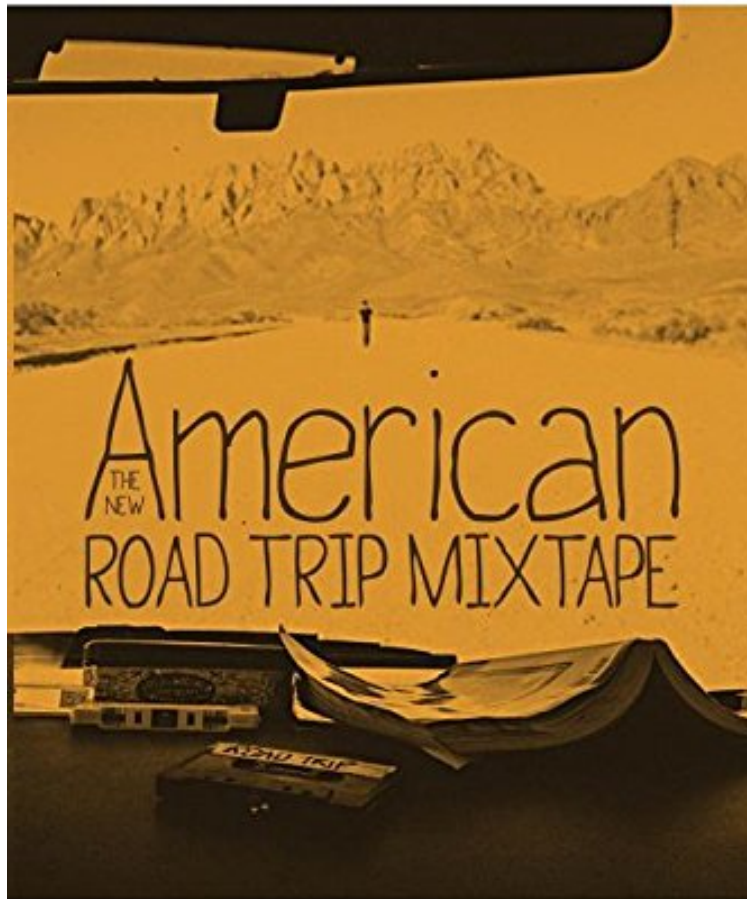


The New American Road Trip Mixtape

Brendan Leonard

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BY BRENDAN LEONARD

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Brendan Leonard : The New American Road Trip Mixtape before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The New American Road Trip Mixtape:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Future Legend's First OfferingBy Luke MehallBrendan Leonard is without a doubt the leader in the outdoor-dirtbag world of modern writers; the amount of reviews this book has for a self published author is a testament to that. I really enjoyed this book, and while I feel Leonard's best literary work is yet to come, it's still worthy of a five star review.Titled as a "mixtape" I think that would be a good frame of mind to use when beginning to read the book. It doesn't have the feel for a full on novel, but it was long enough to keep me

entertained for a week or so. Leonard is not afraid to bear his soul on the page, and something he does well is encourage others to follow their own passions and dreams. As someone who lives the same lifestyle as Leonard I took my "grand tour" of the West much earlier in life; since Leonard waited so long (into his thirties) his coming of age story is much richer than the young twenty something. The journey that unfolds left me wanting more from a writer who could very well go onto filling the same literary shoes that Kerouac once tramped across the country in. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. What is a life? By Paul Beiser What is a life? I love the way this theme keeps coming up - and how the author, Brendan Leonard, does a masterful job in surfacing it at the most opportune times in his awesome book. This is a wonderful journey - in miles, time, and growth - that reminds me occasionally of some of the wonderful books of Mr On The Road - Charles Kuralt. Brendan has me laughing at times, pausing and thinking deeply at times, and other times just enjoying his journey across the American West. He has wonderful, flowing, writing style I find very enjoyable. Reading this book, not only will you learn a lot about Brendan, but a lot about yourself. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. What is a life? By LEM15 Brendan Leonard sets out to answer this question in his new book. He doesn't find any definite answers, but that doesn't make reading his story any less enjoyable. The book tells the story of Brendan's departure from Denver after a breakup, as he takes to the road in the tradition of Kerouac and others. The book contains climbing stories, quotes and reflections from his favorite authors and musings on the American dream. I learned about this book b/c I am a big fan of Brendan's blog - semi-rad.com. The book is definitely a little bit darker than most of his blog posts, but for anyone who has doubt that a life of 9-5 and suburbia is for them and longs to take to the road, it's easy to relate to this book. The New American Road Trip Mixtape is a quick and easy read, and definitely worth the \$7.99 for the kindle edition.

When your life plan explodes, you ask yourself the big questions: What do I really need in life? How can I make my life a work of art? Should I buy a house? Have kids? What is a life? Following in Kerouac and Steinbeck's tire tracks, a 32-year-old, post-breakup Brendan Leonard hits the road in search of healing and a new, post-economic-downturn American Dream. Sleeping in the back of a beat-up station wagon, he seeks answers-and hopefully, the occasional shower-in the postcard-worthy places of the American West. Part ballad to the romance of the road and part heart-searching treatise on the American Dream, The New American Road Trip Mixtape is Leonard's raw, often hilarious, barstool storytelling at its best.

About the Author Brendan Leonard's writing has appeared in Backpacker, Outside, Men's Journal, High Country News, Adventure Cyclist and dozens of other publications. He is a contributing editor at Climbing, Adventure Journal, and the podcast The Dirtbag Diaries. He lives mostly out of a 2005 Chevy Astrovan in the western United States. More of his writing can be found at www.semi-rad.com.