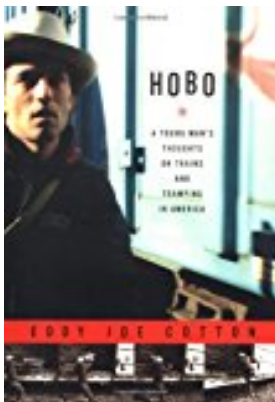


[PDF] Hobo: A Young Man's Thoughts On Trains And Tramping In America

Eddy Joe Cotton - pdf download free book



Books Details:

Title: Hobo: A Young Man's Thoughts
Author: Eddy Joe Cotton
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Description:

From Publishers Weekly After a fight with his father, 19-year-old Zebu Recchia hitchhiked out of Denver, changed his name and didn't turn back. Twenty-three notebooks and a book contract later he rented a room in Las Vegas and wrote a memoir of his six years on the road. Full of Kerouacian philosophizing and Beat lingo, the work chronicles Cotton's first three weeks away from home, beginning with his decision to ride the rails and head to Mexico after meeting "Half Step," a hobo

who earned the nickname by falling off a freight train and losing four toes. Along the way Cotton offers tips for aspiring tramps ("If you don't have a blanket you can stuff newspaper in your clothes and it'll act as insulation") and forced descriptions of nature ("The clouds parted and the sun fell like a golden egg out of the sky's mighty asshole"). Sexual encounters read like soft porn. Inspired by the ubiquitous diner waitress, his tamest fantasy involves a woman "[burning] her apron, [quitting] her job, and [lying] across a Sealy Posturepedic like a Mayan goddess." Cotton provides a compact history of the American hobo in his epilogue. "It's what I learned from talking to tramps and from sitting in the Las Vegas public library for three days," he writes; the glossary defines terms like "Bale of straw" ("A blond woman"). Masquerading as a coming-of-age novel/social history, Cotton's adolescent diary is one interminable trip.

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From Library Journal The real name of the author of this quirky title is Zebu Beauty Recchia. Perhaps that should be mentioned first because like just about everything else in this gritty journal of the life of a modern hobo, the author doesn't care about what people call him, where he gets his next hot meal, when a "Bat" (i.e., a woman who flits from truck to truck at night, offering a special kind of refreshment to weary travelers) will satisfy his needs at a truck stop, or even whether he writes a coherent book or not. With a hobo, things happen when they happen, and there's not much you can do about it. Cotton's life has been chaotic, aimless, interesting, dangerous, and daring, and this book mirrors all of those qualities. Although I did not wish to join the author on his adventures and I almost always do when reading a travel memoir I admire Cotton's courage to experience the country on his own terms. This unique book is a worthwhile purchase for public libraries. Joseph L. Carlson, Allan Hancock Community Coll., CA

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