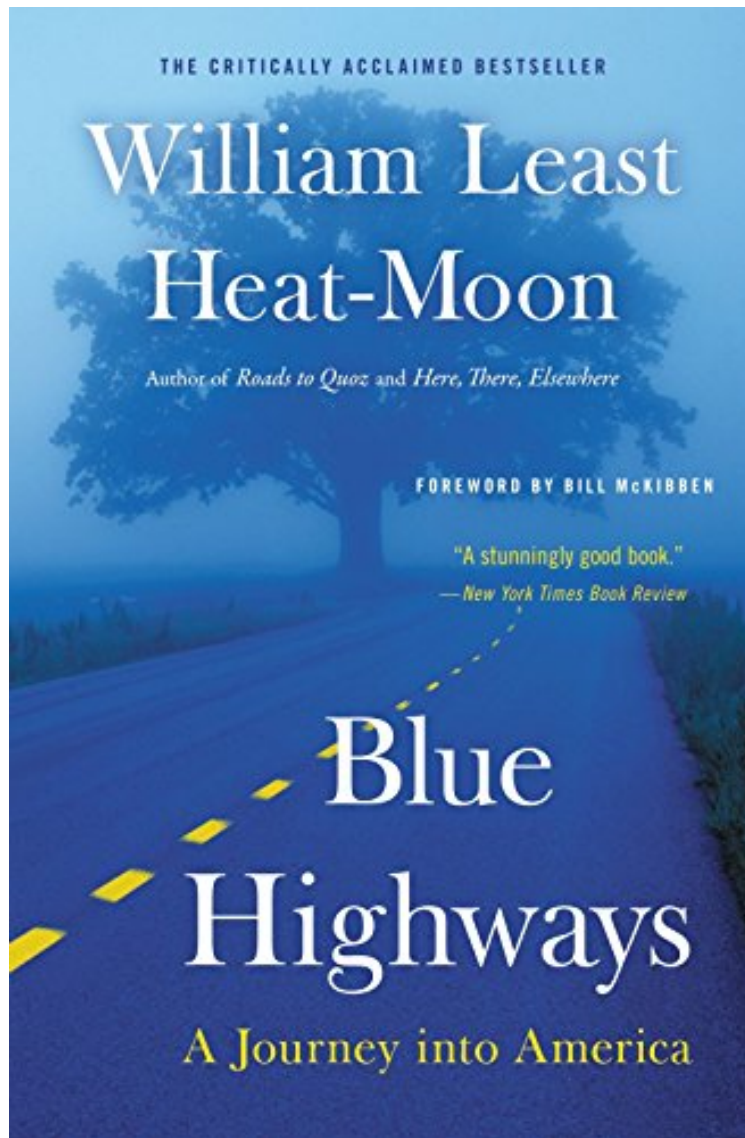


(Free pdf) Blue Highways: A Journey into America

Blue Highways: A Journey into America

William Least Heat Moon

DOC | *audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#23083 in BooksColor: Multicolor Back Bay Books 1999-10-19Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.25 x 1.13 x 5.50l, .89 #File Name: 0316353299448 pagesBack Bay Books | File size: 43.Mb

William Least Heat Moon : Blue Highways: A Journey into America before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Blue Highways: A Journey into America:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. For those who love AmericaBy W. R. WakefieldIf you love this country, and can put his writings from before 1980 in context with today's social climate,you will love the book. It should be read with an atlas close by or, better yet, Google maps. It is richly rewarding to follow on a map or even aerial photograph exactly where the author travels. The interaction and dialog with fascinating people is rewarding.

Much has changed in the almost 40 years since "the drive" was made but this only makes the contrast more poignant. A beautifully crafted book. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Van dwelling before it was cool By Sarah I've heard this heralded as an essential travel read for van dwellers. It's prettily worded and is sometimes reminiscent of Beat poetry and is generally fun to read. It can, however become tedious in its worship of "the small town working man," even if it is the central focus of the book. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An absolutely beautiful recounting of a spur-of-the-moment adventure that turned into a ... By Debbie Blasiar An absolutely beautiful recounting of a spur-of-the-moment adventure that turned into a life-changing examination of his life and the lives of those he met on the highways. The author journeyed across the nation using "back roads" and small towns, interviewing people he met along the way and quoting them as they spoke of their lives and their communities. The lessons he learned and then shared through his manuscript are descriptive of the land, the citizens and the personal maturation of the writer -including his discovery of his talent/ mission to become a published author. This gift for the author is also a gift to readers who can follow his work through ensuing published books.

Hailed as a masterpiece of American travel writing, *Blue Highways* is an unforgettable journey along our nation's backroads. William Least Heat-Moon set out with little more than the need to put home behind him and a sense of curiosity about "those little towns that get on the map-if they get on at all-only because some cartographer has a blank space to fill: Remote, Oregon; Simplicity, Virginia; New Freedom, Pennsylvania; New Hope, Tennessee; Why, Arizona; Why not, Mississippi." His adventures, his discoveries, and his recollections of the extraordinary people he encountered along the way amount to a revelation of the true American experience.

.com First published in 1982, William Least Heat-Moon's account of his journey along the back roads of the United States (marked with the color blue on old highway maps) has become something of a classic. When he loses his job and his wife on the same cold February day, he is struck by inspiration: "A man who couldn't make things go right could at least go. He could quit trying to get out of the way of life. Chuck routine. Live the real jeopardy of circumstance. It was a question of dignity." Driving cross-country in a van named *Ghost Dancing*, Heat-Moon (the name the Sioux give to the moon of midsummer nights) meets up with all manner of folk, from a man in Grayville, Illinois, "whose cap told me what fertilizer he used" to Scott Chisholm, "a Canadian citizen ... [who] had lived in this country longer than in Canada and liked the United States but wouldn't admit it for fear of having to pay off bets he made years earlier when he first 'came over' that the U.S. is a place no Canadian could ever love." Accompanied by his photographs, Heat-Moon's literary portraits of ordinary Americans should not be merely read, but savored. "Reading *Blue Highways* made me go back and look at Jack Kerouac's *On the Road* to see if Mr. Least Heat-Moon does as well. He does far better . . . Maybe twice a year I read a book I wish were even longer. This is one of them. I could wish Mr. Least Heat-Moon had driven every blue highway in America." (The New York Times) "*Blue Highways* is a splendid book, outstanding Americana, which I rank above the next best thing preceding it in the genre, John Steinbeck's *Travel with Charley*." (The Wall Street Journal) "Better than Kerouac." (The Chicago Sun-Times) About the Author William Least Heat-Moon is the author of the bestselling classics *Roads to Quoz*, *Blue Highways*, *River Horse*, and *Prairie Earth*. He lives in Columbia, Missouri.