

d i s t r a c t i o n s

Tommy Travels

A Deaf, Dumb and Blind Travel Guide For The Debutante Traveler
by Murray Thorpe and Warren Watson



Yes, this is cool

In the spirit of St. Valentine's Day and the recent cold weather, this week Tommy travels to a spot where you and a loved one can relax on a beach. A good imagination may come in handy if you find yourself single. Either way, Lombok is still a great place to explore or to just relax.

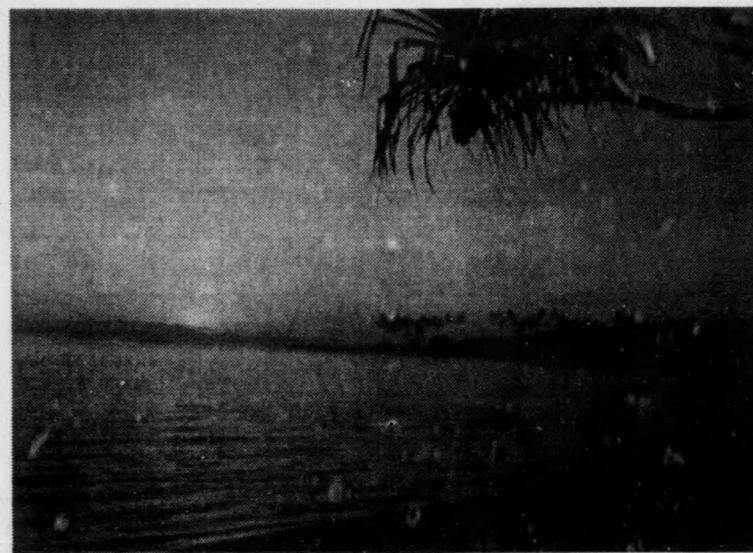
Lombok is a small island about six degrees south of the equator nestled between the islands of Komodo and Bali in the island chain of Indonesia. Komodo is home to the famous Komodo dragon while Bali is the popular tourist spot with an international airport. You would fly in to Bali before embarking to Lombok via ferry or a small plane. Bali is definitely worth a couple of days of sightseeing before leaving for Lombok.

If you are tired of over-developed tourist spots, you will love Lombok. Peaceful white sand beaches, palm trees blowing in the ocean breeze and drinking cheap Bintang (Indonesian beer) while watching the sun set are some of the images that come to mind. If you get tired of the beaches and the beer, you can wander inland and check out the artisans and their handicrafts. Indonesians are refreshingly friendly (unlike Torontonians) and are quite willing to practise their English. Some, of course, want to sell you their handi-work but others are genuinely interested in meeting a foreigner. Two things to remember are to never be in a hurry and use the overcrowded mass transport as much as possible. This way you will meet more than the salesmen of Lombok.

If you SCUBA dive, this is a good place to do it. The cost is not much different from other places. You will find the dollar goes along way for a



Artwork by Nina Botten



Sunset at Sergiggi Beach

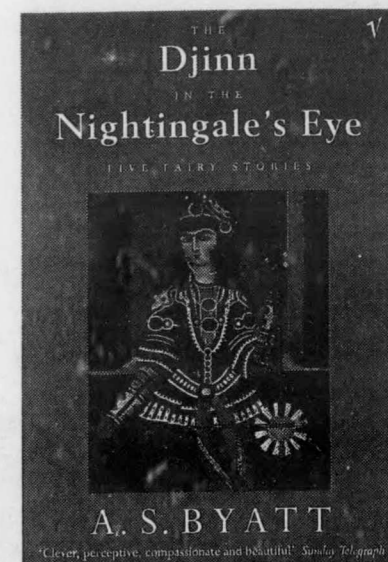


Rice paddies near harvest

Hand Weaving

photos by Warren Watson

Please feel free to bring in your favorite travel trip story with photos or negatives of the trip.



The Djinn in the Nightingale's Eye; Five Fairy Tales
Random House
by A. S. Byatt

Reviewed by Jethelo E. Cabilete

One type of literature that most people enjoy, are fairy tales. Tales to teach and learn from usually using mythic and supernatural agents as a means of delivering the message. The classical fairy (or faerie) tale lent itself well to the dark and foreboding era of the Dark Ages, and were not the usual brand of saccharine covered fluff you usually see today. These tales had real bite to them.

Some of the modern adaptations of this style have kept the genre alive, with tales of gothic, erotic or just plain old mystery themes. One of these collections is A. S. Byatt's *The Djinn in the Nightingale's Eye: Five Fairy Tales*. Taking his style from the classic Arabian Nights theme, Ms. Byatt has brought a modern dimension to some stories that take place in Turkey, Germany, the Mediterranean and so on.

The Arabian Nights style lends itself well to *The Djinn*, with Ms. Byatt's usage of modern terminology or language presenting a most interesting twist to these stories. My personal favourites, *The Eldest Princess* and *The Djinn in the Nightingale's Eye*, have such a uniquely modern parable to them. Throughout the five tales, some of the endings were like cliff-hangers, a la Twilight Zone. It seemed as if the stories could continue past the first tale. There is no doubt that this book has some unusual shadings to it, but this is a good read for those who enjoy fairy tales.

Wanted: Student Contributions of:

- Travel Stories with Pictures
- Poetry
- Short Stories
- Sketches
- Bridge Hands
- Your choice of the seven wonders of the world
- Book Reviews around 300 to 500 words long
- Poetry about things that can be photographed
- Artwork
- Other Games or things that may be distracting

Contact: Bruns Distractions Editor

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