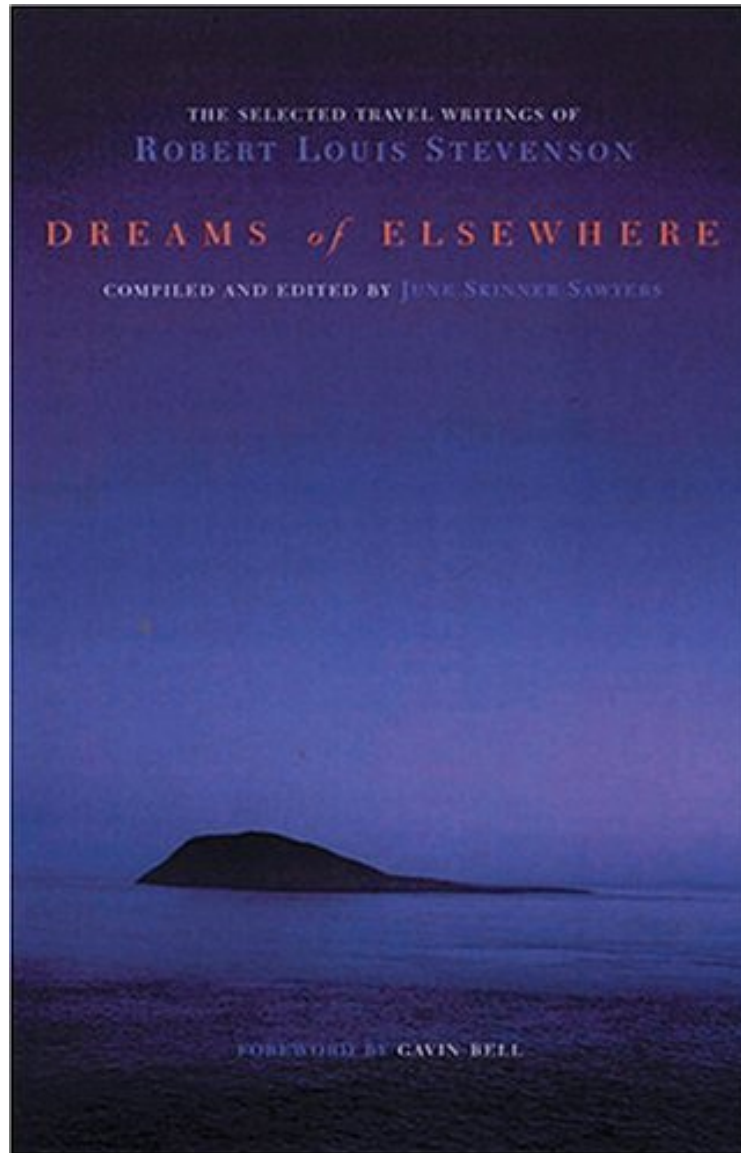


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Dreams of Elsewhere

Robert Louis Stevenson

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Robert Louis Stevenson : Dreams of Elsewhere before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Dreams of Elsewhere:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. As the Freak Takes You!By Linda BallouWho knew Robert Louis Stevenson, of Treasure Island fame, was a brilliant travel writer? In fact, he loved the excitement of exploration and discovery and was happiest when he was on the move. In Dreams of Elsewhere, a collection of excerpts from his numerous travel memoirs, you receive an intimate understanding of who he was and how his travels affected him. I enjoyed his accounts of early Monterey, California and surrounds in the late 1800's the most, but his South seas

impressions are also insightful. The language is dense and archaic for most modern readers, but powerful none the less. He said "A walking tour should be gone upon alone, because freedom is of the essence; because you should be able to stop and go on, and follow this way or that, as the freak takes you." My sentiments exactly!

Best known for his fiction writing, Robert Louis Stevenson was also an essayist, journalist, poet and travel writer. His first major work was *An Inland Voyage*, an account of his journey by canoe from Antwerp to northern France. The companion work to this, *Travels with a Donkey in the Cevennes* (1879), is widely regarded as a travel-writing classic. June Skinner Sawyers has brought together the most comprehensive and representative sampling of Robert Louis Stevenson's prolific travel output, including excerpts from his most famous travel books, travel essays and travel poetry. The result is a collection that is as vivid and compelling as his fiction, and includes a number of lesser-known works from US collections. There are endlessly fascinating portraits of flesh-and-blood human beings, and it becomes apparent that he never grew tired of meeting new people, or of seeking new adventures. The story-teller always finds stories to tell and Stevenson was a consummate storyteller. In the tranquility of a French pine forest by moonlight he considers the importance of friendship; in a leper colony on Hawaii he reflects on physical horror and moral beauty; in all of his writing there is humanity and compassion. *Dreams of Elsewhere* also features annotated listings of Stevenson historic sites, landmarks, museums, libraries, organisations, and even music inspired by Stevenson. As Gavin Bell, the critically acclaimed travel writer, states in his foreword: 'Admirers of RLS's work will welcome this judicious selection of sketches from an itinerant life. Those less familiar with his blythe spirit are in for a rare treat, a voyage of discovery with the teller of tales to where the surf murmurs on Parrot islands.'

'Sawyers has chosen well. There are many examples of gilded prose in this collection... He gives a compelling sense of a country, America, creating itself with feverish haste.' *The Herald* 'A fascinating Volume.' *The Highland News* About the Author June Skinner Sawyers is one of America's most prolific authors on Scottish and Celtic-related material and is a recognised authority on travel literature in Scotland. She edited and compiled *The Road North, 300 Years of Classic Scottish Travel Writing*.