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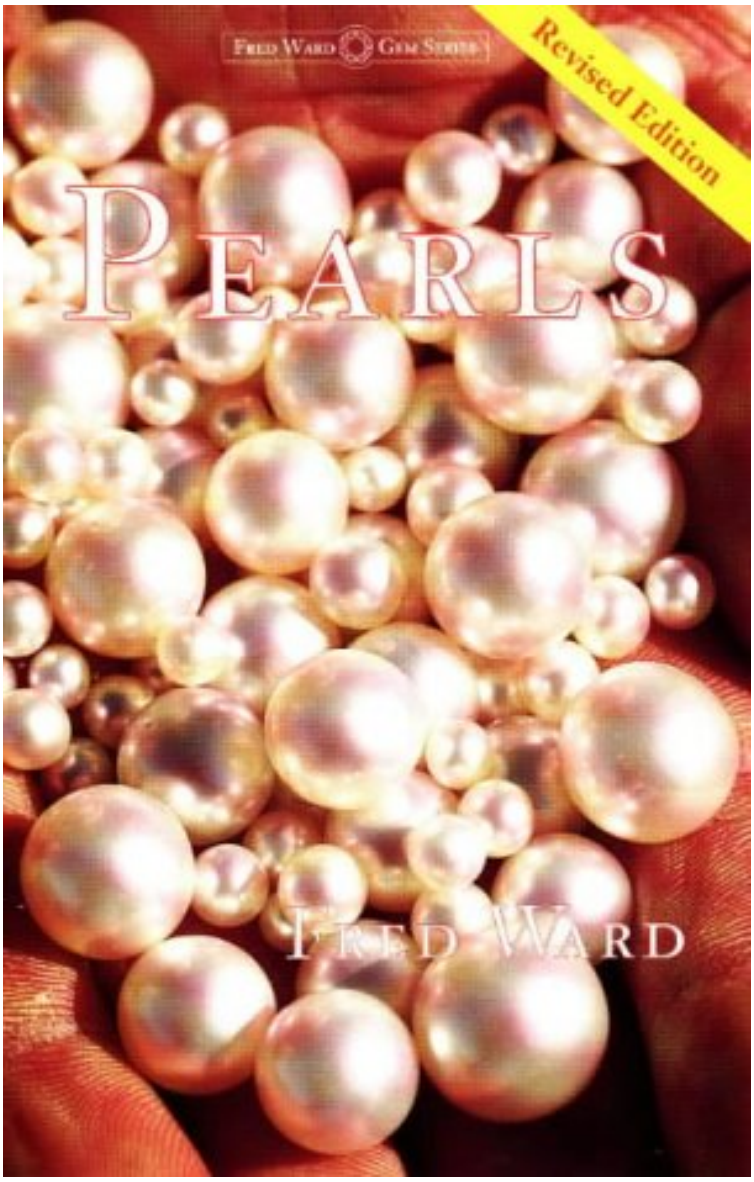

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Excellent book... superb photographs... delightfully written... careful research... compact format. Ward has a knack for pulling together the essence of a subject. We should applaud the appearance of a book as good as Fred Ward's... ought to be required reading. -- John White, Smithsonian CuratorYour books are so good and so fascinating that I feel you should continue your publications on gemstones... well-written and informative... fascinating reading for professionals as well as laymen... magnificent illustrations. -- Dr. E. Gubelin, C.G., F.G.A.About the AuthorFor fourteen years Fred Ward created, wrote, and photographed National Geographic Magazine's legendary gemstone series. He has now greatly expanded his classic work into the 8-book Fred Ward Gem Book Series, complete with new photographs and text. His easy-to-read accurate text provides you what you need to know to buy and enjoy the world's most historic and beautiful gems. Mr. Ward's award-winning photographs make each page a visual feast. This book is part of "America's Most Popular Gem Book Series."