

TRAVELS IN ELYSIUM

BY WILLIAM AZUSKI

'Beyond the Pillars of Hercules, there lay an island among islands, whose people had the means to cross one to the other..' — Plato, Timaeus

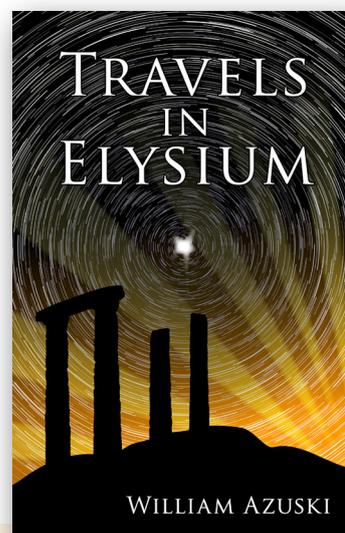
It was the chance of a lifetime. A dream job in the southern Aegean. Apprentice to the great archaeologist Marcus Huxley, lifting a golden civilisation from the dead... Yet trading rural England for the scarred volcanic island of Santorini, 22-year old Nicholas Pedrosa is about to blunder into an ancient mystery that will threaten his liberty, his life, even his most fundamental concepts of reality.

Available in paperback and ebook formats

'Once it awakens within you, you will never escape it. That's what he wrote. Didn't he!'

An island that blew apart with the force of 100,000 atomic bombs... A civilisation prised out of the ash, its exquisite frescoes bearing a haunting resemblance to Plato's lost island paradise, Atlantis... A death that may have been murder... And an archaeologist on a collision course with a brutal police state...

As the legend's tumultuous clash of freedom and tyranny, honour and corruption plays out in the Aegean, Nicholas is forced to confront the possibility that Atlantis is less a physical place on the map than an ingenious metaphysical device engineered by the philosopher himself, one capable of revealing the true nature of reality and the human condition. Can it be understood before it engulfs them all?



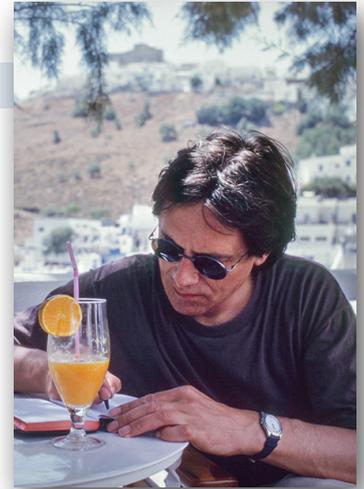
'This extraordinary novel, part murder mystery, part metaphysical thriller, kept me guessing until the very last page.

The intellectual duel between the troubled hero and his ruthless mentor is mesmerising. William Azuski's treatment of the Atlantis legend is completely original and I have rarely read a novel with such a strong sense of place. The bizarre landscapes of Santorini and the daily lives of its people, both ancient and modern, are vividly evoked. Anyone who enjoys the work of Umberto Eco, Orhan Pamuk or Carlos Ruiz Zafón should try this book.'

— **Geraldine Harris**, author, Egyptologist, and a member of the Faculty of Oriental Studies at the University of Oxford.

About the author

William Azuski was born in the United Kingdom, and is of British and Yugoslav descent. Travelling widely through the Mediterranean since childhood, his frequent sojourns in Greece included several months on Santorini in the 1970s, an experience that provided firsthand experience for this exceptional novel's local setting. Writing as William Miles Johnson, Azuski is also author of the critically-acclaimed *The Rose-Tinted Menagerie*, an Observer Book of the Year (nonfiction), and *Making a Killing*, an end of the world satire, both titles recently republished by Iridescent. Further details on [Amazon Author Central](#).



early reviews

"lyrical, allegorical, sensual and spine-tingling ... marvelous ... a breath-taking journey"
— **Dr Bill Gresens**, Book Reviews, Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center, University of Wisconsin.

"Azuski knits these plotlines together with considerable skill, contextualizing them within the wider philosophical background of a search for Plato's mythical lost city of Atlantis and infusing them with plenty of memorable descriptions [...] A smart and satisfying archaeological thriller..."
— **Kirkus Reviews**.

"Like [Umberto] Eco and García Márquez, Azuski conjures a remarkable sense of an exotic place. The reader is immersed in the sights, sounds, smells, tastes, and feel of Santorini under the military junta of the early 1970s and in the mystical reality that intersects with the mundane world. [...] if you enjoy literary fiction that makes you think, then I recommend *Travels in Elysium*."
— Archaeologist and author **JM McDowell**.

"a must read for any fiction fan with an interest in Greek history, archaeology, or mythology or who, like Huxley (and Azuski), dream of Elysium or want to believe in the legend of Atlantis."
— **Foreword Reviews**.

"Azuski is a master at setting the scene and placing the characters and action in the landscape. [...] All in all an excellent book which I could not put down and a recommended read for anyone interested in Greek culture!" — Archaeologist and historian **Haighleagh Winslade**.

More reviews on [Iridescent Publishing](#).

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