF 10 BEST BOOKS ON BORNEO IN 2012 BORNEO INSIDERS GUIDE and SELECTED AS TOP 30 GRAPHIC NOVELS FOR EARTH DAY 2012 BY LIBRARY JOURNAL

Volume 1 of the Bumbling Traveller Adventure Series: Follow the humorous day-by-day account of Bumbling Bob, a wayward American architect, as he finds himself on an uncertain journey deep into the heart of Borneo with a small troupe of intrepid backpackers. Share an arduous journey up the fabled Rejang River to experience life in a traditional longhouse ending in a deadly race through virgin rainforest aboard runaway logging trucks to a world of subterranean splendor. Discover the Malaysian state of Sarawak a land abundant in nature's treasures ruled by a melting pot of cultures on a collision course with environmental catastrophe! The adventure continues in Volume 2: Bumbling Through Sumatra!

## Book Information

Series: Bumbling Traveller Adventure Series (Book 1)

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## Customer Reviews

A travel book with a difference. Engagingly written and amusingly illustrated in comic book-style format, it combines a rollicking backpacker's adventure tale in the heart of Southeast Asia's disappearing jungles with an increasingly serious environmental message. --South China Morning Post

This book is a unique approach to share stories of disappearing plants, animals, lands and waters local people need to survive. A good blend of a tourist rough guide, conservation notes and

a comic book. A good treat for eyes and mind. --Ahmad Fuadi, Director of Communications, The Nature Conservancy Indonesia Encouraging anyone to have an interest in exploration and the natural world can never be a bad thing, so *Bumbling Through Borneo*, which is set to entertain while imparting information, is a welcome blend of narrative with an underlying conservation message ... the underlying message is excellent -- adventure mixed with fact and just thing to hook a youngster into wanting to explore the world. --Descent Magazine This book is a unique approach to share stories of disappearing plants, animals, lands and waters local people need to survive. A good blend of a tourist rough guide, conservation notes and a comic book. A good treat for eyes and mind. --Ahmad Fuadi, Director of Communications, The Nature Conservancy Indonesia Encouraging anyone to have an interest in exploration and the natural world can never be a bad thing, so *Bumbling Through Borneo*, which is set to entertain while imparting information, is a welcome blend of narrative with an underlying conservation message ... the underlying message is excellent -- adventure mixed with fact and just thing to hook a youngster into wanting to explore the world. --Descent Magazine

Tom Schmidt is an architect, award-winning writer, illustrator, musician, and part-time stand-up comedian. Born in the United States, following his studies of Architecture and Environmental Design at the University of Colorado, his wanderlust has carried him through various bumbling adventures in more than 70 countries around the world. Schmidt is a licensed US architect, a LEED Accredited Professional, a founding member of the Hong Kong Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA), and a member of the American Society of Architectural Illustrators (ASAI). He has resided in Hong Kong since 1997. Schmidt received a 2010 American Institute of Architects Hong Kong Citation for the *Bumbling Traveller Adventure Series* in recognition of significant achievement in promoting the values of cultural heritage, eco-tourism and vernacular architecture in the Chapter's region.

This book chronicles the journey of the main character, Bob, on his month-long trek through Borneo, in search of the answer to a secret message. He meets fellow travelers and local people along the way, encountering unusual, and often humorous, situations as a stranger in a strange land. I felt like I was tagging along with the hapless travelers as they made their way through the Borneo rainforest, along the way noting the effects of modernization and globalization on the natural environment. It was so engaging, I read the book in one evening, but could spend hours looking through the hundreds of detailed pen and ink illustrations. The book offers useful tips and travel information for

those visiting Borneo and for world travelers in general. It's a combination travel guide, vacation journal, and graphic novel, with an emphasis on eco-tourism and being a responsible traveler. The book ends with Bob starting a new adventure to solve the mystery. I'm definitely looking forward to the next installment!

Part of "The Bumbling Traveller Adventure Series", *Bumbling Through Borneo* is a novel based on a true story, about an American architect on a once-in-a-lifetime journey through the depths of Borneo, along with a dedicated troupe of backpackers. Set in the 1990s, *Bumbling Through Borneo* has a strong environmental message amidst its exciting narrative of exploring a virgin rainforest and encountering diverse cultures. Cartoon-sketch style illustrations on every page add life to this enthralling adventure, told in day-by-day journal format.

Schmidt's work bumbles through the veins of the disappearing rainforest of Borneo. His beautiful illustrations fill literally every page, and his accessible and vivacious prose fits all walks of life. The author also made an effort to provide socio-geographical details that are of great educational value. *Bumbling Through Borneo* is a must-read for those who desire to experience beyond city life and human civilizations. In sum, a beautiful and a meaningful work - I am looking forward to its sequels!

Tom Schmidt is a renaissance man. He tells a witty story and packs in a lot of information. I liked the drawings the best. If you're going to Borneo or just enjoy armchair adventure, buy this book!

What a unique book all ages can enjoy. It is a wonderfully light hearted story that is told in a comic book style of backpacking travel. Made me laugh out loud!

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