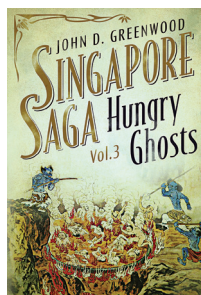
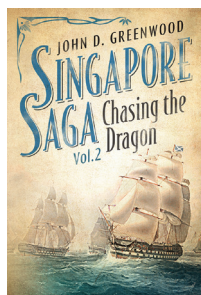
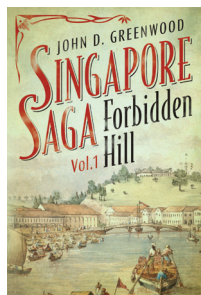


Screen Adaptation Pitch

Singapore Saga



SERIES DETAILS

Forbidden Hill (Vol.1), Chasing the Dragon (Vol.2), Hungry Ghosts (Vol.3)

AUTHOR	John D. Greenwood
ISBN	various
PUBLISHER	Monsoon Books
PUB DATE	2016 ongoing
GENRE	Fiction / Historical Singapore
AGE RANGE	general adult
URL	Click for webpage
RIGHTS	World print World screen

Author Information

John D. Greenwood was born in Elgin, Scotland, and educated at the Universities of Edinburgh and Oxford. He is currently a professor at the City University of New York Graduate Center and taught previously at National University of Singapore.

Praise

'Brimming with memorable characters, this colourful reimagining of the early history of Singapore restores William Farquhar – long eclipsed by Raffles – to his rightful position at the forefront of the founding of the colonial settlement, and brings the intrigues, personality clashes and violence of the era vividly to life.'
Tim Hannigan

'Historically faithful account of Singapore's transition from a sleepy fishing village ... a great many of its cast were real personalities' *Asian Review of Books*, HK

TAGLINE	Historical fiction spanning the first 100 years of Singapore
LOGLINE	Real and invented characters and events are woven together into a historically accurate narrative that follows the expansion of Singapore from its establishment in 1819.
GENRE	Historical drama
SUBJECT	History of Singapore (1819-1919)
THEMES	Love, family drama, society (quest for power, social mobility, tolerance in a diverse society, racism)
TO NE	Although there are individual setbacks, sea battles, crimes and family and societal tensions to resolve, the overarching tone is one of resilience and great pioneering spirit on the part of all the races to establish a new port city on a hitherto uninhabited island.
SYNOPSIS	Brings to life the stories of the early European, Malay, Chinese and Indian pioneers – administrators, merchants, policemen, boatmen, coolies, concubines, slaves and secret society soldiers – whose vision and intrigues drive the rapid expansion of the port city. While Raffles and Farquhar clash over the administration of the settlement, the Scottish merchant adventurer Ronnie Simpson and Englishwoman Sarah Hemmings find love and redemption as they battle an American duellist and Illanun pirates.
(Vol.I: 1819-1833)	
(Vol.II: 1834-1854)	Duncan Simpson comes to manhood when he joins James Brooke, the White Rajah of Sarawak, on his expeditions against the piratical Borneo Dayaks. As the troop ships of the British Expeditionary Force assemble in Singapore in preparation for the First Opium War, Hong Xiuquan has a dream that will launch the Taiping Rebellion in China, taking the lives of twenty million and powerfully impacting the fortunes of the new citizens of Singapore.
(Vol.III: 1854-1869)	As the fates and fortunes of its protagonists play themselves out against the backdrop of the Indian Mutiny, the Second Opium War and the last years of the Taiping rebellion, Singapore becomes a Crown colony and celebrates the fiftieth anniversary of its founding.
CHARACTERS	Brings to life the stories of the real-life pioneers: Stamford Raffles, William Farquhar, Temenggong Abdul Rahman, Sultan Hussein, Joseph Balestier, Seah Eu Chin, Captain Henry Keppel, Tan Tock Seng, Munshi Abdullah, Governor Butterworth, Whampoa, Tan Kim Ching, W. H. Read, Habib Noh, Tan Kim Seng, Mother St Mathilde, Syed Ahmed Alsagoff and many more.
	In order to have a common thread through each book and throughout the series as a whole, viewers follow the lives, loves and losses of some imagined characters such as Scottish merchant adventurer Ronnie Simpson and Englishwoman Sarah Hemmings and their extended family.
ENDING	The viewer is invited to reconsider the position of Raffles as 'founder' of Singapore and is offered a spectacular and exciting look at how the country was formed. The first 3 volumes span the first 50 years; the author can continue the series to span the next 50 years.