



Salt Dreams: Land and Water in Low-Down California

William deBuys

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

Salt Dreams: Land and Water in Low-Down California

William deBuys

Salt Dreams: Land and Water in Low-Down California William deBuys

In low places consequences collect, and in all North America you cannot get much lower than the Imperial Valley of southern California, where one town, 186 feet below sea level, calls itself the Lowest Down City in the Western Hemisphere, and where the waters of the Colorado River sustain a billion-dollar agricultural industry. The consequences of that industry drain from the valley into the accidentally man-made Salton Sea, California's largest lake and a vital stopping place for migratory waterfowl. Today the Salton Sea is in desperate environmental trouble.

A second river also ends in the Salton Sea. It is a river of dreams, the remains of which may be seen in the failed real estate developments that sprawl beside the sea. As the ending point of both the real Colorado and this river of dreams, the Salton Sea has become emblematic of much of the history of the American West. Its troubling story is masterfully told here in William deBuys's narrative and Joan Myers's austere beautiful photographs.

The story of Southern California is fundamentally a story about the control of nature. Beginning with the Yuman-speaking tribes encountered by the Spanish in the sixteenth century, deBuys traces the subsequent exploration and development of the region through the Gold Rush of 1849, the government-sponsored surveys that followed, and the inept tinkering with the river by an assortment of irrigation and development interests that resulted in the floods that formed the Salton Sea nearly a century ago. He introduces us to a gallery of rogues and dreamers who saw a great future for this arid wilderness but could never refrain from interference with the forces of nature.

The floods that produced the Salton Sea created a vast desert oasis, but the agricultural exploitation of the region, combined with evaporation, poisoned that paradise. The stark beauty of the desert, the engineering feats that have transformed the landscape, and the eerie spectacle of Salton City and its ruined beaches and abandoned yacht club are the subject of Myers's photographs, made over a period of more than ten years. In the last section of *Salt Dreams*, deBuys acquaints us with the human and avian denizens of the region, all struggling for survival as the twentieth century draws to a close. The history of chicanery and greed recounted in deBuys's narrative and his empathy with the desert dwellers he and Myers have come to know--hardworking laborers and entrepreneurs who live on both sides of the Mexicali border, eccentrics hiding out in the Salton Desert, pelicans dying of avian botulism--are crucial to an understanding of the border issues of today and the impassioned environmental debate on whether--and how--to save the Salton Sea.

 [Download Salt Dreams: Land and Water in Low-Down California ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Salt Dreams: Land and Water in Low-Down Californ ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Salt Dreams: Land and Water in Low-Down California William deBuys

From reader reviews:

Anita Pfeifer:

Nowadays reading books are more than want or need but also become a life style. This reading practice give you lot of advantages. Associate programs you got of course the knowledge even the information inside the book in which improve your knowledge and information. The details you get based on what kind of publication you read, if you want send more knowledge just go with education books but if you want feel happy read one together with theme for entertaining like comic or novel. Typically the Salt Dreams: Land and Water in Low-Down California is kind of reserve which is giving the reader capricious experience.

Donald Shelby:

Many people spending their time by playing outside with friends, fun activity having family or just watching TV all day long. You can have new activity to invest your whole day by examining a book. Ugh, do you consider reading a book will surely hard because you have to use the book everywhere? It fine you can have the e-book, getting everywhere you want in your Mobile phone. Like Salt Dreams: Land and Water in Low-Down California which is getting the e-book version. So , try out this book? Let's observe.

Gene Lyons:

Don't be worry for anyone who is afraid that this book will probably filled the space in your house, you could have it in e-book way, more simple and reachable. This Salt Dreams: Land and Water in Low-Down California can give you a lot of close friends because by you considering this one book you have issue that they don't and make a person more like an interesting person. This kind of book can be one of one step for you to get success. This book offer you information that maybe your friend doesn't understand, by knowing more than some other make you to be great persons. So , why hesitate? Let us have Salt Dreams: Land and Water in Low-Down California.

Helen Richards:

What is your hobby? Have you heard this question when you got scholars? We believe that that query was given by teacher on their students. Many kinds of hobby, Every individual has different hobby. So you know that little person like reading or as examining become their hobby. You must know that reading is very important in addition to book as to be the factor. Book is important thing to provide you knowledge, except your own personal teacher or lecturer. You see good news or update concerning something by book. Different categories of books that can you decide to try be your object. One of them is Salt Dreams: Land and Water in Low-Down California.

**Download and Read Online Salt Dreams: Land and Water in Low-
Down California William deBuys #U54IK0YB6ZT**

Read Salt Dreams: Land and Water in Low-Down California by William deBuys for online ebook

Salt Dreams: Land and Water in Low-Down California by William deBuys Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Salt Dreams: Land and Water in Low-Down California by William deBuys books to read online.

Online Salt Dreams: Land and Water in Low-Down California by William deBuys ebook PDF download

Salt Dreams: Land and Water in Low-Down California by William deBuys Doc

Salt Dreams: Land and Water in Low-Down California by William deBuys Mobipocket

Salt Dreams: Land and Water in Low-Down California by William deBuys EPub