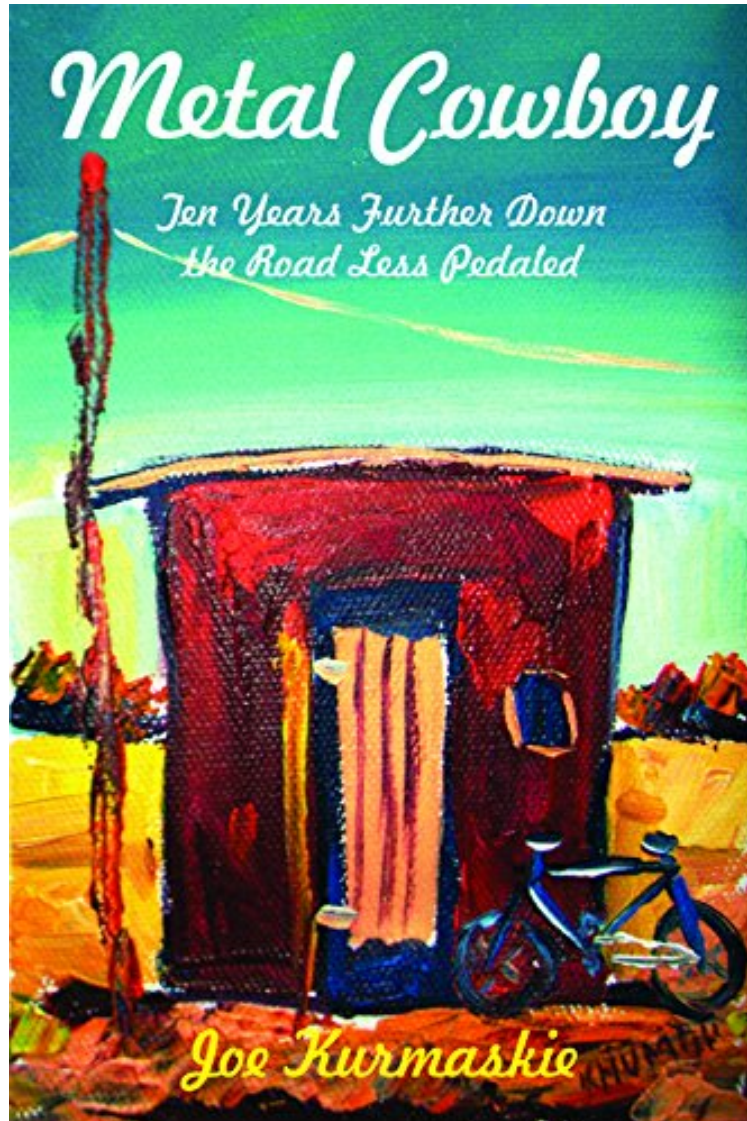


(Download pdf) Metal Cowboy: Ten Years Further Down the Road Less Pedaled

Metal Cowboy: Ten Years Further Down the Road Less Pedaled

Joe Kurmaskie

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#1348316 in Books Breakaway Books 2010-08-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x .80 x 6.00l, .94
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Joe Kurmaskie : Metal Cowboy: Ten Years Further Down the Road Less Pedaled before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Metal Cowboy: Ten Years Further Down the Road Less Pedaled:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good, but not AS good as his other books By Marc Baldwin I 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 Read By NW Bill It'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's stories are full of optimism, zaniness, and depth; a winning combination. The Seattle Times The Metal Cowboy is crazy, wise, funny, and living the dream all cyclists have riding off to see the world on a bike. Don't miss this ride with him. Bill Strickland, Bicycling It's as if Dave Barry and Charles Kuralt squeezed together onto a bicycle to pedal across America and around the world, filing outrageous dispatches along the way. Insightful, humane, sublimely amusing Metal Cowboy finds nobility in the common man, explains true bicycle-love, celebrates the beauty of the country, and charmingly relates encounters with malcontents and misfits. Most of all, Metal Cowboy is a quest. It is the record of a young man seeking meaning in the world, trying to find what is good in the people he meets, what is good in himself, and a route off the prescribed roadways of life. The forty stories in this book describe the highlights and low moments of Metal Cowboy's cycling life, including his hallowed beginnings at age five absconding with his sisters bike through five cross-country tours: sleeping in cemeteries, cycling through an Elvis-impersonator convention, being attacked by geese, meeting madmen (and enjoying their company), being run off the road by rednecks, and meeting his future wife (while cycling). Joe Kurmaskie is an unforgettable, ebullient, inspiring, bighearted storyteller. His love for bicycles, and for humanity, is infectious. Metal Cowboy will bring a smile to the face (and adrenaline to the bloodstream) of anyone who has ever ridden a bicycle.

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 s Fleet 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