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Hitchhike the World - Book I - America, Europe, Africa (English Edition)

Von William Stoever

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Von William Stoever : Hitchhike the World - Book I - America, Europe, Africa (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hitchhike the World - Book I - America, Europe, Africa (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The Pros and Cons of Hitching a Ride Around the WorldVon L. C. HendersonHitchhiking is not the ideal means of transport for many, but when you are young and intrepid, it is a way of gaining self-confidence, as long as you approach it sensibly and clearheadedly. As Stoever points out, most people couldnt adjust to the uncertainties and discomforts I experienced. Im tremendously glad to have done the things I did, but they wouldnt be right for most people.What Stoever did was to travel through 86 countries by the time that he was thirty, and, since then, to have visited 21 more. During his 20s, he got around mainly by hitchhiking, on a strictly limited budget, staying at some of the cheapest accommodation available. In the two volumes of Hitchhike the World, Stoever relates how, in order to master the excitement of going new places, seeing new things, having new experiences he took to the road, first in the U.S., and then later in Mexico, Europe, and Africa (described in Book I), followed by in the Middle East and Asia (described in Book II). On the way, he came to learn a great deal about himself, about his fellow travelers (including many an apostolic Bible-thumping missionary, as well as some fairly risque mavericks), and about the places through which he traveled. This he regales his readers with at some length, recounting verbatim many of the conversations that he had with those who gave him lifts, as well as with those he met at the numerous stopovers where he stayed.In addition to the multiple instances of dialogue, with some pleasant, and some not so pleasant, people whom he met along the way, he conveys a great deal of advice to youngsters on how to handle different situations that they might encounter if they decide to make use of this form of transportation. The topics covered most notably include toilets, dangers, photography (the only part of Book I that contains several photos is that on East Africa, although Stoever does provide rudimentary maps, on which all his journeys described are traced), meals, prices, and weak currencies and black markets, among many others.Half reminiscence, half guidebook, Hitchhike the World makes a truly worthwhile read,

whether you are interested in recalling similar experiences that you might have had in your own youth, or whether you are still young and adventurous in both mind and body, and wish to embark on such exploits yourself. Even though Stoevers travels mainly occurred in the 1960s, he has included many asides updating the details that he provides with salient information concerning the modern-day situation in the countries that he describes, so the work is still relevant today.

KurzbeschreibungA wild ride full of laugh-out-loud moments and harrowing predicaments, Stoever's recollections and crazy tales are a jaw-dropping glimpse into an era when Adventure was king. He started young, as a twelve-year-old hitching a ride into town on a watermelon truck. From there it blossomed into an almost career-like obsession. In college during a summer work-camping in Europe, he was imprisoned by the East German Secret Police. After graduating he accepted a job as a teacher in East Africa -- and hitchhiked the length of the African continent. He rode through the Tsavo Game Preserve in Kenya on the back of a truckload of oranges, sailed on an Arab dhow from Mombasa, Kenya, to Zanzibar, stood for six hours in the freight pen of a truck rumbling through the Congolese jungle, fell off the back of a madly-dashing ostrich in South Africa, moved in with a Somali bar girl in Mogadishu, was marooned on a youth-hostel island surrounded by a sea of mama hippos and their calves, spent an expatriate Christmas in Madagascar, and swam the Suez Canal. A Caucasian, he violated South Africa's apartheid laws by staying in a YMCA reserved for blacks. An extraordinary, rich travel adventure unlike anything you have ever read, Hitchhike the World - Book I - America, Europe, Africa is an engrossing, captivating romp through all the experiences you wish you could have had. The author was a free-spirited, modern-day Marco Polo whose daring exploits remind us that life is to be lived.

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