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New Book Sheds Light on Unknown & Forgotten Crimes of Cambodia's Pol Pot Regime

On the eve of a verdict in the Phnom Penh trial of Kaing Guek Eav, aka Duch -- the first Khmer Rouge leader to face justice for his crimes -- Canadian journalist Dave Kattenburg sheds light on an unknown and forgotten crime of Cambodia's Pol Pot regime. *Foxy Lady* offers the most complete account of the imprisonment, torture, and murder of eight Western yachtsmen by Cambodia's Pol Pot regime. The story of Canadian victim Stuart Glass is told here for the first time. A small library of books has been written about the 1975-79 Cambodian genocide. *Foxy Lady* offers a distinct and fresh narrative. By weaving Stuart Glass' life, travels and untimely death together with the inexorable rise, cruel reign and collapse of Democratic Kampuchea and its internal security apparatus, this book will engage both newcomers and those who've read widely on the subject.

Key factors that David emphasizes:

- 1) Thirty years after the Cambodian genocide, a Khmer Rouge leader has finally been convicted for his crimes. Hopes were high, but the lengthy trial of Kaing Guek Eav (aka Duch) shed little light on one of the 1975-79 genocide's most mystery-filled footnotes: how eight western yachtsmen (four Americans, two Aussies, a New Zealander and an Englishman) were seized, charged as CIA spies, and brutally murdered in Duch's little Auschwitz in south-central Phnom Penh (S-21; Tuol Sleng). *Foxy Lady* presents the most complete story to date, focusing on the deaths of Canadian Stuart Glass, New Zealander Kerry Hamill and Englishman John Dewhirst.
- 2) The murder of Canadian Stuart Robert Glass (spared the horrors of S-21 by being shot and killed on his little yacht, *Foxy Lady*) could well be the subject of testimony at the trial of Duch's bosses, if and when this occurs. Stuart was the Khmer Rouge's only Canadian victim. *Foxy Lady* tells his story for the very first time.
- 3) There's nothing banal about the evil acts and current demeanor of Kaing Guek Eav. In contrast to his bosses— who continue to deny responsibility for the death of two million Cambodians— Duch arouses a very small measure of sympathy. This is his story, as well as Stuart's.
- 4) The fact that *Foxy Lady* and other Western yachts may have been smuggling pot – or aiming to do so -- when they were seized in Cambodian waters in 1978 in no way diminishes the crime committed against their crew. Their worldview and lifestyle were a reflection of [Western] times. The story of how freewheeling, liberal-minded Westerners were “smashed” in the central dungeon of ultra-doctrinaire and puritanical Democratic Kampuchea offers interesting narrative opportunities.



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Book Synopsis

Foxy Lady – Truth, Memory and the Death of Western Yachtsmen in Democratic Kampuchea is an investigative journalist's account of one of history's most intriguing footnotes: the murder of four Americans, two Australians, an Englishman, a New Zealander and a Canadian by Cambodia's Khmer Rouge.

Foxy Lady chronicles the life and times of the Canadian, Stuart Robert Glass – his restless youth in British Columbia; his travels across Europe, North Africa and Asia; his forays into drug smuggling; his brutal 1978 death on board a little yacht called Foxy Lady. Stuart's mates, New Zealander Kerry Hamill and Englishman John Dewhirst, would suffer a worse fate – dragged off to the Khmer Rouge's Tuol Sleng death house in Phnom Penh, charged with being CIA spies, tortured for a few months and then killed.

As Stuart's life unfolds, *Foxy Lady* charts the course of a parallel universe – Pol Pot and his gang boring their way to power. It focuses on the career of the Khmer Rouge's chief executioner, Kaing Guek Eav, alias 'Duch'. It was Duch who conveyed the orders that Stuart's pals and the other yachtsmen should be killed and their bodies burned to ashes. Duch was the first Khmer Rouge leader to be tried for his crimes, by an international tribunal in Phnom Penh. The tribunal will deliver its verdict on July 26.

Having stumbled on the story of murdered Stuart Glass, the author travels to Cambodia to watch Duch testify; interview former Tuol Sleng guards and investigate the death of the 'Western' yachtsmen. But 'truth' is elusive. Imperfect memories and conflation are among the most intriguing products of his two-year, four-continent investigation.

Foxy Lady will appeal to students of Asian history, political psychology and conflict studies. Journalists, adventure travellers, Indochina war buffs and lovers of popular culture, adventure travel and narrative non-fiction will want to read this book too.

From Foreword by Craig Etcheson Office of the Co-Prosecutors Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia

.....So, too, are some painful truths told in this book by Dave Kattenburg. I am familiar enough with the backstory of the lost Western seafarers at S-21 to know that Kattenburg's investigative reporting has uncovered a great deal of new information about that saga. There are countless victims of the Khmer Rouge who died anonymous deaths, and whose tales will never be told. But every story that can be dragged from the clutches of death back into the light enriches us all, and therefore is worth the effort. Even if, as is the case here, there are aspects of the story that are not pretty.

There yet remains, however, some unfinished business. In 2009, Duch was tried before the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC) for the crimes committed at S-21. In July 2010, the verdict in that case will be pronounced. Later this year, the Co-Investigating Judges of the ECCC are expected to announce whether they have sufficient evidence to remand Duch's surviving superiors – Nuon Chea, Khieu Samphan, Ieng Sary and Ieng Thirith – to trial on charges of war crimes, genocide, and other crimes against humanity. The wheels of justice turn slowly, indeed. Nonetheless, as Martin Luther King preached, though the arc of the moral universe is long, it bends toward justice.



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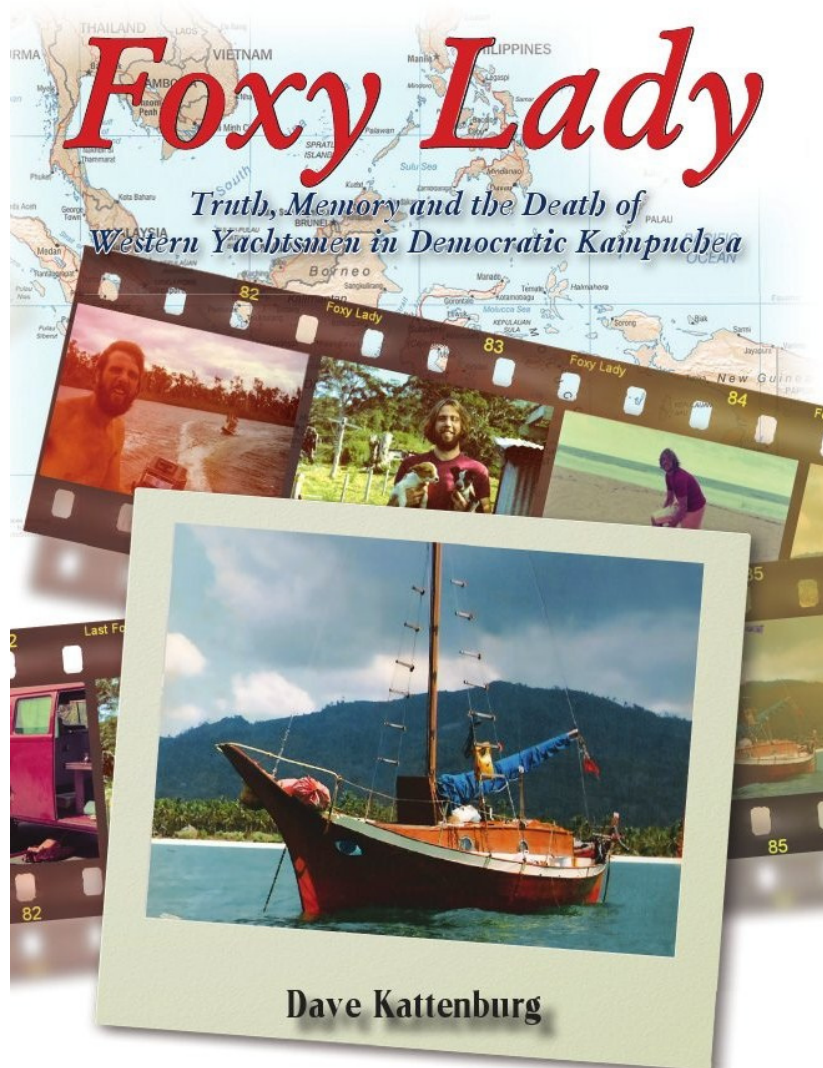
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About the Author

Dave Kattenburg was born on Long Island in 1953. He holds bachelor and Ph.D. degrees in biology and health sciences, teaches university science courses and produces radio stories on global environment, development and social justice issues. Documentaries arising from his travels have appeared on CBC Radio, Radio Netherlands, Free Speech Radio and his own site www.greenplanetmonitor.net. David currently resides at the epicenter of North America, Winnipeg.





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Author Q & A

Q. What inspired you to write *Foxy Lady*?

A. The discovery that the Khmer Rouge had killed a Canadian yachtsman ... and that nothing had ever been reported or written about him.

Q. What surprised you most while researching information for this book?

A. How little of substance was known about the death of these yachtsmen; that their adventurous lives and terrible deaths had never been investigated—certainly not Stuart Glass'. How such a limited amount of information has been so widely recycled; apocrypha, conflicting accounts, conflation, and apparent false memories related to the yachtsmen; how deeply family and friends of the murdered yachtsmen continue to suffer, over thirty years later; how sensitive some of them are to controversial narratives (pot smuggling).

Q. What were the challenges (research, literary, and logistical) in bringing this book to life?

A. Tracking down family members, friends and brief contacts of the yachtsmen, in countries around the world; finding people with distinct memories of Foxy Lady and her crew; weaving together two distinct story lines: the life and travels of Stuart Glass and the history of the Khmer Rouge and Democratic Kampuchea.

Q. What are the most important points that you would like readers to have gained and appreciate after reading your book?

A. First that a genocide took place in Cambodia between 1975 and early 1979. People need to be reminded. Second that piecing together the “truth” from thirty year-old memories may be impossible, but that memory gaps, conflation, apocrypha, and invention are often as engaging. And lastly that even drug smugglers and death house commandants have poignant narratives.

Q. Why is this story unique?

A. The story of the murdered yachtsmen has never been fully told—certainly not Stuart Glass'. The story of Stuart Glass' life of adventure and misadventure is an engaging vehicle for retelling this huge chapter in late twentieth century history, for authorities on the Cambodian genocide (e.g. Craig Etcheson, author of the book's Foreword) and new readers alike.

Q. What is your response to those who are surprised by your findings?

A. Tell them to study the book's endnotes, and to contact the author.

Q. What is the most controversial issue in relation to the Cambodian genocide?

A. Suggesting that Duch might merit a quotient of our sympathy. That he was and is a complex man, worthy of exploration.



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Q. How did you organize the book?

A. The story goes back and forth between the life and travels of Stuart Glass and the rise of the Khmer Rouge and Democratic Kampuchea's internal security apparatus. Throughout the book, slipping into the first person, I describe the efforts I went through to uncover the story of the murdered yachtsmen, so many years after their untimely deaths.

Q. What advice would you offer your readers so they can make the best of the information provided to them in the book?

A. Read it straight through, from beginning to end. Keep a bookmark in the endnotes section, so you can refer back and forth. Visit the book's Web page. Enjoy the photos.