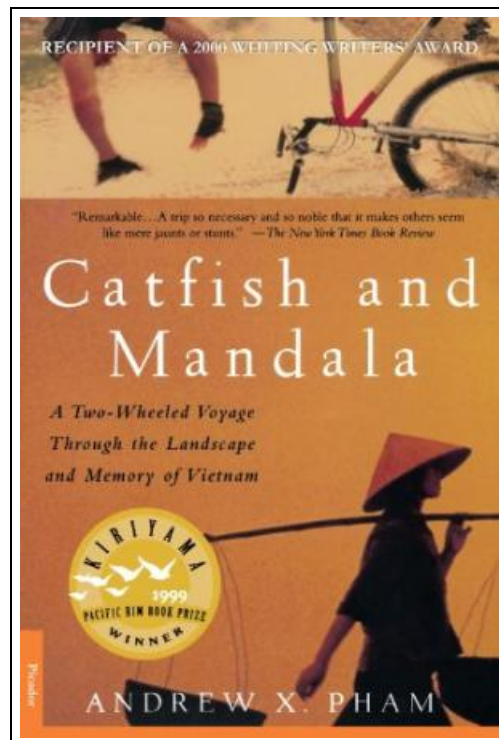


## Catfish and Mandala: A Two-Wheeled Voyage Through the Landscape and Memory of Vietnam



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Picador, 2000. Book Condition: New. Brand New, Unread Copy in Perfect Condition. A+ Customer Service! Summary: "Thoreau, Theroux, Kerouac, Steinbeck, Mark Twain and William Least Heat-Moon the roster of those who have turned to their travels for inspiration includes some of America's most noted scribes. Now add Andrew X. Pham to the list . . . Catfish and Mandala records a remarkable odyssey across landscape and into memory." The Seattle Times "An engaging and vigorously told story . . . a fresh and original look at how proud Vietnamese on the war's losing side reconciled having their identity abruptly hyphenated to Vietnamese-American." Gavin Scott, Chicago Tribune "A modern Plutarch might pair Pham's story with that of Chris McCandless, the uncompromising young man whose spiritual quest led him to a forlorn death in Alaska. Pham, instead of seeking out remote places where he could explore fantasies of self-sufficiency, instinctively understood that self-knowledge emerges from engagement with others. In his passionate telling, his travelogue acquires the universality of a bildungsroman." The New Yorker "A trip so necessary and so noble makes others seem like mere jaunts or stunts." The New York Times Book Review "Part memoir, part travelogue . . . Catfish and Mandala [is] a visceral, funny and tender look at modern-day Vietnam, interwoven with the saga of Pham's refugee family." Annie Nakao, San Francisco Examiner "Far more than a travelogue . . . Catfish and Mandala is a seamlessly constructed work deftly combining literary techniques with careful, evenhanded reportage . . . A gifted writer . . . Pham opens readers to the full sadness of the human condition on both sides of the world, marveling at spiritual resilience amid irreconcilable facts." Roland Kelts, The Philadelphia Inquirer "No small achievement . . . Scenes of [Pham's] wild road adventure [are] worthy..."

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