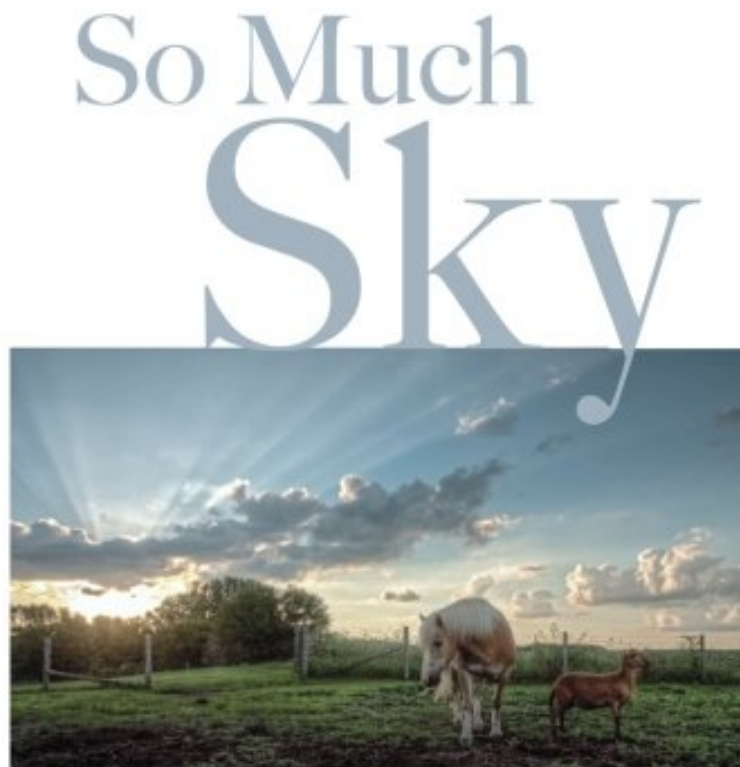


(Download pdf) So Much Sky: Essays on the fun and folly of living in the country

So Much Sky: Essays on the fun and folly of living in the country

Karen Weir-Jimerson

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Karen Weir-Jimerson : So Much Sky: Essays on the fun and folly of living in the country before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised So Much Sky: Essays on the fun and folly of living in the country:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Perfect read, wonderfully writtenBy CustomerI have spent the last 6 months reading anything and everything I can get my hands on with regard to country living, a simple life, self sufficient living and homesteading, etc. Many of them are poorly written, but chalk full of information so you put

perfection aside in order to learn a bit more about their life. This book was the perfect antidote to much that I had been reading, a well written book about the simple things of country living that make each day worth living. The author writes so well you really feel as though you have pulled up a chair to her kitchen table and been offered to sit for a spell and enjoy a cup of coffee. It's a positive book in that it revels in the simple country life, but it doesn't pass by the hard work or negatives that might arise from a small country farm. This isn't a "how to" book for country or back to the land living, it is more than that - it puts down in words what those of us who search those other books out are looking for, the joys we find in the simple life and how it makes us feel - what we get out of it. It says to us what we feel, but aren't as talented and able to say ourselves. Read this in the dead of winter when you are thinking about how your country life will be in another few months, read this when you just want something nice and positive to read that reflects on how you feel about your current or future life, or just read it if you are curious about country living and might like a glimpse of how someone else is doing it. I live in the country and love it, although I don't have a farm like the author does. But I just loved hearing about her life, and the people and animals in it. Each chapter is a story in and of itself, so you can easily pick this book up for 10 minutes at a time and finish one chapter - and then pick it up again tomorrow for another visit with the author. I am hoping she writes more, as I loved it all.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. So Much Sky~~So much FUN! By Emma Dare This beautifully written collection of essays by Karen Weir-Jimerson will give you a much-needed break from the hustle and bustle of modern-day life. Not that her life isn't filled with "hustle".....it's just that she gets to live it a world away from most of us. On 3 acres of land in rural Iowa, Ms Weir-Jimerson has surrounded herself with a husband, two sons, and a menagerie of animals of every size. You'll follow her down the dirt path as she learns to raise sheep, orders baby chicks through the mail, cares for her horses, puts her beloved Border collies to work, and adds miniature donkeys to the mix just for fun. The essays flow smoothly from one to the next, and before you know it, you've fallen into her world of nature, noises, scents (some great, some not so great!), and sounds. Written with wisdom and wit, you'll feel like you've become friends with the author...having a cup of coffee in the kitchen of her farmhouse. Along the way, you'll enjoy auctions, antiques, trips to Scotland (a family favorite), county fairs, growing gardens, and home improvement projects. This is a relaxing, witty read you won't want to miss!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An upbeat book, exceptionally poetic in its observations of natural beauty funny in its pragmatic revelations life. By Nancy Senn This is an excellent set of essays about a couple of city folks turned small farmers on 3 acres of land holding a fairly solid and lovely old house. As time goes on, the farm grows with children, sheep, chickens and gardens and wit. Written by an Iowa journalist with a penchant for gardening and trying new things, this reminded me of so many small things that make up farm life, regardless of the farm size. I've already shared it with several friends who grew up on or around farms. Warm, funny and often elegant, it's one I will read again.... just because!

In her delicious collection of essays, *So Much Sky*, author Karen Weir-Jimerson offers up bite-sized gems that view modern life through a rural lens. Many of these pieces were originally published in the author's popular "Slow Lane" column for *Country Home* magazine, and seeing them here collected one is convinced that the column was aptly named. Time does indeed seem to slow as Weir-Jimerson lures us into a charming world of chirping crickets, rogue tornados, and country characters both animal and human. The essays are arranged by season. In spring we meet Rose, a Border collie puppy who gives the lie to the difficulty of herding cats. In summer, a neighbor's bull invades the garden sparking a new take on poet Frost's advice about the importance of fences. In autumn, crime takes center stage and a sister is corrupted, as the author leads a dawn raid on a local cemetery's overabundant hydrangea blossoms. In winter we can smell the cookies baking as winter's "roulette wheel" spins out an Iowa snow day of car-sized drifts and old movies by the fire. Garden writer and essayist Weir-Jimerson is not farm-raised. She's a working mother of suburban background with rural inclinations who, along with her husband Doug and two young sons (now grown), turns a rough Iowa farmstead into a little slice of heaven. She is also a gifted and natural storyteller. From spring through winter we share the family's adventures with lambing, lack of closets, sheep shearing, morel hunting, finding skeletons in boxes at rural auctions, the political correctness of home-grown peas, irresistible petty crime, green Jello as a food group, bird and butterfly migration, a cacophony of clocks, and unsuccessful horseback rides that land you flat on the ground, so close to the earth you actually hear the hooves clattering away, and more. Weir-Jimerson brings to each of these short delicacies an acute eye for detail, an ample helping of humor, a joyful command of language and a humanity, passion and wit sharpened by a life lived far from the madding crowd.

So Much Sky is "well-written" and "there's a lot to be enjoyed and a lot to be learned from Weir-Jimerson, a Master Gardener and apt tamer of land, child, and beast." -Kirkus s"Far from modern civilization, one can gain a different grasp on the world. *So Much Sky* is a collection of essays from Karen Weir-Jimerson as she reflects on her life on three acres in Iowa. *So Much Sky* is a fine and much recommended pick for essay collections. Highly recommended." -Midwest Book About the Author Karen Weir-Jimerson lives and gardens on three acres in rural Iowa. She and her husband live in a renovated 1903 foursquare farmhouse. Karen is a columnist for *Country Gardens* magazine and writes from a converted chicken house, which is her office/studio. In addition to *So Much Sky*, she has written

numerous books on gardening.