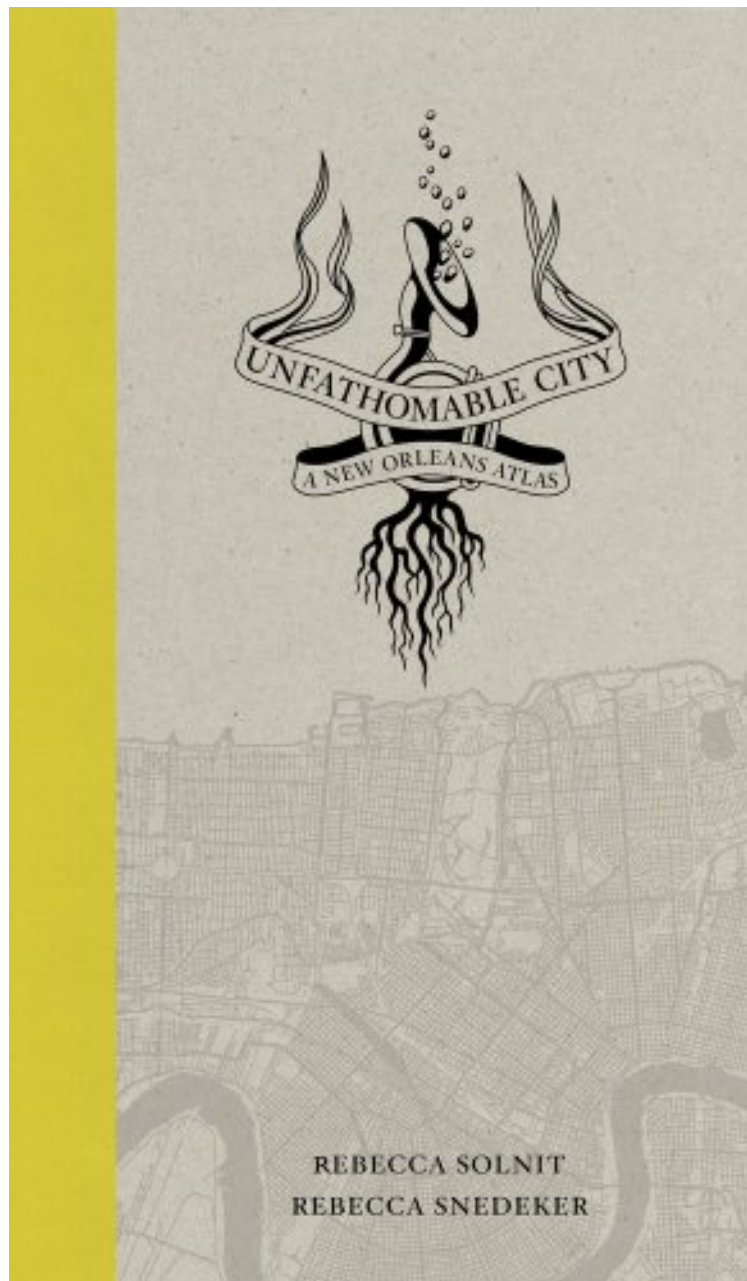


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## Unfathomable City: A New Orleans Atlas

*Rebecca Solnit, Rebecca Snedeker*

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**Rebecca Solnit, Rebecca Snedeker : Unfathomable City: A New Orleans Atlas** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Unfathomable City: A New Orleans Atlas:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. This one's a keeper. By Mirabai  
Marvelous in every way. I lived in New Orleans for twelve years, but left before Katrina. Before returning "home" to the city, I read these essays and studied these maps. When I got there, I was well-prepared for the changes. Captures the spirit of the city after Katrina, the complex changes, and the things that have stayed the same. 10 of 11 people found the following review helpful. This amazing book will change how you think about the Big Easy. By Ben Delaney I love maps, and I love new ways of seeing. This book fills both those desires, and more. I got this for a gift for my wife, a NOLA native. We both love it. It's filled with historical oddities and little-known tidbits that help explain why New Orleans is the way it is, and how the people who live there keep it such a special place. If you've ever been to New Orleans, you will love this book. If you've never been there, what's wrong with you? Get this book and discover things about New Orleans that make it even more fascinating! 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!** By Jay Brown I'm a native New Orleanian, so I vigorously identify with the content. Ms Solnit and Snedeker are articulate penmen and have solicited a cadre of competent associates to journal each chapter. I particularly enjoyed "Snakes And Ladders" as it demonstrates the breath of the human psyche. I strongly recommend this volume.

Like the bestselling *Infinite City: A San Francisco Atlas*, this book is a brilliant reinvention of the traditional atlas, one that provides a vivid, complex look at the multi-faceted nature of New Orleans, a city replete with contradictions. More than twenty essays assemble a chorus of vibrant voices, including geographers, scholars of sugar and bananas, the city's remarkable musicians, prison activists, environmentalists, Arab and Native voices, and local experts, as well as the coauthors' compelling contributions. Featuring 22 full-color two-page-spread maps, *Unfathomable City* plumbs the depths of this major tourist destination, pivotal scene of American history and culture and, most recently, site of monumental disasters such as Hurricane Katrina and the BP oil spill. The innovative maps' precision and specificity shift our notions of the Mississippi, the Caribbean, Mardi Gras, jazz, soils and trees, generational roots, and many other subjects, and expand our ideas of how any city is imagined and experienced. Together with the inspired texts, they show New Orleans as both an imperiled city by erosion, crime, corruption, and sea level rise and an ageless city that lives in music as a form of cultural resistance. Compact, lively, and completely original, *Unfathomable City* takes readers on a tour that will forever change the way they think about place.

"Rebecca Snedeker and Rebecca Solnit's *Unfathomable City: A New Orleans Atlas* is a book about New Orleans, but it's also a book about the kind of shared experiences and tensions that could exist in almost any city. Twenty-two maps illustrate ancient and recent histories of the Crescent City, with local tabs that inspire hums of pride. . . . Though many of those labels are specific to New Orleans, the themes they highlight exist other places, making the book not only a local's guide to the city, but also an anthropologist's guide to the idea of metropolis."