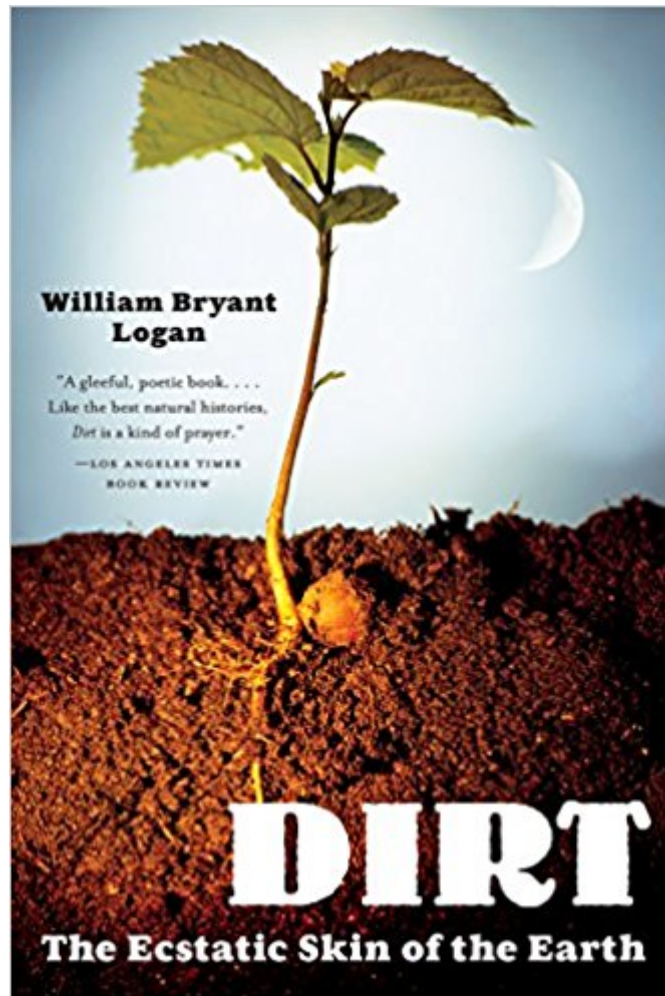




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Dirt: The Ecstatic Skin Of The Earth



Synopsis

"A gleeful, poetic book—Like the best natural histories, *Dirt* is a kind of prayer." —Los Angeles Times Book Review "You are about to read a lot about dirt, which no one knows very much about." So begins the cult classic that brings mystery and magic to "that stuff that won't come off your collar." John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Saint Phocas, Darwin, and Virgil parade through this thought-provoking work, taking their place next to the dung beetle, the compost heap, dowsing, historical farming, and the microscopic biota that till the soil. Whether William Bryant Logan is traversing the far reaches of the cosmos or plowing through our planet's crust, his delightful, elegant, and surprisingly soulful meditations greatly enrich our concept of "dirt," that substance from which we all arise and to which we all must return.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book is one of my favorites, one of only 3 that I have reread in a lifetime of reading thousands of books. It is a book woven by a storyteller, one who draws you into what should be a short story about the very stuff we walk on and makes you hungry for more stories, more information, more

pages. I loved this book from the very first story about life beginning in the bed of a deserted pick up truck to the very end when Logan talks about earth and life and civilizations before us. It is almost as though Logan wrote a biography of dirt - where, why, how and who - a tale of who's who and history, a drama about...dirt. I loved this book as an organic gardener. For 30 years I have played in the dirt in my backyard, enriching it, walking on it, harvesting from it without so much as a thought about it. Dirt, the foundation from which tendrils, blades of grass, giant oaks spring. Dirt in its nascent form; dirt shaped by man, dirt retooled to build. Dirt. In this exquisite book, Logan ranges from ancient Rome to the modern megalopolis of New York City, writing with joy about earthworms, composting and even the dung beetle. If you want to learn about the stuff we walk on, grow in and often take for granted - *Dirt: The Ecstatic Skin of the Earth* is the right book to pick up.

This book is good for someone who just likes to read for knowledge. We always hear about volcanoes and other geology but we rarely stop to consider dirt.

I enjoyed this book. However it does not have references. It is kinda weird. It's a mixture of science, religion and mysticism. It has some interesting and thought provoking ideas though.

If you are buying this as a gift for someone, you need to understand that this is absolutely the CHEAPEST, POOREST-QUALITY copy that money can buy. The book itself, however, is absolutely a FANTASTIC READ!!! If there were such a thing as a "Mandatory Reading List" for the entire human race, this book should be on it, and near the top.

This is an exceptional film - great graphics, resources, people - with a vital message to all. All biologists and environmentalists should see it. "Dirt" (aka soil) is far more important than you'd ever think and civilizations have rose and fallen by their use and abuse of the land, including ours.

What this is not is a book with a lot of information for the gardener. It is an interesting read however.

Fascinating history of man's relationship with the soil he lives on, and the importance of safeguarding this valuable resource.

Everyone should read this book to fully understand and appreciate what a huge role the soil plays in

our survival and well-being.

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