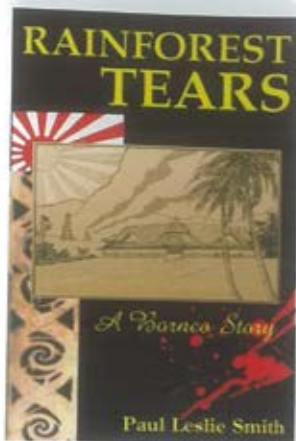


Rainforest Tears

By Paul Leslie Smith

This is a first for an Expatriate Lifestyle book review, I think. I actually get to recommend you a book written by 'one of us.'

Rainforest Tears' author, Paul Leslie Smith is an expatriate who has spent the past 17 years living and working here in Malaysia. His time in Miri peaked his interest in the Japanese occupation during the second world war and he has spent the past few years collecting anecdotes and checking historical records to produce a quite inspirational read.



The book centres around another Englishman who falls in love with life in Borneo, Geoffrey Portas. The plot throws Portas into increasingly disturbing situations and charges him with fighting for himself, his love and the people and land he has come to hold so dear.

Right from the prologue I was gripped by 'Rainforest Tears'. I am woefully ignorant of this period and aspect of the second world war, which is criminal given the atrocities that took place in the land I now live in. However, this book has proved an education, not to mention a darn good read. I can only begin to wonder how much work it has taken Mr. Smith but it was unquestionably worth it and I have no hesitation in recommending Rainforest Tears to every expatriate who likes their fiction fast, intelligent and with a base in reality. ■