

# The Songlines

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This writing asks the question and tries to answer, "Why is man the most restless, dissatisfied of animals? Why do wandering people conceive the world as perfect whereas sedentary ones always try to change it?"

The late Bruce Chatwin carved out a literary career as unique as any writer's in this century: his books included *In Patagonia*, a fabulist travel narrative, *The Viceroy of Ouidah*, a mock-historical tale of a Brazilian slave-trader in 19th century Africa, and *The Songlines*, his beautiful, elegiac, comic account of following the invisible pathways traced by the Australian aborigines. Chatwin was nothing if not erudite, and the vast, eclectic body of literature that underlies this tale of trekking across the outback gives it a resonance found in few other recent travel books. A poignancy, as well, since Chatwin's untimely death made *The Songlines* one of his last books.

Bruce Chatwin (1940-1989) was the author of *In Patagonia*, *The Viceroy of Ouidah*, *On the Black Hill*, *The Songlines*, and *Utz*. His other books are *What Am I Doing Here* and *Anatomy of Restlessness*, posthumous anthologies of shorter works, and *Far Journeys*, a collection of his photographs that also includes selections from his travel notebooks.

#### Other Books

*Christianities in Migration*. This book migrates through continents, regions, nations, and villages, in order to tell the stories of diverse kinds of nomadic dwellers. It departs from Africa, en routes itself toward Asia, Oceania, Europe, and culminates in the Americas, with the territories of Latin America, Canada, and the United States. The volume travels through worn out pathways of migration that continue to be threaded upon today, and theologically reflects on a wide range of migratory aims that result also in diverse forms of indigenization of Christianity. Among the main issues being considered are: How have globalization and migration affected the theological self-understanding of Christianity? In light of globalization and migration, how is the evangelizing mission of Christianity to be understood and carried out? What ecclesiastical reforms if any are required to enable the church to meet present-day challenges?

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ . *Dwellings: A Spiritual History of the Living World* . New York: W. W. Norton and Company, 1995. Huff Fauset, Arthur. *Black Gods of the Metropolis: Negro Religious Cults of the Urban North*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, ..."