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Roughing It



Synopsis

To Calvin H. Higbie, of California, an honest man, a genial comrade and a steadfast friend, this book is inscribed by the author, in memory of the curious time when we two were millionaires for ten days. So the witty Mark Twain dedicates his second travelogue and charming SEMI-sequel to The Innocents Abroad. Listeners to Roughing It will find themselves laughing along with the author, as the Wild West gets a little bit wilder in this charming edition of Twain's American adventures, mishaps and musings.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

There is no nicer surprise for a reader than to discover that an acknowledged classic really does deliver the goods. Mark Twain's Roughing It is just such a book. The adventure tale is a delight from start to finish and is just as engrossing today as it was 125 years ago when it first appeared.

Roughing It tells the true-ish escapades of Twain in the American West. Although he clearly "speaks with forked tongue," Roughing It is informative as well as humorous. From stagecoach travel to the etiquette of prospecting, the modern reader gains considerable insight into that much-fictionalized time and place. Do you know about sagebrush, for example? Sage-brush is very fair fuel, but as a vegetable it is a distinguished failure. Nothing can abide the taste of it but the jackass and his illegitimate child, the mule. But their testimony to its nutritioussness is worth nothing, for they will eat pine knots, or anthracite coal, or brass filings, or lead pipe, or old bottles, or anything that comes handy, and then go off looking as grateful as if they had had oysters for dinner. Roughing It is informally structured around the narrator's attempts to strike it rich. He meets a motley, colorful crew

in the process; many mishaps occur, and it shouldn't surprise you that Twain does not emerge a man of means. But he withstands it all in such a relentless good humor that his misfortune inspires laughter. *Roughing It* is wonderful entertainment and reminds you how funny the world can be--even its grimmer districts--when you're traveling with the right writer. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

In this 1872, Twain reminisces about his five years of roaming around the country from 1861 to 1866. This edition contains the complete original text plus the original illustrations. Though pricey, this volume should be considered for collections specializing in Twain. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

As usual, Twain's writing is so entertaining that it makes this very long book worth reading. But you do have to be a fan .

This is a book of odds and ends that Mark Twain put together. His description of crossing the country from Missouri to Nevada in a stagecoach is the first I have read, and he also described the riders of the short-lived Pony Express. He tries out different writing styles varying from the rough language of the Nevada Silver mines to the more sophisticated speech of the San Franciscans in California.

Laugh out loud funny in places and lyrical descriptions of the American Frontier by someone who lived it in others. Makes me want to take a three week jaunt to the Nevada Territory and see where I end up. A fantastic read.

Best treated as a book of short stories poking fun at just about every state on the West Coast, including Hawaii. I found it tough to just power through the whole thing. It was more fun for me to read each corresponding chapter/section based on the state I was in.

The only Mark Twain I ever read was *Huck Finn* and *Ton Sawyer*, there was humor there but it was subtle and vague to a 9 year old boy. Along comes "*Roughing It*" very funny! Now I get Mark Twain the American Humorist! Very good! The Kindle Edition however SUCKS an there are NO illustrations and with every new chapter you get a page that looks like you started over to the beginning in the book, very confusing.

I have read this book several times, it is about America and the West.....Dave

this is a great book. funny, informative, wide-ranging.

Fascinating and well written book

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