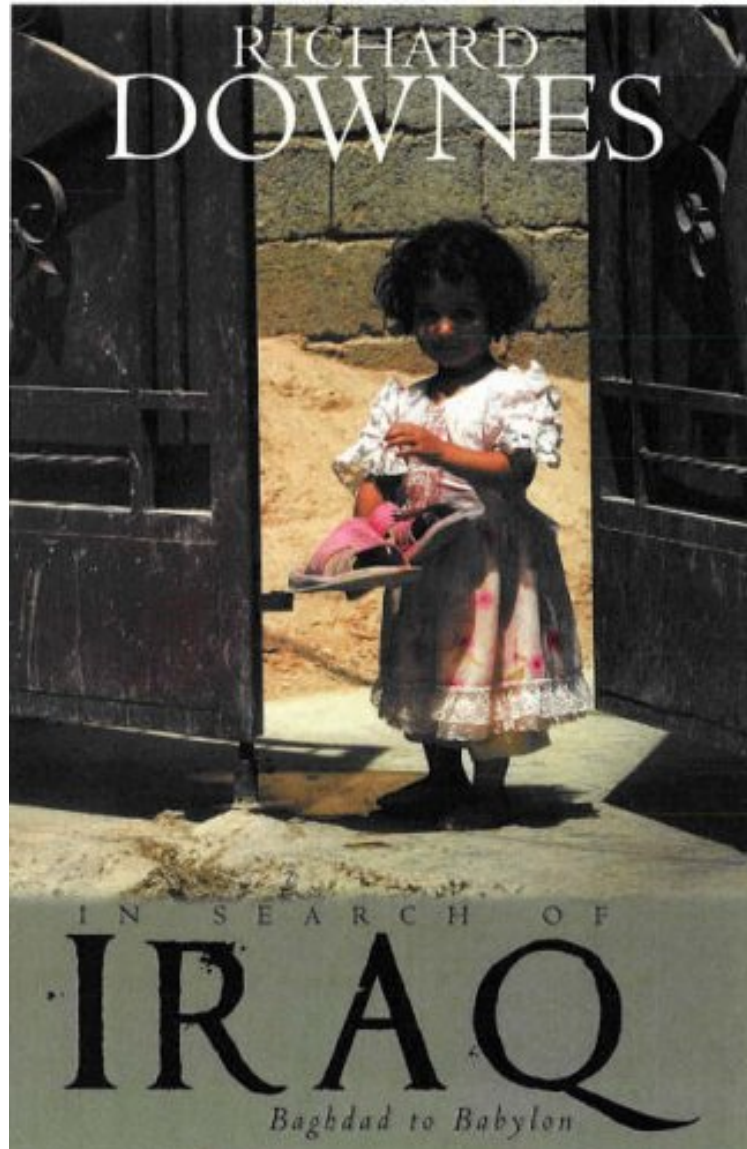


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## Iraq: A Personal Journey

*Richard Downes*

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**Richard Downes : Iraq: A Personal Journey** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Iraq: A Personal Journey:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Iraq conflict clearly explainedBy David LiscioIf you are confused about the complexity of the war in Iraq, then this book comes highly suggested because it offers insight that isn't easily found in many other sources.Downes is a journalist covering the conflict, but he's Irish (as in from Ireland), so with the

writing comes a different perspective. He's not anti-American, merely not an American, and that brings refreshing observations and opinions. The writing is clear as mountain spring water, not politically-tainted mumbo jumbo. He explains how and why the region's many tribal groups act as they do, forming alliances or declaring enemies. Downes also adds plenty of historical references and anecdotes that enrich the book in every chapter. In doing so, the American strategy to win the war is cast in harsh light, enabling the reader to better question the decisions being made by high-ranking American government officials and their Pentagon counterparts.

Not only an account of a nation's suffering as it moved from dictatorship to foreign occupation and guerrilla warfare, this title also focuses on the people of Iraq and their customs - religious and cultural - and their historical diversity.