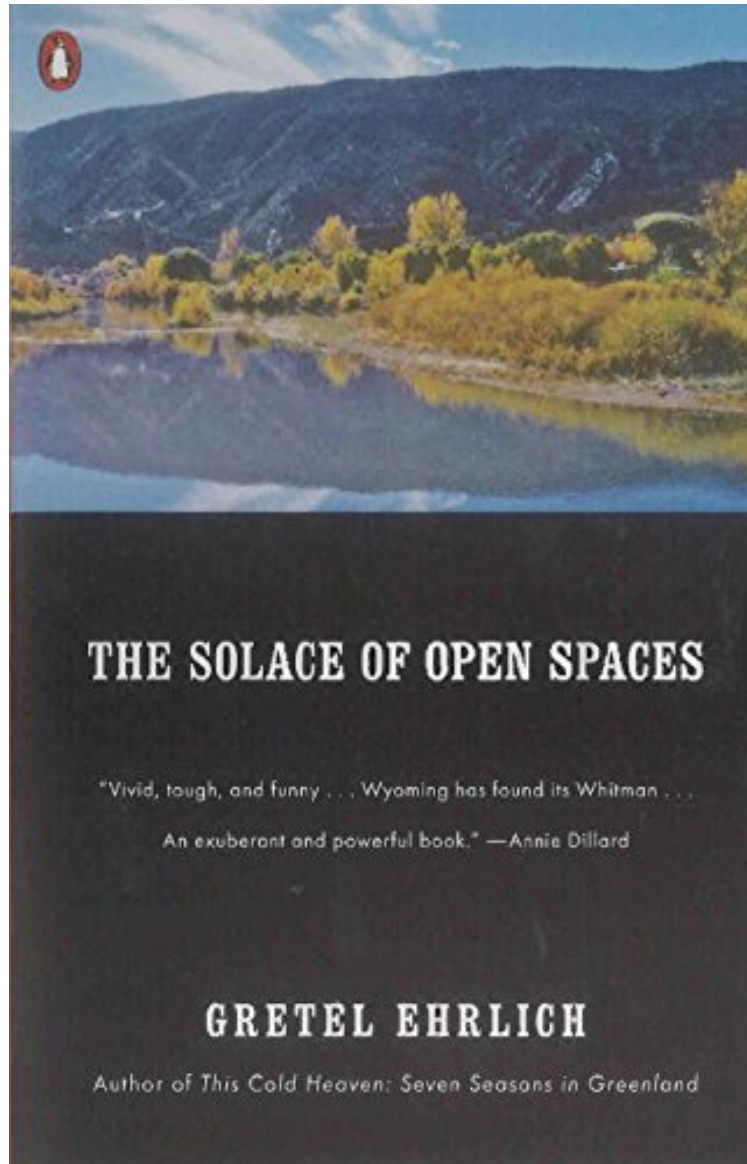


(Free download) The Solace of Open Spaces

The Solace of Open Spaces

Gretel Ehrlich

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Gretel Ehrlich : The Solace of Open Spaces before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Solace of Open Spaces:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful description of western ranch life.By STXDAVIDThe first of this book flows into your mind and heart. It swells your heart and draws your tears. The next quarter runs a bit slow but brings you to the last quarter where the prose flow and completion of the tale is satisfying. Erlich made me

homesick for the openness of the high plains.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. MeditativeBy Scott RichburgEhrlich's essays often read like meditative poetry reminiscent of Thoreau and Abbey at their best. Her work exhibits a "mind of winter" fit for lonesome spaces, rendering an often harsh environment as sublimely beautiful and spiritual.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Some good writing and use of words/phrasesBy M. NewmanSome very interesting passages. Some good writing and use of words/phrases. Glad I read it.

A stunning collection of personal observations that uses images of the American West to probe larger concerns in lyrical, evocative prose that is a true celebration of the region.

.com "Everything in nature invites us constantly to be what we are. We are often like rivers: careless and forceful, timid and dangerous, lucid and muddied, eddying, gleaming, still." Whether she's reflecting on nature's teachings, divulging her experiences as a cowpuncher, or painting vivid word portraits of the people she lives and works with, Gretel Ehrlich's observations are lyrical and funny, wise and authentic. After moving from the city to a vast new state, she writes of adjusting to cowboy life, boundless open spaces, and the almost incomprehensible harshness of a Wyoming winter: "When it's fifty below, the mercury bottoms out and jiggles there as if laughing at those of us still above ground. Once I caught myself on tiptoes, peering down into the thermometer as if there were an extension inside inscribed with higher and higher declarations of physical misery: ninety below to the power of ten and so on." After experiencing the isolated life of a sheep herder, she writes, "Keenly observed the world is transformed. The landscape is engorged with detail, every movement on it chillingly sharp. The air between people is charged. Days unfold, bathed in their own music. Nights become hallucinatory; dreams, prescient." Ehrlich's gift is one of subtle precision. She writes beauty into the plainest of thoughts and meaning into the simplest of ideas: "True solace is finding none, which is to say, it is everywhere." --Kathryn TrueFrom Publishers WeeklyLike many before her, poet Gretel Ehrlich discovered the therapeutic qualities of the West. In 1976, a time of personal crisis, she moved from the East to a small farm in Wyoming where she ultimately found peace of mind and inspiration. Originally, she had gone west to make a film for PBS; she returned to work with neighbors at cattle- and sheep-ranching, taking pleasure in open spaces. Ehrlich writes with sensitivity and affection about people, the seasons and the landscape. Whether she is enjoying solitude or companionship, her writing evokes the romance and timelessness of the West. NovemberCopyright 1985 Reed Business Information, Inc.From Library JournalMany urbanites sojourn in the West to commune with nature in the wide-open spaces, but few have related their experiences, or so fully captured the essence of Wyoming, as well as this author. She was sent from New York to the Big Horn region in 1976 to make a film about sheepherders. To recover from the death of a loved one, she wandered near and far for two years before returning to northern Wyoming, where she finally found solace. The vivid descriptions of the physical aspects of her surroundings are more than balanced by her poetic commentaries on the nature of the sheepherders, cowpokes, and Native Americans who inhabit the area. This paean to Wyoming should find a place in all special collections on the West and would be a fine addition to general collections. Sondra Brunhumer, Western Mich. Univ. Libs., KalamazooCopyright 1985 Reed Business Information, Inc.