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Welcome

UTOPIA

NOTES FROM A SMALL TOWN



KAREN VALBY

WITH A NEW AFTERWORD

Welcome To Utopia Notes From A Small Town

Julie Wernersbach, Carolyn Tracy

Welcome To Utopia Notes From A Small Town:

Welcome to Utopia Karen Valby, 2010-06-01 BONUS This edition contains a new Afterword and a reading group guide Utopia Texas It's either the best place on earth or it's no place at all In the twenty first century it's difficult to imagine any element of American life that remains untouched by popular culture let alone an entire community existing outside the empire of pop But Karen Valby discovered the tiny town of Utopia tucked away in the Texas Hill Country There are no movie theaters for sixty miles in any direction no book or music stores But cable television and the Internet have recently thrown wide the doors of Utopia Valby follows the lives of four Utopians Ralph the retired owner of the general store Kathy the waitress who waits in terror for three of her boys to return from war Colter the son of a cowboy with the soul of a hipster and Kelli an aspiring rock star and one of the only black people in town as they reckon on an intensely human scale with war and race class and culture and the way time s passage can change the ground beneath our feet Utopia is the kind of place we still think of as the real America a place of cowboys and farmers and high school sweethearts who stay together till they die But its dramatic stories show us what happens when the old tensions of small town life confront a new reality that no town no matter how small and isolated can escape the liberating and disruptive forces of the larger world Welcome to Utopia is a moving elegy for a proud American way of life and a celebration of our relentless impulse toward rebirth Howard P. Segal, 2012-03-02 This brief history connects the past and present of utopian thought from the first utopias in ancient Greece right up to present day visions of cyberspace communities and paradise Explores the purpose of utopias what they reveal about the societies who conceive them and how utopias have changed over the centuries Unique in including both non Western and Western visions of utopia Explores the many forms utopias have taken prophecies and oratory writings political movements world's fairs physical communities and also discusses high tech and cyberspace visions for the first time The first book to analyze the implicitly utopian dimensions of reform crusades like Technocracy of the 1930s and Modernization Theory of the 1950s and the laptop classroom initiatives of recent years Small-Town America Robert. Wuthnow, 2015-05-26 A revealing examination of small town life More than thirty million Americans live in small out of the way places Many of them could have joined the vast majority of Americans who live in cities and suburbs They could live closer to more lucrative careers and convenient shopping a wider range of educational opportunities and more robust health care But they have opted to live differently In Small Town America we meet factory workers shop owners retirees teachers clergy and mayors residents who show neighborliness in small ways but who also worry about everything from school closings and their children's futures to the ups and downs of the local economy Drawing on more than seven hundred in depth interviews in hundreds of towns across America and three decades of census data Robert Wuthnow shows the fragility of community in small towns He covers a host of topics including the symbols and rituals of small town life the roles of formal and informal leaders the social role of religious congregations the perception of moral and economic decline and the myriad

ways residents in small towns make sense of their own lives Wuthnow also tackles difficult issues such as class and race abortion homosexuality and substance abuse Small Town America paints a rich panorama of individuals who reside in small communities finding that for many people living in a small town is an important part of self identity Off the Beaten Page Terri Peterson Smith, 2013-05-01 Blending literature and travel this book offers a look at 15 U S destinations featured in the works of famous writers Designed as a guide to help avid bibliophiles experience in person the places they ve only read about award winning journalist Terri Peterson Smith takes readers on lively tours that include a Mark Twain inspired steamboat cruise on the Mississippi a Devil in the White City view of Chicago in the Gilded Age a voyage through the footsteps of the immigrants and iconoclasts of San Francisco and a look at low country Charleston's rich literary tradition With advice on planning stress free group travel and lit trip tips for novices this resource also features beyond the book experiences such as Broadway shows Segway tours and kayaking making it a one of a kind reference for anyone who wants to extend the experience of a great read The Swimming Holes of Texas Julie Wernersbach, Carolyn Tracy, 2020-04-01 Nothing beats a natural swimming hole for cooling off on a scorching summer day in Texas Cold clear spring water big old shade trees and a quiet stretch of beach or lawn offer the perfect excuse to pack a cooler and head out with family and friends to the nearest natural oasis Whether you re looking for a quick getaway or an unforgettable summer vacation let The Swimming Holes of Texas be your guide Julie Wernersbach and Carolyn Tracy highlight one hundred natural swimming spots across the entire state The book is organized by geographic regions so you can quickly find local places to swim or plan a trip to a more distant spot you d like to explore Each swimming hole is illustrated with an inviting color photo and a description of what it s like to swim there as well as the site s history ecology and conservation The authors include all the pertinent info about admission fees and hours parking and on site amenities such as showers and restrooms. They also offer tips for planning your trips and lists of the swimming holes that are most welcoming to families and pets So when the temperature tops 100 and there s nothing but traffic in sight take a detour down the backroads and swim sunbathe revel and relax in the swimming holes of Texas The Publishers Weekly ,2010 All the Year Round ,1875 The Academy ,1898 T. P.'s Weekly ,1915

Musical News and Herald ,1914 The Academy and Literature ,1898 Musical News ,1914 Patterns for Living Oscar James Campbell,1949 Engineering ,1896 The Garden ,1919 The Athenaeum ,1898

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