



Blue Mauritius: The Hunt for the World's Most Valuable Stamps

By Helen Morgan



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Follow the adventures of the world's most sought-after postage stamps—from a tropical Indian Ocean island to the hushed atmosphere of the modern auction room—in this dramatic and passionate tale of the first stamp hunters. In September 1847 colored squares of paper were stuck on to envelopes and used to send out admission cards to a fancy-dress ball on the tropical island of Mauritius. No one at the party would have guessed that these stamps would one day be worth more than a million dollars. When a two-pence "Blue Mauritius" surfaced on the fledgling French stamp-collecting market in 1865 it gained instant celebrity. Soldiers, schoolboys, and the entire German nation became obsessed with finding one of these extremely rare examples. When in 1903 a perfect specimen, discovered in a childhood album, was bought at auction by the Prince of Wales, the Blue Mauritius gained superstar status. Even now, "Post Office Mauritius" stamps are synonymous with fame, wealth, and mystery. The most coveted scraps of paper in existence, this is their story—from their birth during days of sail, taking them from Port Louis to Bordeaux, India and Great Britain, Switzerland and Japan, into the hearts and imagination of collectors everywhere.



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Blue Mauritius: The Hunt for the World's Most Valuable Stamps By Helen Morgan Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #1454480 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Atlantic Books
- Published on: 2009-04-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.00" h x 1.00" w x 5.00" l, .75 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 336 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

Will strike a chord with anyone who has ever felt the thrill of buying a little glassine packet of stamps, tipping them out, finding the longed-for Missing One and making the proud, complete set... the stories of these stamps are often extraordinary. -- Ann Wroe Daily Telegraph Fascinating... not just an entertaining and meticulously researched history of Mauritius and its stamps, but also an absorbing look at the early development of one of the world's most widespread hobbies. -- Kieron Wood Sunday Business Post

About the Author

Helen Morgan

trained as an art historian and archivist. This is her first book.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Marlon Hood:

Do you have favorite book? In case you have, what is your favorite's book? Publication is very important thing for us to find out everything in the world. Each reserve has different aim or even goal; it means that e-book has different type. Some people feel enjoy to spend their the perfect time to read a book. They may be reading whatever they get because their hobby is reading a book. Why not the person who don't like reading a book? Sometime, person feel need book whenever they found difficult problem or exercise. Well, probably you should have this Blue Mauritius: The Hunt for the World's Most Valuable Stamps.

Juan Carrillo:

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