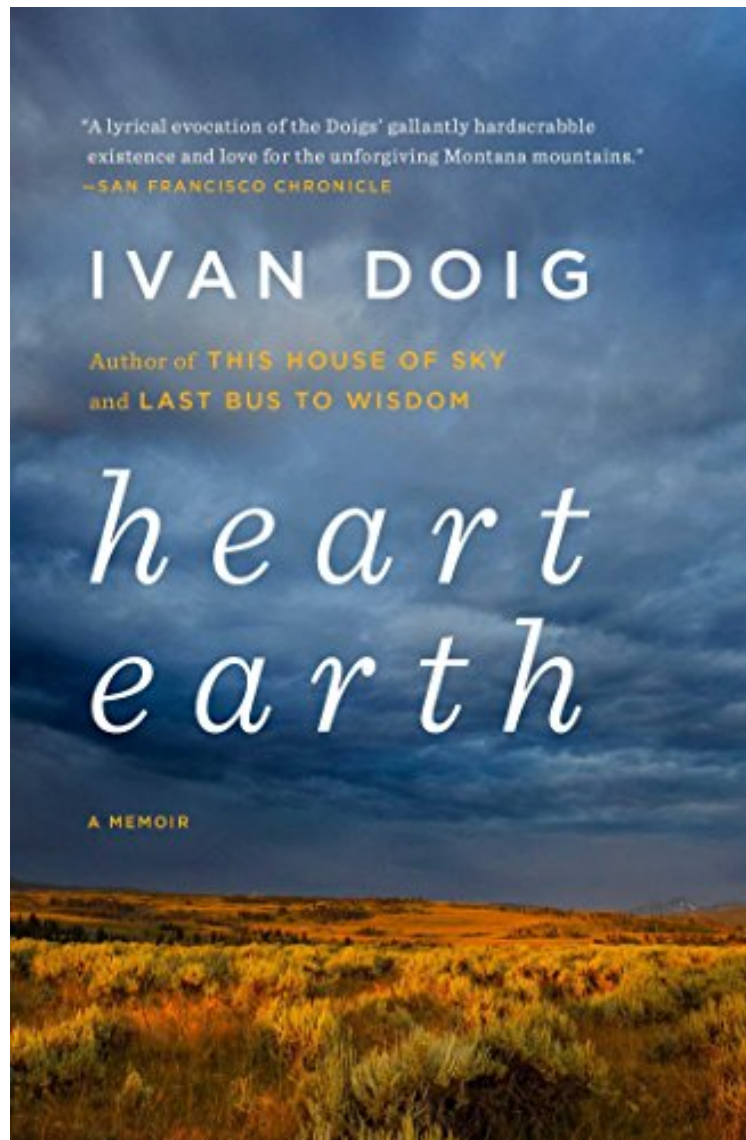


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Heart Earth (English Edition)

Von Ivan Doig

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Von Ivan Doig : Heart Earth (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Heart Earth (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.
CaptivatingVon B. NelsonThis was my first Ivan Doig book, and after finishing it I immediately picked up This House of Sky. That the story springs forth from his mother's letters seems a fitting start for my experience with Ivan's books, to see how her moments of letter writing have spun themselves out through the words of her son in this book. The easy

flow of his writing and the heart and feeling that flows with it (the little boy *kiting* down the prickly peared hill in Arizona) makes it great art--taking form as though it were always meant to be that way--unforced and uncontrived, as natural and beautiful as the Montana and the people he introduces us to. And I appreciate Ivan's own contributions to these review forums. As in this book and the House of Sky book, the love comes through. I have read both twice now (which I seldom do) and intend to keep them as a part of my library (which I also seldom do). I'm so glad I have found this writer and his books. Thank you, Ivan Doig, for sharing with us.

Kurzbeschreibung Ivan Doig's companion memoir to his bestselling *This House of Sky* inspired by the letters his mother wrote during World War II is a lyrical evocation of the Doig's gallantly hardscrabble existence and love for the unforgiving Montana mountains (San Francisco Chronicle). Raised by his father and maternal grandmother, Ivan Doig grew up with only a vague memory of his mother, who died on his sixth birthday. Then he discovered a cache of her letters, and through them, a spunky, passionate, can-do woman emerged. His mother was as at home in the saddle as behind a sewing machine, and as in love with language as her son. In this prize-winning prequel to his acclaimed memoir *This House of Sky*, Doig brings to life his childhood before his mother's death, and the family's journey from the Montana mountains to the Arizona desert and back again. Profoundly original and lustrous, (Kirkus's) Doig eloquently captures the texture of the American West during and after World War II, the fortune of a family, and one woman's indomitable spirit. Doig is a colloquial stylist without equal and *Heart Earth* is a book that repeatedly proves the power of language (Los Angeles Times). From Publishers Weekly In poetic and precise prose, Doig has crafted a worthy complement to his acclaimed memoir, *This House of Sky*. While that book concerned family tensions after his mother Berneta's death in 1945, here, prompted by a cache of his mother's letters to her sailor brother from that year, Doig recreates a life "the five-year-old dirtmover that was me" could hardly have known. He describes life in an Arizona housing project for defense workers, where his family moved to spare his mother's asthma. He tracks down his Uncle Wally's old beau, about whom his mother wrote. He recalls the battle between his grandmother and father over his mother's medical condition, "the geography of risk" and the family move back to Montana ranching. Doig's writing is immensely quotable--listening to his elders was "prowling with your ears." What makes this book so touching is that, through letters, Doig realizes how much he, the writer, owes to "this earlier family member who wordworked." Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Kirkus's Fifteen years after *This House of Sky*, Doig (*Ride with Me*, Mariah Montana, 1990, etc.) returns to his earliest days in another profoundly original and lustrous re-creation. Inspired by wartime letters (just recently presented to the author) from his mother to a favorite brother stationed in the Pacific, Doig traces his family's struggles from Montana ranches so isolated that "weather was the only neighbor" to the shared hopes of an Arizona defense workers' housing project and back to Montana, with its steady string of natural indignities. Doig's parents eke out a living, always on the verge of better times despite the shadow of his mother's asthma and the prevalence of daily hardships: coyotes near the sheep ranch; infested one-room houses; road mud "thick enough to float a train." His mother's death comes without warning, on the author's sixth birthday, just as the sheep are ready for shearing and a certain healthy profit. "Nobody got over her," Doig writes, "those around me in my growing-up stayed hit." Doig captures the serial disasters, as well as several cherished family scenes--including a lunch of Spam sandwiches and lime Kool-Aid--with the clarifying beauty and sure shaping hand of his first book. Even when mining some of the same material that appeared there, he claims new territory for the significant figures in his life. -- Copyright 1993, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.