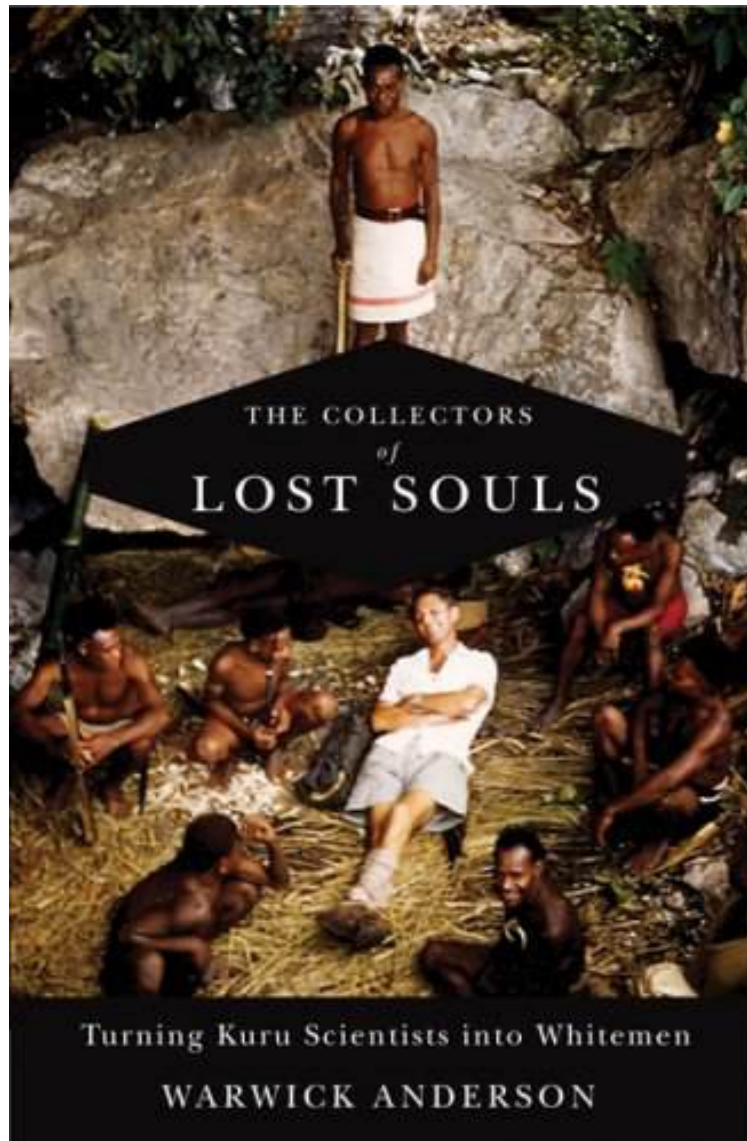


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The Collectors of Lost Souls: Turning Kuru Scientists into Whitemen

By Warwick Anderson

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10 of 10 review helpful Kuru How Science Is Done By Peter Renz This is a beautifully written and deep book about important medical research done under difficult conditions Warwick Anderson has examined the records and met the people who were involved in New Guinea Australia North American and elsewhere He tells the story in a sympathetic and engaging way Kuru is the first of a new class of human diseases This riveting account of medical detective work traces the story of kuru a fatal brain disease and the pioneering scientists who spent decades searching for its cause When whites first encountered the Fore people in the isolated highlands of colonial New Guinea during the 1940s and 1950s they found a people in the grip of a bizarre epidemic Women and children succumbed to muscle weakness uncontrollable tremors and lack of coordination until death inevitable A magisterial account Anderson's compelling study captures the texture of 20th century medical fieldwork and provides insight into the social dynamics and ethical realities of globalized science and medicine The Collector of Lost Souls persuade

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