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Marco Polo

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Few books can truly be said to have changed the world; for all its naysayers, Marco Polo's Travels is one of them -- Nigel Cliff About the Author Marco Polo travelled to China in 1271 and spent the next twenty years in the service of Kublai Khan. He wrote his famous Travels after returning home, whilst a prisoner in Genoa. Nigel Cliff was previously a theatre and film critic for The Times and a regular writer for The Economist, among other publications, and now writes historical nonfiction books. His first book, The Shakespeare Riots, was published in 2007 and shortlisted for the Washington-based National Award for Arts Writing. His second book, The Last Crusade: Vasco da Gama and the Birth of the Modern World, appeared in 2011 and was shortlisted for the PEN Hessel-Tiltman Prize.