



The Beach

By Alex Garland



The Beach By Alex Garland

The irresistible novel that was adapted into a major motion picture starring Leonardo DiCaprio.

The Khao San Road, Bangkok -- first stop for the hordes of rootless young Westerners traveling in Southeast Asia. On Richard's first night there, in a low-budget guest house, a fellow traveler slashes his wrists, bequeathing to Richard a meticulously drawn map to "the Beach."

The Beach, as Richard has come to learn, is the subject of a legend among young travelers in Asia: a lagoon hidden from the sea, with white sand and coral gardens, freshwater falls surrounded by jungle, plants untouched for a thousand years. There, it is rumored, a carefully selected international few have settled in a communal Eden.

Haunted by the figure of Mr. Duck -- the name by which the Thai police have identified the dead man -- and his own obsession with Vietnam movies, Richard sets off with a young French couple to an island hidden away in an archipelago forbidden to tourists. They discover the Beach, and it is as beautiful and idyllic as it is reputed to be. Yet over time it becomes clear that Beach culture, as Richard calls it, has troubling, even deadly, undercurrents.

Spellbinding and hallucinogenic, *The Beach* by Alex Garland -- both a national bestseller and his debut -- is a highly accomplished and suspenseful novel that fixates on a generation in their twenties, who, burdened with the legacy of the preceding generation and saturated by popular culture, long for an unruined landscape, but find it difficult to experience the world firsthand.

 [Download The Beach ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Beach ...pdf](#)

The Beach

By Alex Garland

The Beach By Alex Garland

The irresistible novel that was adapted into a major motion picture starring Leonardo DiCaprio.

The Khao San Road, Bangkok -- first stop for the hordes of rootless young Westerners traveling in Southeast Asia. On Richard's first night there, in a low-budget guest house, a fellow traveler slashes his wrists, bequeathing to Richard a meticulously drawn map to "the Beach."

The Beach, as Richard has come to learn, is the subject of a legend among young travelers in Asia: a lagoon hidden from the sea, with white sand and coral gardens, freshwater falls surrounded by jungle, plants untouched for a thousand years. There, it is rumored, a carefully selected international few have settled in a communal Eden.

Haunted by the figure of Mr. Duck -- the name by which the Thai police have identified the dead man -- and his own obsession with Vietnam movies, Richard sets off with a young French couple to an island hidden away in an archipelago forbidden to tourists. They discover the Beach, and it is as beautiful and idyllic as it is reputed to be. Yet over time it becomes clear that Beach culture, as Richard calls it, has troubling, even deadly, undercurrents.

Spellbinding and hallucinogenic, *The Beach* by Alex Garland -- both a national bestseller and his debut -- is a highly accomplished and suspenseful novel that fixates on a generation in their twenties, who, burdened with the legacy of the preceding generation and saturated by popular culture, long for an unruined landscape, but find it difficult to experience the world firsthand.

The Beach By Alex Garland Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #46520 in Books
- Published on: 1998-02-01
- Released on: 1998-02-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.00" h x .90" w x 5.10" l,
- Binding: Paperback
- 448 pages

 [Download The Beach ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Beach ...pdf](#)



Download and Read Free Online The Beach By Alex Garland

Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

In our ever-shrinking world, where popular Western culture seems to have infected every nation on the planet, it is hard to find even a small niche of unspoiled land--forget searching for pristine islands or continents. This is the situation in Alex Garland's debut novel, *The Beach*. Human progress has reduced Eden to a secret little beach near Thailand. In the tradition of grand adventure novels, Richard, a rootless traveler rambling around Thailand on his way somewhere else, is given a hand-drawn map by a madman who calls himself Daffy Duck. He and two French travelers set out on a journey to find this paradise.

What makes this a truly satisfying novel is the number of levels on which it operates. On the surface it's a fast-paced adventure novel; at another level it explores why we search for these utopias, be they mysterious lost continents or small island communes. Garland weaves a gripping and thought-provoking narrative that suggests we are, in fact, such products of our Western culture that we cannot help but pollute and ultimately destroy the very sanctuary we seek

From Publishers Weekly

Garland's amphetamine-paced first novel plunks some young European expats down on a remote island in the Gulf of Thailand. There, tired of the prepackaged experience available to them in the West, they try to create their own paradise. The narrator is an Englishman named Richard. Born in 1974, he has grown up on popular culture and is a fan of video games and Vietnam War movies. While staying at a creaky Bangkok guest house, he finds a carefully drawn map left by his angry, doped-up neighbor, a suicide who called himself Mr. Daffy Duck. The map points the way to a legendary beach where, it's rumored, a few favored international wanderers have settled. Richard's new friends, Etienne and Francoise, convince him to help them find the island. But Richard, inspired by sudden anxiety about Etienne, gives a copy of the map to two American backpackers--an act that later haunts him as keenly as the ghost of Mr. Duck. Richard and his French companions find the island: half is covered by a marijuana plantation patrolled by well-armed guards; the other half consists of a gorgeous beach and forest where a small band of wandering souls live a communal life dominated by a gently despotic woman named Sal. At times, Garland seems to be trying to say something powerful about the perils of desiring a history-less Eden. But his evocations of Vietnam, Richard's hallucinatory chats with the dead Mr. Duck and various other feints in the direction of thematic gravity don't add up to much. Garland is a good storyteller, though, and Richard's nicotine-fueled narrative of how the denizens of the beach see their comity shatter and break into factions is taut with suspense, even if the bloody conclusion offers few surprises. 150,000 first printing; \$150,000 ad/promo; foreign rights sold in the U.K., Germany, Holland, Italy.

Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From [Booklist](#)

Garland, a British writer in his twenties, captures all the cynicism and disjuncture of his generation in his gripping first novel. Richard, his narrator, is a chain-smoking wanderer who has discovered that "escape through travel works," especially travel in Asia. Not alone in his feeling of alienation from the orderly world of family and work, he quickly makes the acquaintance of fellow disaffected travelers in Bangkok, including a guy who goes by the name of Daffy Duck. Mister Duck (as Richard calls him) bequeaths a carefully drawn map to our hero just before committing suicide, and soon Richard and a young French couple he haphazardly befriends are on their way to the Beach, a forbidden island paradise. Bold and naive, they barely survive their journey, or the shock of discovering that the island highlands are covered with fields of marijuana guarded by vicious Thai commandos and that the Beach is home to a motley collection of pot-smoking Euronomads

enmeshed in their own sinister society. Garland is a wonder; he's able to write unrelentingly suspenseful, downright hallucinatory action scenes, then balance them with passages of chillingly accurate psychology. His intensely imagined tale is, on one level, a brilliant update of *Lord of the Flies*, and on another, a wholly original and unsettling depiction of psyches shaped by the bewildering messages of Loony Tunes, *Apocalypse Now*, Nintendo, and the age-old cult of oblivion. *The Beach* has cult status scrawled all over it.
Donna Seaman

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Marjorie Ingram:

Book is to be different for each and every grade. Book for children right up until adult are different content. As we know that book is very important usually. The book *The Beach* seemed to be making you to know about other expertise and of course you can take more information. It is rather advantages for you. The e-book *The Beach* is not only giving you much more new information but also to become your friend when you feel bored. You can spend your current spend time to read your publication. Try to make relationship together with the book *The Beach*. You never truly feel lose out for everything if you read some books.

Rickie Miller:

Typically the book *The Beach* has a lot info on it. So when you check out this book you can get a lot of benefit. The book was written by the very famous author. The writer makes some research ahead of write this book. This kind of book very easy to read you may get the point easily after reading this book.

Donna Young:

Exactly why? Because this *The Beach* is an unordinary book that the inside of the e-book waiting for you to snap this but latter it will jolt you with the secret it inside. Reading this book next to it was fantastic author who also write the book in such incredible way makes the content inside of easier to understand, entertaining means but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this any more or you going to regret it. This unique book will give you a lot of benefits than the other book include such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking approach. So , still want to hold up having that book? If I were being you I will go to the guide store hurriedly.

Deborah Rost:

As a university student exactly feel bored for you to reading. If their teacher requested them to go to the library or even make summary for some book, they are complained. Just minor students that has reading's soul or real their pastime. They just do what the professor want, like asked to go to the library. They go to there but nothing reading significantly. Any students feel that reading is not important, boring along with can't see colorful photos on there. Yeah, it is to become complicated. Book is very important for you personally. As we know that on this time, many ways to get whatever we want. Likewise word says, many ways to reach Chinese's country. Therefore this *The Beach* can make you really feel more interested to read.

Download and Read Online The Beach By Alex Garland #HA79ENU62CP

Read The Beach By Alex Garland for online ebook

The Beach By Alex Garland Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Beach By Alex Garland books to read online.

Online The Beach By Alex Garland ebook PDF download

The Beach By Alex Garland Doc

The Beach By Alex Garland Mobipocket

The Beach By Alex Garland EPub