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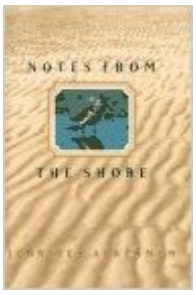

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Synopsis

A portrait of the terrain and wildlife of Lewes, Delaware, interweaves personal reflection with descriptions of such local phenomena as ghost crabs, shore birds, sea worms, and whales. 17,500 first printing. $15,000 ad/promo. Tour.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Like walking along an ocean beach with a knowledgeable, articulate friend, reading this personalized natural history is a restorative experience. Ackerman, a freelance science journalist, writes about what she learned of and from her surroundings during the three years she lived on Maryland’s Atlantic coast near the southern tip of the Delaware Bay. With grace and avid particularity, she considers the history and characteristics of this landscape of marshes, mud flats and "walking" sand dunes, whose movement is orchestrated by the ocean current that parallels the shore. She observes the annual mating of horseshoe crabs (under a spring full moon) and watches for shore birds, from the tiny, semipalmated plover to the great, DDT-threatened osprey. At low tide, she probes the tidal flats for mud worms (tube, acorn, ribbon, plumed) and parses marsh grasses (sea lavender, cordgrass, saltwort and Spartina) at dawn. Against this landscape’s rhythms, Ackerman revisits her own history?her mother’s death, her father’s illness and her hopes to have children of her own. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Ackerman, an accomplished writer who has contributed to a number of national and regional publications, is a Midwesterner transplanted to the Delaware shore. In this book, she turns her keen

and discerning eye toward the environment she inhabits. Often despairing of nature’s ability to repair what human activity has so totally disrupted, Ackerman eloquently details the natural history of a region often thought of as totally developed. She takes the reader on many journeys, stopping along the way to discuss various species of crabs, fish, and shore birds. Ackerman does not neglect the human denizens of the beach, introducing the readers to a number of engaging local personalities. Recommended for public libraries.?Randy Dykhuis, OHIONET, Columbus, OhioCopyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Beautiful little book. A friend had loaned it to me and I had to buy to re-read.

Wonderful book to be read again and again. Lots of great details and enjoyable. I plan to re-read it every spring..

One of my favorite books. It will enrich your visits to the sea for the rest of your life.

I was very impressed with the Seller:(Reading in Montana). the price was $3.90 The book looked new. It arrived very quickly . I would use this seller Agaion and I recommend the seller very highly!

Lyrical and informative, I found this book transported me to the shore even as I sat in my apartment in NYC. I enjoyed it thoroughly.

Ackerman delivers a series of short, easy-to-read essays on life on the Delaware shore. In exploring nature’s finely tuned patterns in the shore’s flora and fauna, the author finds insight into the human existence. The science presented is often intriguing and her perceptions moving. However, the book is ambitious in the breadth of its focus and seems to only skim the surface of a subject matter in which Ackerman has only begun to show her mastery. I would have been more satisfied with deeper detail and exposition on the science behind and insights drawn from a narrower scope of observations and events. It must be confessed, though, that Ackerman’s essays have whetted my enchantment with and interest in the world around me and this alone makes the book well worth reading.

Jennifer Ackerman’s "Notes from the Shore" is a decent collection of essays on the Lewes Delaware region, and it’s incredible natural beauty. Contrary to a blurb, Ackerman does neglect the

human side of things most often. It's all about the birds, the crabs, and other little-known but wonderous creatures. I found some of what she wrote compelling, but it was always a little uneven.

This is what a nonfiction book should be--thoughtful but packed with info. The author doesn't just give you a laundry list of flora and fauna--she adds her own layer of meaning. I loved it. Cried at the bit with her dad, and would like to know more, but it's probably just as well she didn't dwell on it. Recommended for a blustery day at the shore...or even for inlanders who wish they were there!

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