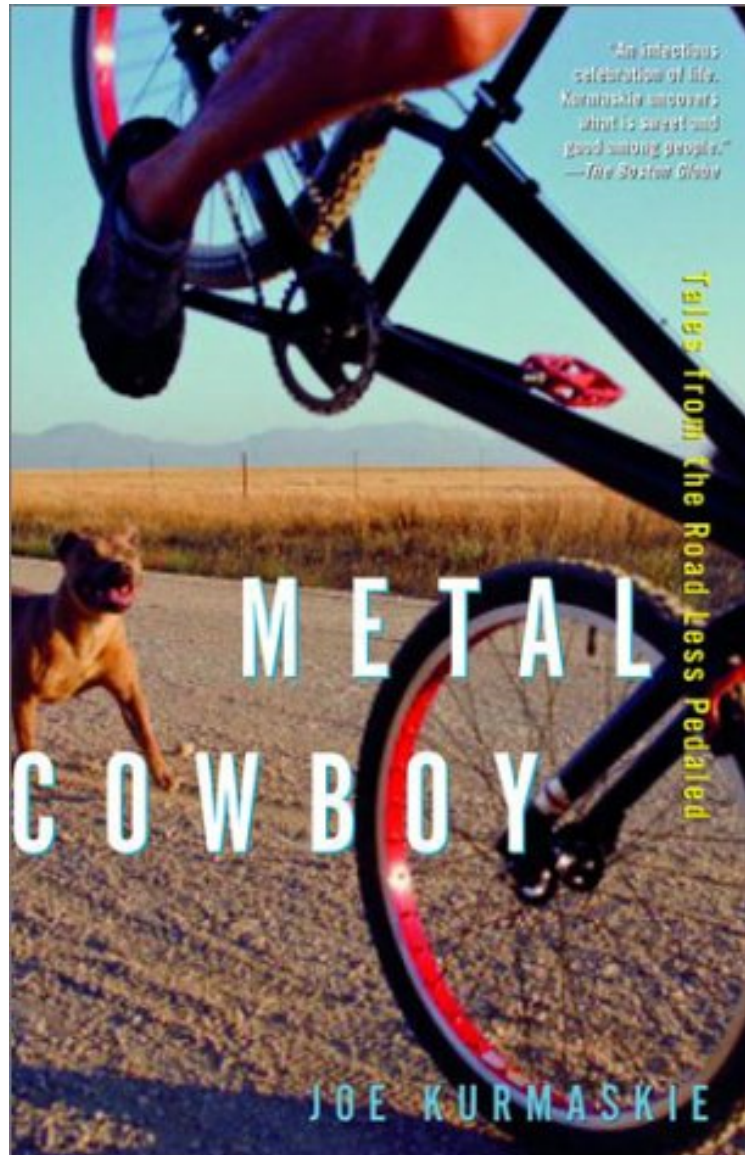


(Mobile pdf) Metal Cowboy: Tales from the Road Less Pedaled

Metal Cowboy: Tales from the Road Less Pedaled

Joe Kurmaskie

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Joe Kurmaskie : Metal Cowboy: Tales from the Road Less Pedaled before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Metal Cowboy: Tales from the Road Less Pedaled:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good, but not AS good as his other booksBy Marc BaldwinI like Kurmaskie's writing style, his take on life in general, and I'm admittedly a little bit jealous of the biking adventures that he has been able to enjoy.This book wasn't quite as good as "Momentum is Your Friend", one of his later books,

simply because of the format. "Metal Cowboy" doesn't follow one particular adventure chronologically, but is more like a collection of essays about different events that occurred on several different trips throughout his life. The essays are enjoyable, but "Momentum" sucked me in more because it followed one story from beginning to end (riding across America from west to east pulling his two kids). It was a bit more compelling. It was still a good book, and due to the format, it was actually a little easier to put down from time to time rather than staying up two hours longer than I wanted to because I couldn't put it down! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good ReadBy NW BillIt's an entertaining book about the author's travel across the United States on his bike. He tells about his adventures in a humorous and insightful way. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. How the Metal Cowboy got his nick name. By Jeffrey Fritts I have read several other books by Joe Kurmaskie and he has become one of my favorite authors. A wonderfully gifted story teller with equal amounts of insight and humor into the condition of mankind. Metal Cowboy is a delightful group of stories from Joe's travels around the world as seen and experienced from the seat of a bicycle. And yes you will find the story, in the very first chapter, of how he got the nickname Metal Cowboy. Buy this book, read this book, and pass it on to your friends and family so they can begin to understand why you ride a bike.

Joe Kurmaskie, dubbed the Metal Cowboy by a blind rancher he encountered one icy morning in Idaho, has been addicted to the intoxicating freedom and power of the bicycle ever since he borrowed his big sisters banana-seat bike at the age of five. As he careened down the neighborhood hill, much to his parents dismay, Joe set in motion what has become a lifelong love affair with the road and the wheel. In Metal Cowboy, Joe offers up an infectious and big-hearted collection of true adventures and misadventures, chronicling his time touring America on his bicycle. Whether he is climbing a tree to avoid the insistent pecking of a flock of geese in New Hampshire, tooling around a motel parking lot in Utah with a touring group of Elvis impersonators, or filling in as a last-minute scarecrow in a North Carolina Halloween parade, Joe revels in the charm of small town America and the unforgettable characters who dot our landscape. Full of energy, wit, and wisdom, Metal Cowboy is both an inspiration and a call to the road, full of the simple joy of a path well pedaled and a life less ordinary.

From Booklist While cycling through Idaho, Kurmaskie met up with a blind man who, after tapping his cane over Joe and his bike, dubbed him a "metal cowboy." If these 40 essays are any indication, that's a perfect description. Like the cowboys of Old West legend, Kurmaskie drifted around the country (and the world), meeting up with interesting and eccentric people, bunking wherever he found a dry patch of ground, eating whatever he could carry or scrounge. Like the travel books of Bill Bryson, Kurmaskie's collection of essays focuses on the unexpected and the little known. Travelogues are a dime a dozen, but the ones that find something fresh and unusual to talk about are fairly rare. Here readers will meet Elvis impersonators and other eccentrics; live through a goose attack mounted with military precision; and see the countryside the way they've never imagined it. A thoroughly delightful excursion. David Pitt From Kirkus sFleet lessons, experiences, and absurdities, gathered from the saddle of a bicycle and mined for every identifiable nugget of humor or worthy apologue, from newcomer Kurmaskie. "I'm just a Metal Cowboy piecing together the puzzle of life in my own time and way." What that means for Kurmaskie is tooling about on his bicycle, far and wide, keeping his eye skinned for the everyday encounters that, cobbled together, amount to a worldview. Occasionally these tales are tips for cyclers, such as what to do when teenagers target you for sport, or when dogs do the same, or weather, or geese. But most of the material demonstrates that the pace of a bicycle allows you to tap the fortuities of chance (e.g., joining up with someone willing to share knowledge of secret pictographs) and the pleasures to be had by throwing caution to the wind and volunteering to be the scarecrow on a bike in a small town parade, and why sometimes it's the oblique vision of the eccentrics out there that puts things into meaningful perspective. Each of the 40 chapters is a self-contained unit, and they are best read in controlled doses, for while the episodes have a sort of Andy of Mayberry charm, a piece of homespun with common decency at its center and framed in drollery, the tone can cloy. Kurmaskie is also overly fond of trotting out a little hackneyed something for the reader's moral edification ("You give and take in this life, and you don't ask for anything back"). Worse still are the ones that sound like fortune cookies: "Each day starts with the promise of what all of us might become in the time which remains." The metal cowboy is on a slow bike to nowhere in particular, and when he's not dispensing homilies, he knows how to enjoy the simple, immediate pleasures of two-wheeled freedom. -- Copyright 1999, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved. "Joe Kurmaskie's stories are full of optimism, zaniness, and depth; a winning combination." --Seattle Times "Kurmaskie is possessed of an astute ability to channel his life experiences into stories with a universal element." --Sacramento Bee "Like the travel books of Bill Bryson, Kurmaskie focuses on the unexpected and the little known." --Booklist