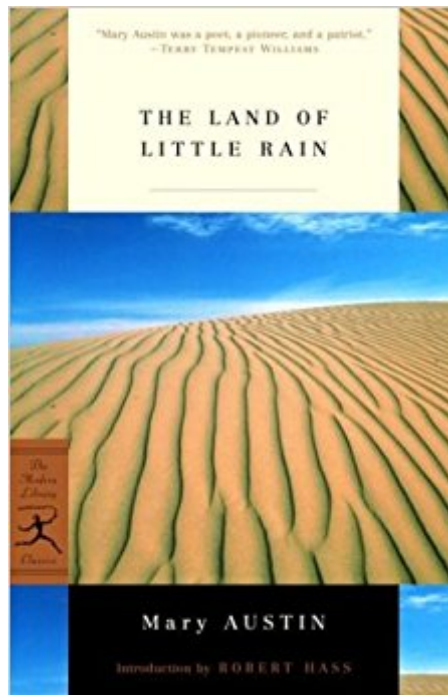




Ebook Directory
the best source of ebook

The book was found

The Land Of Little Rain (Modern Library Classics)



Synopsis

"Between the high Sierras south from Yosemite--east and south over a very great assemblage of broken ranges beyond Death Valley, and on illimitably into the Mojave Desert" is the territory that Mary Austin calls the Land of Little Rain. In this classic collection of meditations on the wonders of this region, Austin generously shares "such news of the land, of its trails and what is astir in them, as one lover of it can give to another." Her vivid writings capture the landscape--from burnt hills to sun-baked mesas--as well as the rich variety of plant and animal life, and the few human beings who inhabit the land, including cattlemen, miners, and Paiute Indians. This Modern Library Paperback Classic is set from the original 1903 edition.

Book Information

Series: Modern Library Classics

Paperback: 160 pages

Publisher: Modern Library (July 8, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0812968522

ISBN-13: 978-0812968521

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.3 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 8 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #449,603 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #23 in Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Ecosystems > Deserts #1027 in Books > Travel > United States > West > Pacific #7866 in Books > History > Americas > United States > State & Local

Customer Reviews

"Mary Austin was a poet, a pioneer, and a patriot." --Terry Tempest Williams

"Between the high Sierras south from Yosemite--east and south over a very great assemblage of broken ranges beyond Death Valley, and on illimitably into the Mojave Desert" is the territory that Mary Austin calls the Land of Little Rain. In this classic collection of meditations on the wonders of this region, Austin generously shares "such news of the land, of its trails and what is astir in them, as one lover of it can give to another." Her vivid writings capture the landscape--from burnt hills to sun-baked mesas--as well as the rich variety of plant and animal life, and the few human beings

who inhabit the land, including cattlemen, miners, and Paiute Indians. This Modern Library Paperback Classic is set from the original 1903 edition.

I read this because of its positive reviews and a personal interest in natural history. It can take a while to get into the book, written in an archaic and sometimes convoluted style. (The excellent preface prepares you for this.) Once you learn to ride the waves and rhythms of her writing, she introduces you to the depth of what we would now call "the ecosystem." The author is a brilliant observer of nature, and the parade of essays in this book introduces you the varieties of flora and fauna found in the late 19th Century in the southern Central California and lower eastern Sierra Nevada regions. Also of interest is her experience of the native peoples of the area. A good read.

If you have any interest in knowing what the Owens Valley was like 100 years before Los Angeles took most of its water, this is the book for you. Though she wrote and published other books, Mary Austin's writing may never have reached this level of poetry again.

I like early 20th century writing style. I like similes and metaphors (sp?). If you like straight, clear, relatively short sentences, you probably won't like this book. I was raised in the area and have spent a lot of my time in the mountains and deserts of California. I loved the imagery and imagination Ms. Austin put into her work.

great piece of environmental and southwestern lore

Bob Hass wisely recommended this book. It is a beautiful book Full of great observations by a very wise woman.

Not the most exhilarating read . I can appreciate the attention to detail that the author employs, but good grief, I was bored. A great read if you're into exhaustive descriptions of landscapes.

This is a great classic, but like many great classics it has gotten stereotyped, in this case in its reputation as a "desert book." There are many other less famous classics that have much more to say about California desert-- Van Dyke's *The Desert*, Chase's *Desert Trails*, Jaeger's *The California Desert and Desert Wildlife*. Mary Austin's experience of the Mojave Desert around Owens Valley was deep and perceptive, but it was marginal. She didn't explore most of the California desert, and

she didn't altogether understand desert biology-- she didn't believe, for example, that some desert species don't need to drink water but can metabolize it from food. The Land of Little Rain is basically about her experience of interior southern California-- as much about the Central Valley and Sierra as the desert-- and about desert people, of which her treatment is somewhat controversial. Some critics like Peter Wild consider her attitude to the Paiutes and Shoshones patronizing and sentimental, although I find it realistic and sympathetic, given my limited knowledge. Her chapter about the Mexican village, Pueblo de las Uvas, does seem patronizing and sentimental to me..Robert Hass's introduction gives a good idea of the book's literary worth, but it tends to perpetuate the stereotype of Austin's book as THE desert book that engendered other popular "desert" books like Edward Abbey's Desert Solitaire. But, like Austin's, such books tend to be as much about the author's experiences and perceptions as about the desert.

This is a famous classic with a very early appreciation of the wonder of nature. Focused on the Owens valley rural life, it contains many beautiful stories of the land, lifeforms and people of the area.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Land of Little Rain (Modern Library Classics) If I Ran the Rain Forest: All About Tropical Rain Forests (Cat in the Hat's Learning Library) Little Bear Audio CD Collection: Little Bear, Father Bear Comes Home, Little Bear's Friend, Little Bear's Visit, and A Kiss for Little Bear Rain, Rain, Go Away A Clean Kill in Tokyo (Previously Published as Rain Fall) (A John Rain Novel Book 1) A Lonely Resurrection (Previously Published as Hard Rain and Blood from Blood) (A John Rain Novel Book 2) Winner Take All (Previously published as Rain Storm and Choke Point) (A John Rain Novel Book 3) Riches of the Rain Forest: An Introduction to the Trees and Fruits of the Indonesian and Malaysian Rain Forests The Land of Little Rain (Dover Thrift Editions) Diversity and the Tropical Rain Forest: A Scientific American Library Book (Scientific American Library Series) A Little Books Boxed Set Featuring Little Pea, Little Hoot, Little Oink My Little Bible Box: Little Words of Wisdom from the Bible; Little Blessings from the Bible; Little Psalms from the Bible The Well-Tempered Clavier, Complete: Schirmer Library of Musical Classics, Volume 2057 (Schirmer's Library of Musical Classics) Modern Classics Orwell in Spain (Penguin Modern Classics) Modern Classics Journeys End (Modern Classics (Penguin)) Modern Classics Remote People (Penguin Modern Classics) The Modern Library Writer's Workshop: A Guide to the Craft of Fiction (Modern Library Paperbacks) Modern Essentials Bundle 6th - Modern Essentials 6th Edition a Contemporary Guide to the Therapeutic Use of Essential Oils, An Introduction to Modern Essentials, and Modern

Essentials Reference Card In the Land of White Death: An Epic Story of Survival in the Siberian Arctic (Modern Library Exploration) My Little House Crafts Book: 18 Projects from Laura Ingalls Wilder's Little House Stories (Little House Nonfiction)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)