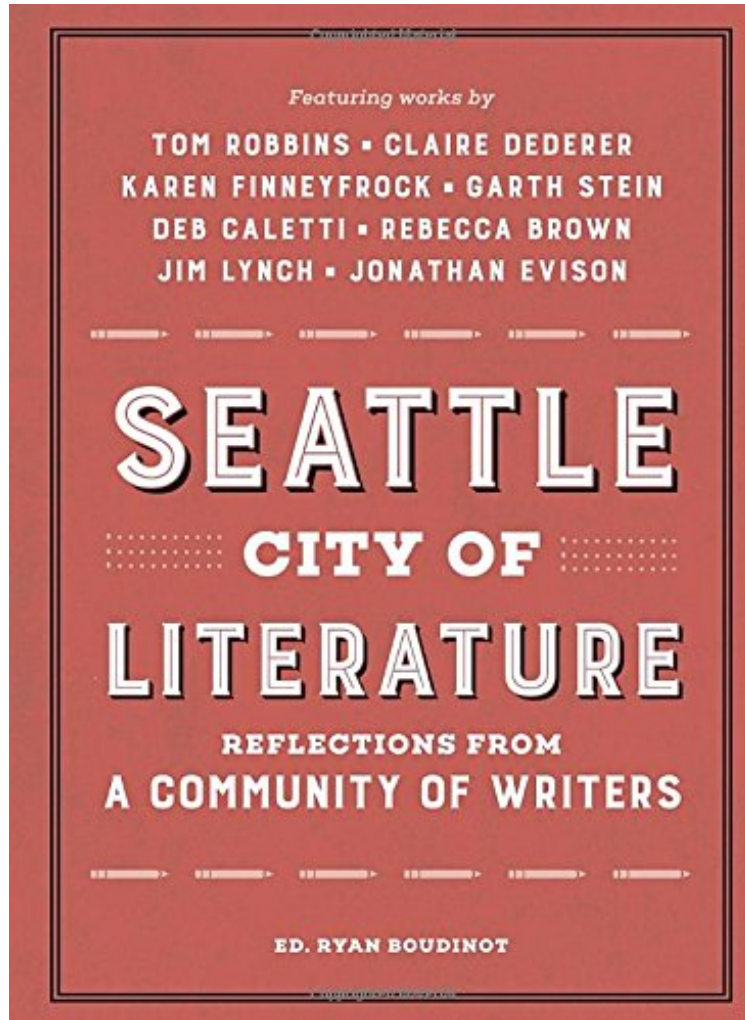


[Download] Seattle City of Literature: Reflections from a Community of Writers

Seattle City of Literature: Reflections from a Community of Writers

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From Sasquatch Books : Seattle City of Literature: Reflections from a Community of Writers before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Seattle City of Literature: Reflections from a Community of Writers:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The sometimes sad city by the sound. By Amy E. Henry I loved this but it was completely different from what I expected. At first I thought it'd be an ode to Seattle landscape and history in terms of the Puget Sound, the mysterious feet on the shore, and Pearl Jam. Then I thought maybe it would be random portions of famous Seattle writers or poets, anthology style. But no, and for the better. Instead this is a collection of reflections on Seattle's literature, of which scenery and Pearl Jam play a secondary position to tremendously talented writers. Writers who are moody, upbeat, borderline psychotic, and/or very good liars. This is

sort of an "end of the series" episode with all the highlights of what makes Seattle's writers significant. Bars and bookstores, Pioneer Square and on the street, writing takes so many forms as to defy genre as does this book. Parts make you laugh (Jonathan Evison's bad poetry bar) and other parts sting a little, as when a beloved bookstore is converted into something more profitable. Paul Constant and Mary Ann Gwinn are featured as the last lifeboat survivors in a world where books and especially book reviewing are deemed unnecessary and not worth the print space. My favorite city is complicated. It has great beauty and talent yet still suffers from the economy of fashion: what's in now may be lost tomorrow. Books are not the necessity of once, before. Yet the fact Powell's remains and that Seattle is a fighter gives hope. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Reading this anthology is like eavesdropping in a Seattle coffee shop. By Connie (She who hikes with dogs) This anthology of mostly short essays by writers who live in or are from the Seattle area shows a plethora of writers, writing instructors, authors, booksellers, publishers talking about their unique experience in the city that involves in some form the written form. Most of the people in this book are new to me, although many mention authors from the area, but only one, Sherman Alexie, a well-known author of Native American literature is one I am familiar with. Reading this short book feels like an eavesdropping of a busy coffee shop, where java drinkers talk about every topic imaginable and the only thing they all have in common is that they are all in the same coffee shop at the same time. Some essays are humorous, some are touching, some are short discussions about regional writers. One writer reminisces about meeting Robin Williams in a bookstore and having a brief conversation about comics. In another essay about a writing workshop instructor, the writer recalls his war veteran students who were overcoming PTSD after Vietnam, and then comparing veterans he had who had served in Iraq and Afghanistan several decades later. Other essays talk about the struggle of young writers trying to get published. There are many references to local landmarks like Pioneer Square, or university buildings on the University of Washington campus, so this anthology may best be recommended for people who studied at UW, lived in Seattle, or who have a profound love for the region. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The Highlights of Seattle's Past and Present Literary Scene... By missmickee-bookreview "Seattle City of Literature: Reflections from a Community of Writers" explores the greatness of literary Seattle in 5 sections: Learning ~ Working ~ Performing ~ Reflecting ~ Remembering ~ Many of these essays are written by authors, editors, bookstore owners/managers and assorted book people who either love or reside in Seattle. Writing programs from the Richard Hugo House (founded in 1997), the Seattle Free Lancers, to the Creative Writing Program offered at the University of Washington, (recent graduates included Amanda Knox) were discussed. Author Ryan Boudinot also listed our numerous well loved bookstores: Couth Buzzard Books, Eliot Bay Book Company, East West Book Shop, Mangus Books, Phinney Books, Twice Sold Tales, and the University Book Store. A reader doesn't have to be a Seattleite to appreciate this fun book. Biographer Charles Cross excellent (5*) essay is about Steven "Jesse" Bernstein (1950-1991). Bernstein, resembled the poet Robert Lowell, was known as the "Godfather of Grunge" also, a self-defined "dark poet" who wrote about addiction and depression. It was unfortunate Bernstein wasn't admitted to a psychiatric hospital following his poetry reading at the Graven Image in the 1980's. Another magnificent essay gem was written by the former book review editor of the Stranger, Paul Constant; who was highly disappointed in the lack of comprehensive "artful" book review that is seriously lacking in the Seattle literary scene-- with the exception of Seattle Times literary critic Mary Ann Gwinn. According to Constant: "A poorly written book review is about as useful as a fish net condom." He has zero respect for the "vapid fill-in-the-star of oblivious narcissists" (aka customers)-- also, has created more (expletive) book reviews in the "history of the universe!" I must confess I am a native Seattleite, write Book Review, and absolutely loved Constant's articulate hilarious writing style! There were several notable Seattle authors (and surrounding area writers) that weren't mentioned: Jack Olsen, J.A. Jance, David Guttererson, Amanda Knox, and our late great Ann Rule (1931-2015). Rule was the most accessible authors and loved meeting her fans and signing books. I have a photo with her and my son taken around 2002, we also met her daughter Leslie. On February 2, 2016 I'll be getting a copy of "While The City Slept: A Love Lost to Violence and a Young Man's Decent Into Madness". Seattle author Eli Sanders won the Pulitzer Prize for "The Bravest Woman In Seattle" that chronicled the tragic rape murder story of Teresa Butz, she and her fiance Jennifer Hopper were attacked in their South Park home on July 19, 2009. With thanks to our great Seattle Public Library, which was mentioned in this book.

This bookish history of Seattle includes essays, history and personal stories from such literary luminaries as Frances McCue, Tom Robbins, Garth Stein, Rebecca Brown, Jonathan Evison, Tree Swenson, Jim Lynch, and Sonora Jha among many others. Timed with Seattle's bid to become the second US city to receive the UNESCO designation as a City of Literature, this deeply textured anthology pays homage to the literary riches of Seattle. Strongly grounded in place, funny, moving, and illuminating, it lends itself both to a close reading and to casual browsing, as it tells the story of books, reading, writing, and publishing in one of the nation's most literary cities.

"All of the pieces are short and conversational, resulting in a figurative cocktail party full of Seattle writers eager to contribute to the clamor." Seattle magazine "This anthology pays homage to the literary history of Seattle through stories about reading, writing, and publishing from some of the city's renowned literary voices." Alaska Beyond About

the AuthorEditor Ryan Boudinot is the author of the novel *Blueprints of the Afterlife*, a finalist for the Philip K. Dick Award, and the story collection *The Littlest Hitler*, a Publishers Weekly Book of the Year.