The Lost City of the Monkey God by Douglas Preston

Author Douglas Preston takes readers on an adventure deep into the Honduran jungle in this riveting, danger-filled true story about the discovery of an ancient lost civilization.


About the Author: Douglas Jerome Preston was born 1956 in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He received a B.A. in English literature from Pomona College in 1978. His career began at the American Museum of Natural History, where he worked as an editor and writer from 1978 to 1985. He became a full-time writer of both fiction and nonfiction books in 1986. Many of his fiction works are co-written with Lincoln Child including Relic, Riptide, Thunderhead, The Wheel of Darkness, among others. His nonfiction works include Dinosaurs in the Attic; Cities of Gold: A Journey Across the American Southwest in Pursuit of Coronado; Talking to the Ground; and The Royal Road. He became a New York Times Best Selling author with titles he co-wrote with Lincoln Child, and his titles White Fire, The Lost Island Blue Labyrinth and The Lost City of the Monkey God. (Bowker Author Biography)

Questions for Discussion

1. Do you believe the book is controversial? If so, why?
2. Do you feel this book has political undertones regarding disease research?
3. Do the descriptions of the previous explorers give you a sense of the dangers the exploration team faced?
4. What did you find to be the most interesting events in the book? Why?
5. Do you think whatever information about the Lost City and its inhabitants we can glean from the ruins will be worth the money and health of the teams it will take to get it?
6. What did you find surprising or disturbing about the facts introduced in the book?
7. Has the book inspired you to do further research on Honduran ruins, tropical diseases, or deforestation?
8. Do you believe the Honduran government should get involved to preserve the area? Should other countries be involved?