

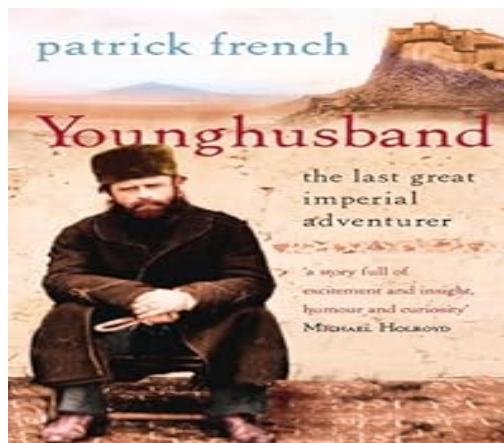
Younghusband: The Last Great Imperial Adventurer By Patrick French A decidedly asymmetrical war; Tibetan matchlocks.

000 are Muslim At this point the book becomes less interesting as it relates the yearning of Younghusband to understand the concept of God. French is the author of several books including : Younghusband: The Last Great Imperial Adventurer (1994) a biography of Francis Younghusband The World Is What It Is (2008) an authorized biography of Nobel Laureate V. He has sat on the executive committee of the Tibet Support Group UK and was a founding member of the int Patrick French (born 1966) is a British writer and historian based in London. French is the author of several books including : Younghusband: The Last Great Imperial Adventurer (1994) a biography of Francis Younghusband The World Is What It Is (2008) an authorized biography of Nobel Laureate V. This works best as social history covering the late 19th to mid 20th centuries and roaming from Imperial India to the attempts to summit Everest in the 1920s from the first glimpses by Westerners of Lhasa Tibet to the invention of the hymn Jerusalem as a patriotic soundtrack to World War I.

Younghusband: The Last Great Imperial Adventurer Sir Francis Younghusband was the last of the great imperialists—a dashing adventurer who in 1903 single-handedly invaded Tibet wiped out its entire army and then became a mystic. Everest held the world record for the 300-yard dash was the first European since Marco Polo to travel from Peking to Central Asia discovered the source of the Indus and as a spy his presumed death nearly sparked an Indo-Russian war. Previous books on Younghusband focused on his physical adventures - rightfully so as they remain the true accomplishments of his life and are as amazing today as they were at the time (crossing China from Manchuria to India - including the then-unexplored Gobi Desert - virtually by himself and at the ripe old age of 24!). But French takes the more difficult path of tackling the whole life including the much more complex second metaphysical act and generally does a good job making even the relatively dull stretches come alive. Overall the book does a better job of humanizing Younghusband than has been tackled before - both pro (Seaver) and con (Verrier) - and while this includes sometimes voyeuristic details of his unhappy marriage and slide into far-left-field eccentricity (even by British standards); it paints a complex three dimensional portrait that - to me at least - only makes his achievements that much greater. (And yes as the facts really speak for themselves French could have downplayed his own 21st century opinions at times - doing away with the unnecessary and at times unsupported commentary on Younghusband's fantasies instability etc. - again we're generally talking Victorian England here - who wasn't a little crazy?) I've been a fan of Younghusband since first discovering him in Bayonets to Lhasa some thirty years ago and so thought I knew him pretty well. And the name-dropping of those Sir Francis knew and befriended in his various roles: all the expected Great Gamers of course; but also Sven Hedin Aurel Stein Howard Carter George Mallory; Lindbergh Gandhi Churchill Rhodes; Verne Russell Kipling J. As the confluence point of Victorian imperialism interwar theosophatic volkisch willthrust and new age proto-hippy dom (though those latter two ideologies do share more in common than many think) I always wanted to know more about him. I even once wrote him into the role of a minor villain under the shadow of more ominous antagonists like Julius Evola Uchida Ryohei and Aleister Crowley in an alternate history graphic novel script I wrote a few years ago. That was a strange time period with lots of Alex Jones-meets-Pazuzu Algarad type of people having larger platforms than one might expect and lesser known people like Younghusband are ripe for uses in works of fiction. His expedition through the uncharted Gobi desert undertaken in much hardship and his headstrong taking of Tibet are probably his most active achievements but some of his activities post military are also worth mention. It is a confident man who can change his option based on newly learned fact - his wholehearted support of Indian Independence having spent a good many years of his life in the British army in the control of British India and pushing out into Central Asia and Tibet to secure and increase her borders. He was later the president of the Royal Geographical Society from 1919 to 1922 and Chairman of the Mount Everest Committee which set up various expeditions including the ill fated Mallory expedition in 1924. This impacted nearly all his relationships with women including a relationship with his sister

(hinted at being incestuous) and various women he came to fixate on (some of which became lovers others asexual relationships). He was in later life to become open to a multitude of religions in fact founding the World Congress of Faiths and wrote a large number of terrible sounding books on spirituality. Nevertheless - a full biography it is and without doubt his achievements outweigh his personal issues which really only became public knowledge due to the archiving of his personal paperwork: to rule and guide their Asiatics and Africans who cannot govern themselves. Later on he came to realize that the Indians deserved self government, Oddly this text does not mention how put off the locals were about the nasty British habit of slaughtering the animals encountered during their explorations of the Himalayas: Because the animals and birds were never threatened by humans they were exceedingly tame - killing them was hardly a sporting venture. The whole Younghusband Expedition into Tibet was a dismal affair, Have to admit that I find this book both entertaining and interesting: Everest tie-in consisted mostly of his becoming a cheerleader for British exploration/mountaineering, I have read a few books on the subject and recall having come across Younghusband's name on numerous occasions. Page 339 how the Lhasa Apso found its way into British society. The rest of the book is chock full of British quirkiness. All together a fun and worthy read about an endearing and eccentric man, I will.

I would not like this in a work of history biography or not: I find this (usually British) interjection of travelogue from author with subject to be narrative ruining and narcissistic in most instances, But the authors examples from research (mostly) add to the narrative. The author made some original discoveries during his time writing and thus succeeded to what most biographers would aspire to: Younghusband: The Last Great Imperial Adventurer This is an incredibly thorough biography of Sir Francis Younghusband - almost reaching a point of being too thorough for me: It turned into quite slow read - which is not what I expected. Without peer in the achievements he made for the British army.



Patrick French (born 1966) is a British writer and historian based in London. He was educated at the University of Edinburgh where he studied English and American literature, S Naipaul which won the National Book Critics Circle Award in the United States of America and India: A Portrait.

(2010) During the 1992 general election French was a Green Party candidate for Parliament: He was educated at the University of Edinburgh where he studied English and American literature: S Naipaul which won the National Book Critics Circle Award in the United States of America and India: A Portrait. (2010) During the 1992 general election French was a Green Party candidate for Parliament, He has sat on the executive committee of the Tibet Support Group UK and was a founding member of the inter governmental India UK Round Table, {site_link} The author retraces the footsteps of the imperial explorer which provides some insight but distracts from the story, I would have liked this book a lot more if it was half the length and provided more cultural context: The subject opened up about his emotions in letters to female admirers. But in India he became disillusioned with his fellow Englishmen but found solace in exploring unknown territory. At the time

there was a blank spot between India and Russia: But eventually he had a change of heart or spiritual awakening. Younghusband: The Last Great Imperial Adventurer This Patrick French's first book (1994) is excellent, Would liked to have given this book five stars but the malarkey of F, in his twenties Frances Edward Younghusband negotiated the Mustagh Pass at 19000 feet a parlous bit of trekking. Located on the edge of K2 world's second highest mountain famous for its nasty weather the pass marks the watershed between India and Central Asia: Reading of his Asian adventures it's small wonder that he excited the imagination of his fellow Englishmen, Next up was a twenty-month epic from Manchuria through China the Gobi Desert then continuing down through Chinese Turkestan: At the Gate of Hunza facing grim warriors armed with matchlocks peoples from the dim past. Given the modern weapons the Brits possessed it was an asymmetrical war. The adventures of F had such a romantic vocabulary - the bearding of the Mir of Hunza the Kanjutis tribe or when first met with the Nawab of Tonk. Page 128 here we meet the tall and beautiful Flora Shaw <https://en>, For the times she received high praise for it was said that she had the reasoning capacity of a man. (heh heh) This aside occurred during F's sojourn in South Africa where he seemed out of place - he soon returned to his more befitting environment swords spears and slings vs. Average temperature during the foray minus thirty C or F it doesn't matter as at that temp they are about the same. Page 215 To be the ruler of an isolated force high in the forbidden land of the Himalayas was for him a dream come true. Tenuous supply lines strung over the mountains; every Sikh Pioneer needed a backup of eight coolies. High point for Imperial Frances: 1906 he becomes British Resident in Kashmir (Kashmir to this day remains a flashpoint twixt Pakistan and India): miles / ruled since 1846 by a British-imposed Hindu Dynasty / 90% of its population of 3000 no doubt be reading more books by Patrick French. Younghusband: The Last Great Imperial Adventurer I thoroughly enjoyed this well written biography of the Central Asian explorer and Great Game legend Sir Francis Younghusband: Younghusband: The Last Great Imperial Adventurer Not many historical figures counted both Lord Curzon Viceroy of India and Bertrand Russell as good friends, Francis Younghusband made a name for himself on Victoria's imperial frontier then had a second act as writer and organizer on spiritual and religious issues: He did an about-face and fully supported India's independence after years of paternalistic writings and actions: Younghusband: The Last Great Imperial Adventurer Never going to finish this. And given that he devotes a goodly half of the book to his own adventurous followings of Younghusband the balance for my interest is in technical parlance all out of whack. G Wells and Bertrand Russell he launched early assaults on Mt. The quest to discover this man led Patrick French from the Himalayas to Kashmir and into Tibet in search of clues: Younghusband: The Last Great Imperial Adventurer Even ten years on this book still lives up to its original rave reviews, This will certainly be the definitive biography of one of the 19th century's greatest - and least remembered today - adventurers. But thanks to French's literary sleuthing this book offered a wealth of new information: Shaw - what a time what a life! Younghusband: The Last Great Imperial Adventurer French mixes his own personal journey to Younghusband's stamping ground with history: Despite Patrick French's wonderfully engaging writing in the end I wondered why the hell I was reading something about a fervent misguided egotistical imperiaist, Younghusband: The Last Great Imperial Adventurer Younghusband a strange name for an strange man. This book does his complex legacy with its admiral feats of endurance and adventure as well as his bizarre ideas good justice. As his life got less interesting Younghusband's inner life became more strange, This included 'spiritual experiences' with beings who had translucent flesh and lived in a solar system orbiting the star Altair, Patrick French as a biographer does a great job weaving in his search for the subject, Normally Indian Civil Service and as an explorer in his own right he is a fine example of mental and physical ability: Small of stature and as Partrick French discloses in this book being thoroughly bizarre in some of his thoughts was no bar to his overtaking of obstacles, Younghusband was also elected the youngest member of the Royal Geographical Society and received the society's 1890 Patron's Gold Medal. However hand in hand with his achievements Patrick French also describes in great detail the odd sexual repression Younghusband felt having been brought up devout Christian: It was this part of the biography I could have survived with far

less of. His terribly infantile sounding love letters - almost enough to stop me reading.
Younghusband: The Last Great Imperial Adventurer Born near the Himalayas the child of empire
Younghusband led a fascinating —almost unbelievable— life: It is not widely mentioned how British politics played a role in betraying the sovereignty of Tibet but Younghusband's invasion of Tibet in 1903 should be known for its brutality. In fact the slaughter of Tibetans using Maxim guns foreshadowed the industrial scale slaughter on the battlefields of World War I, Younghusband's foray into Tibet seems to have touched him however perhaps awakening a spiritual side[1]

India. Page 155: short imperial thought: . So also did the early Younghusband believe. Other than the occasional offhand reference. Back home in England it made a name for F.E.Y. He wants to be known as a great thinker and philosopher. Frances hasn't a great mind and his writing shows it. At home in England he has attained a celebrity status. Oddly enough he becomes a good friend of Bertrand Russell. The Mt. An intimate biography of 1.2 billion people. An intimate biography of 1.2 billion people. He built a reputation and career on that heroic bend. Unfortunately this is not always obvious from his actions. I recently read Patrick's biography of V.S. Naipaul which lead me to Younghusband. French seems to be drawn to unusual personalities. E.Y.'s later year's mysticism put me off a tad too much. From there Frances's legend began to blossom. A smallish man he possessed enormous resilience. The British were a driven doughty race. F.E.Y. preferred bleak wilderness more than human society. [wikipedia.org/wiki/Flora_S](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flora_S). - a fit personage for her own biography. Perhaps a bit of hyperbole. the cannon Maxim guns and modern rifles of the British. A massacre ensued. - from the frozen desolation of Tuna. The coolies died the bullocks died the mules died. 80000 sq. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick>. Definitely worth a read. Younghusband was a fascinating man in interesting times. Patrick French however is not. Admired by H.M. Barrie H.G. Wells A.C. Doyle G.B. So far a gripping yarn. But I didn't finish it. I couldn't answer this question and stopped reading. 3.5 stars rounded up to 4. A story which needs to be read to be believed. Younghusband: The Last Great Imperial Adventurer.