

2019

Review of *The Quest for Z : The True Story of Explorer Percy Fawcett and a Lost City in the Amazon* by Greg Pizzoli

Erin E. Kloosterman
Cedarville University, ekloosterman@cedarville.edu

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Recommended Citation

Kloosterman, Erin E., "Review of *The Quest for Z : The True Story of Explorer Percy Fawcett and a Lost City in the Amazon* by Greg Pizzoli" (2019). *Library Intern Book Reviews*. 227.

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The Quest for Z: The True Story of Explorer Percy Fawcett and a Lost City in the Amazon
Pizzoli, Greg
New York: Viking, 2017
9780670016532

Percy Fawcett was born to be an explorer. After an adventurous childhood, Fawcett joined the British Royal Artillery and served as an artillery officer in Sri Lanka, and later, he joined the Royal Geographical Society in London. After wilderness and medical training, he headed to the Amazon to survey and map the area. Even though he faced extremely hard conditions, Fawcett thrived in the jungle, conquering large snakes, surviving arrow attacks, and overcoming horrible bug bites. Fawcett became obsessed with the idea of a lost city in the rainforest and worked for the rest of his career to find this fabled place. Unfortunately, he disappeared during an expedition and was never heard from again. Fawcett's life and work are fascinating, but they feel too large for a simple picture book. The illustrations are fun and interesting, but they crowd the page, and the large amount of text combined with the illustrations make the book feel fractured. The information provided is attainable for comprehension by grade school children, but the sheer amount of text and information may prove intimidating for some.

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Erin Kloosterman, Centennial Library Intern