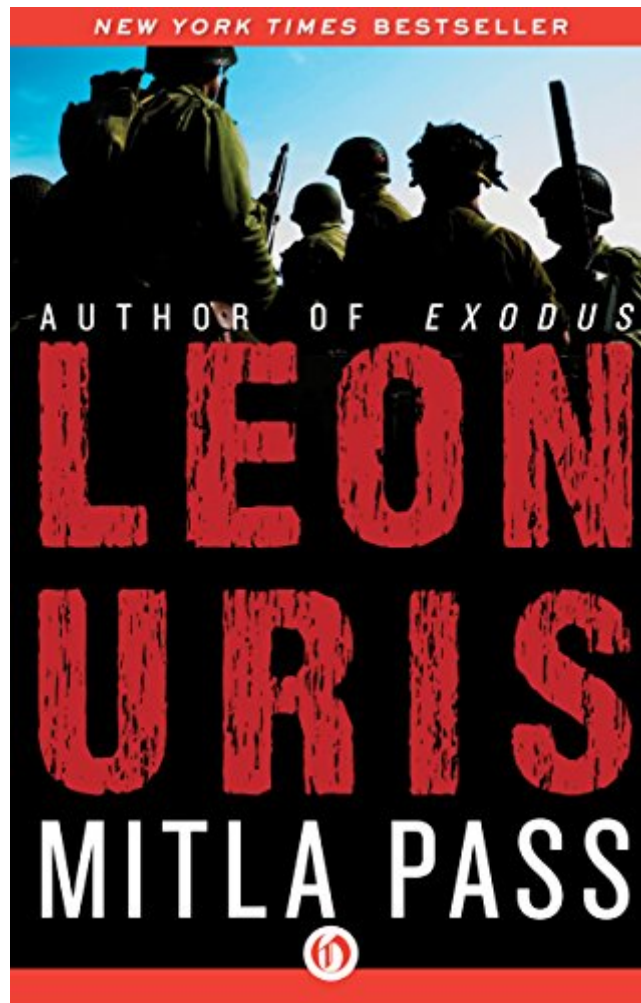




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# Mitla Pass



## Synopsis

A riveting • New York Times bestseller by the author of Exodus about an American in Israel drawn into the danger of the Suez Crisis (Library Journal). How did Gideon Zadok, an American novelist and screenwriter, end up pinned by artillery shells in Mitla Pass? It was never his plan to fight someone else's war. He came to Israel to research a book, but also to escape a crumbling marriage, a dysfunctional family, and the pressures of newfound success in the States. But in fleeing from personal troubles he charged headfirst into one of the great global crises of the twentieth century. Perhaps Leon Uris's most introspective work, Mitla Pass portrays a man caught between his own demons and the epic sweep of Middle Eastern history. This ebook features an illustrated biography of Leon Uris including rare photos from the author's estate.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The author obviously drew on his own experiences to write this book, much as he did with his first successful novel "Battle Cry". The main character in this book, Gideon Zadok, a former Marine who saw action in the Pacific in WW2, is an aspiring novelist, married with children, who wants only to spend his days researching and writing the Great American Novel. He has to face reality and take a

job with a newspaper as a distribution manager to support his family. He is given to much drinking, carousing, and womanizing. After his much-rejected novel is finally published his circumstances improve; he writes the script for the movie, and has a successful career as a script doctor. (all this, except possibly for the womanizing, is the same path Uris' own life followed). Mitla Pass is a 32 km pass in the Sinai desert that was the scene of fighting in all three Israel-Egypt wars. (1956, 1967, 1973) This story takes place in the Suez Crisis of 1956 (known in Israel as "Operation Kadesh" or the "Sinai War") Gideon Zadok, living in Israel with his family, participates in the Mitla Pass operation with a unit of the Israeli Army, though he is not actually in the Israeli Army. The military events related in this book are true; Ariel Sharon did command the 202nd Brigade, and he did enter and capture Mitla Pass without approval from higher command. Gideon Zadok is, of course, a fictional character and his participation in the events is fictional. The author follows some familiar themes in many of his books, one of which I've dubbed the "regression method". He starts out in the present time of his story, then abruptly takes you back to background matter, then further back to the character's parents, then the grandparents, and sometimes another generation or two back.

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