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“The Nutmeg’s Curse”

Ghosh, Amitav



Red mace surrounds the nutmeg seed.

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Ghosh, Amitav. “The Nutmeg’s Curse.” *Springs: The Rachel Carson Center Review*, no. 7 (May 2025).

The story of *The Nutmeg’s Curse* (2021) begins almost exactly 400 years ago, in a very faraway place—so far away that very few of you are likely to have heard of it. That place is the Banda

Archipelago, a tiny cluster of islands in the far southeastern quadrant of the Indian Ocean. The largest of these islands is only two-and-a-half miles in length and half a mile in width—so minuscule are the Banda Islands that on most maps they are marked only as a sprinkling of dots. (From the article)

This article was originally published in [Springs: The Rachel Carson Center Review](#) . *Springs* is an online publication featuring peer-reviewed articles, creative nonfiction, and artistic contributions that showcase the work of the Rachel Carson Center and its community across the world.

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