



## Ashes and Snow: A Novel in Letters (Ashes and Snow Books)

By Gregory Colbert

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**Ashes and Snow: A Novel in Letters (Ashes and Snow Books)** By Gregory Colbert

*Ashes and Snow: A Novel in Letters* by Gregory Colbert is the fictional account of a traveler who, over the course of a yearlong journey, composes 365 letters to his wife. The letters reveal the source of the title of both the book and the Ashes and Snow exhibition.

*Ashes and Snow*, a lifelong project for artist and author Gregory Colbert, originated in 1992 as a literary endeavor that soon inspired photographic artworks and an accompanying film. Colbert, like the character in his novel, composed the letters on more than thirty expeditions to such places as India, Burma, Sri Lanka, Egypt, Dominica, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tonga, and Namibia. The novel echoes many of the themes expressed in Colbert's images. Provocative, contemplative, and passionate, the letters chronicle an inward and outward exploration of memory and love. (The book collects 74 of these letters, as some were blown from the window or lost in transit. Blank pages in the novel sometimes represent the missing letters.)

Printed and bound in Italy on deckle edge Velata Biblos paper from Cartiere Magnani; hand-sewn binding; cover from handmade Nepalese paper sealed with natural beeswax; tied with tea-stained thread. Text in English.

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## **Ashes and Snow: A Novel in Letters (Ashes and Snow Books) By Gregory Colbert Bibliography**

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

There is no clash of species in Ashes and Snow; it is a world in which man and animals peacefully co-exist, living in each other's dreams. --Los Angeles Times Magazine

Ashes and Snow is an expression of the poetic possibilities of a harmonious relationship between animals and man. --Newsweek

Colbert's work feels timeless and sacred. It resonates with a luminous, essential wisdom speaking through the ages. . . . Colbert's work operates in a parallel universe to ours, an earnest, refreshing, post-ironic world where pure wonder and awe still reside. --Globe & Mail

From the Inside Flap

#### **full credits:**

**written, directed, and produced by Gregory Colbert**

#### **cinematographers**

Gregory Colbert, Philippe Vene, Koji Nakemura, Acacio Almeida, Yorgos Arvanitis

#### **narrators**

Laurence Fishburne (English) Ken Watanabe (Japanese)

#### **editor**

Pietro Scalia

#### **music**

Michael Brook, Patrick Cassidy, David Darling, Robert Een, Lukas Foss, Djivan Gasparyan, Lisa Gerrard, Heiner Goebbels, Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan, Temple of Sound, Cantor Samuel Vigoda

#### **post production supervisor**

Alessandra Pasquino

#### **music supervisors**

Peter Afterman, Margaret Yen

#### **score producer**

Michael Brook

#### **music editor**

Richard Henderson

#### **additional editor**

Elisa Bonora

#### **assistant editors**

Shawn Mitchell, Neil Jariwala

#### **apprentice editor**

Sean Martin

#### **colorist**

Clark Muller

#### **special thanks**

Michael Ostin, Nile Rodgers, Andy Uterano, Francis Pennington

#### **animals**

Asian elephants, sperm whales, humpback whales, royal eagles, manatees, peregrine falcons, gyr falcons, elands, baboons, cheetahs, meerkats, african wild dogs, pilot whales, harris hawks, sacred ibis, antigone cranes, caracals

#### About the Author

Born in Toronto, Canada, in 1960, Gregory Colbert began his career in Paris in 1983 where he began making documentary films on social issues. Filmmaking led to fine arts photography. His first exhibition, *Timewaves*, opened in 1992 at the Museum of Elysée in Switzerland.

For the next ten years, Colbert did not show films or exhibit his art to the public. During this time, he completed extensive underwater work in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans and traveled to such places as India, Burma, Sri Lanka, Egypt, Dominica, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tonga, Namibia, and Antarctica to film and photograph wondrous interactions between human beings and animals. Since 1992, he has launched more than sixty such expeditions to collaborate with elephants, whales, manatees, sacred ibis, Antigone cranes, royal eagles, gyr falcons, rhinoceros hornbills, cheetahs, leopards, African wild dogs, caracals, leopards, baboons, elands, meerkats, gibbons, orangutans, and other animals. Human subjects include Burmese monks, trance dancers, San people, and Colbert free diving with whales.

In 2002, Colbert presented the culmination of his singular work, *Ashes and Snow*, at the Arsenale in Venice, Italy, a twelfth-century 125,000-square-foot shipyard. It was the largest solo exhibition ever mounted in Italy. In spring 2005 the show opened in New York City in the first-ever Nomadic Museum. *Ashes and Snow* has since migrated in the Nomadic Museum to world capitals on four continents and has become the most attended exhibition by any artist in history.

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##### Joyce Jacobs:

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##### Raymond Bailey:

Reading can called brain hangout, why? Because when you are reading a book specifically book entitled *Ashes and Snow: A Novel in Letters* (Ashes and Snow Books) the mind will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in each aspect that maybe unfamiliar for but surely will become your mind friends. Imaging each word written in a e-book then become one application form conclusion and explanation that maybe you never get previous to. The *Ashes and Snow: A Novel in Letters* (Ashes and Snow Books) giving you an additional experience more than blown away your thoughts but also giving you useful details for your

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