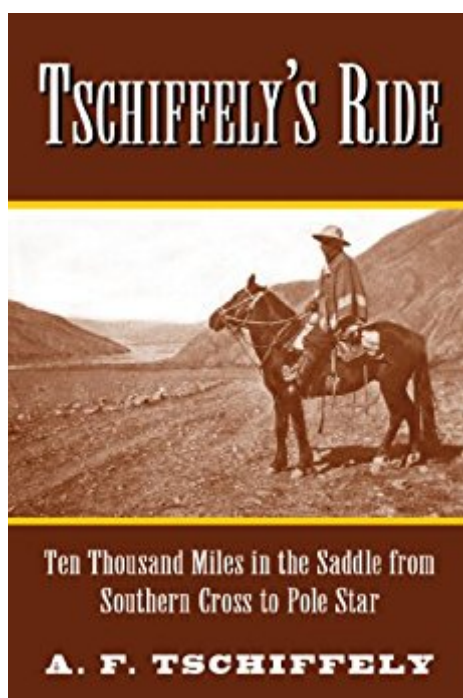


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Tschiffely's Ride: Ten Thousand Miles In The Saddle From Southern Cross To Pole Star



Synopsis

From the southeast coast of South America through an expanse of Peruvian sands en route to the West Coast, then onward through Central American jungles and rainforest, and finally to New York, Tschiffely's journey was considered impossible and absurd by many newspaper writers in 1925. However, after two and a half years on horseback with two of his trusty and tough steeds, this daring trekker lived to tell his best-selling tale. Tschiffely's 10,000-mile journey was filled with adventure and triumph, but it also forced the traveler to deal with tremendous natural and man-made obstacles, as many countries in Central America were war-torn. He traversed rivers and mountains in hurricanes and hail storms, stopping to stay the night with farmers and villagers in huts who often shared their mysterious and superstitious tales. He ate dried goats' meat in a desolate town of Santiago del Estero, watched illegal cockfights and vicious machete battles between plantation workers in Jujuy, and was healed by an Indian herb doctor in the mountains of Bolivia for his infection after excavating graves; these obstacles have captured the hearts of people from around the world. In addition to the remarkable details of his travel expedition, Tschiffely's relationship with his horses, Mancha and Gato, is perhaps the most endearing element of the book, and his photos of the people and places he encountered make Tschiffely's Ride the perfect travel companion for adventure enthusiasts.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Clearly, one of the best "travel" stories ever written. I read this book for the first time in 1957 as a young boy and it left a lasting impression on me as a beacon for exploration. The world was quite a bit different in those days, but it was nice to see complete strangers lend a helping hand as Tschiffely journeyed north on his two horses. I had been looking for this book for some time and thrilled that it was re-printed.

A friend of mine from Paraguay recommended this book to me, and I have thanked him profusely since having completed it. Tschiffely achieves two things in writing this diary. First, he gives a fascinating account of what life was like on the trail through the Americas in the 1920's, an era of transition from the horse to the automobile, from undiscovered lands to thoroughly mapped and surveyed developments, from untouched communities to homogenized modernity. Second, he writes before the age of political correctness and his observations, though not mean-spirited, are totally honest and telling. This is no dreamy-eyed travelogue. The book is not about horses per se, but if you have any affinity for equestrianism you will not be disappointed. The quiet bond that forms between Tschiffely and his two horses is touching, and his love of animals in general is not rooted in slobbering sentimentalism, but in respect and understanding of the magnificent creatures which contribute so much to our lives. This book is for those who want to be transported to another world and gain insight into what we have lost as a culture, both good and bad. Truly this story needs to be rediscovered!

It was fascinating to follow along as he made his way north. The trip had both amazing and horrible times. It would be impossible for anyone to accomplish this these days mostly due to political unrest.

well okay maybe not but I enjoyed this book from cover to cover. Despite, or maybe because of, the simple matter-of-fact writing style this tale of an amazing, yet true, journey held my interest and I enjoyed every page. The book is basically a diary of Tschiffely's ride from inception to end, he writes simply of the trails taken, the hardships and joys and the people he met along the way. This is a tale of a bygone era when great adventures were undertaken without enormous budgets or near hysterical live reportage. Pages describe what must have been terrifying events with endearing

understatement and the sort of modesty that most modern day heroes cannot muster. Not only does this book put you into a different time and place but it encourages you to consider the possibilities within yourself.

This is a great classic - I'm amazed it is not more popular. Any trail riding horse person would enjoy reading the interesting tales of Tschiffely's long ride. Despite it being written a long time ago, it's not difficult to read, but actually flows more like modern writing rather than something written back in the 19th or early 20th century.

I keep seeing comments about writing styles and out dated. This was a grand adventure that should be seen through the eyes and attitudes of a man in the 1920's. Leave your 21st century sensibilities at the door and enter into the world of the 1920s and a man who did the impossible that will never be done in the same way again! You can copy the ride but you could never copy the conditions, political climate, or see them from the eyes of an educated man of the age. Buy this book... Live a real adventure... Leave your politically correct, small world view at the door. Visit a different time and see history...

This is an amazing journey and story. I also loved his book Bohemia Junction which describes his life and many characters he met and the difficulty he had getting Tschiffely's Ride published. It's testament to the man and his supporters that so many of his books are still in print today.

The ride that inspired me to create a long ride of my own in the near future. An account of a fifteen thousand mile journey from Argentina to New York City in uncharted country by a unique and determined man with his two very special horses. A book for every trail rider whether a day rider or long rider.

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