

Flesh and Stones

Field Notes From a Finite World



Ian Shoemaker

Jan Shoemaker

Flesh and Stones: Field Notes From a Finite World (Harmony Memoir Series)



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Jan Shoemaker crafts essays that tell the rare and contrarian details of life with apparent ease, uncanny authenticity." --Thomas Lynch, author of The Undertaking."Travelogue and family members album, tour of center and tour de force--with Flesh and Stones, we have been alerted to an astonishing function in words.Fine writing by Midwest author..



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By developing a firm foundation predicated on tangible encounters, Jan does us a great service by providing one catalyst for conversation after another. Kindred spirit I am Claudia Remenar and my three kids (right now adults) enjoyed having Jan Shoemaker as a teacher in high school. Her tone and style are reminiscent of Annie Dillard, sans bugs (and birds, as she readily admits). Well-read in a number of authors and genres, the author's like of the intellectual and literary existence blends seamlessly with her capability to communicate the easiest of truths from everyday experience. Though I suspect Jan and I may hold different opinions on a number of social and political issues, this work does an extraordinary work of unifying the designed audience, rallying readers behind the indisputable beauty and wonder of the globe. A Profound Delight With wit, eloquence, humility, and grace, Jan Shoemaker presents her observations about life's most fundamental and enduring questions as a wealthy and deeply human gift to her readers. Part memoir, part travelogue, this collection of essays grabs you and takes you along on Jan's journey through life. Readers are enriched as she mines her regular life of daughter, mother and high school instructor to reveal an extraordinary understanding of the human condition. In her 1st essay, Jan describes education as a necessarily conservative activity which paradoxically frees the mind, allowing its "converts" to "disturb the universe." As refreshing and inspiring as it can be reflective and moving, this book has earned my highest praise and several upcoming readings. I don't generally read books multiple occasions in a row, but I did read this one three times in one week. Filled with life, it's beautifully put to text message from the author's real world experiences Other reviews are likely even more eloquent than my own, but this publication was the first reserve in a decent amount of time (especially from a collection of nonfiction essays) that in 10-20 web pages of reading (pick any section) - I found myself laughing, crying, and sometimes just environment the book right down to let her phrases sink in, before re-reading them again for the entire gravity she wove into them. Excellent read! Like our anatomies need "good nutrition", our minds need similarly good - or better - literature! Mining to get Truth and Beauty In her engaging memoir *Flesh and Stones* Field Notes from a Finite World Jan Shoemaker employs her unique mixture of insight, wit and humor to analyze how we can find indicating in the capriciousness of life. No small task, but Shoemaker is up to the challenge. Furthermore, I delighted in Jan's knowledge of liberal education. Humorous, ironic and painful anecdotes illustrate a typical life fully lived. Ultimately Shoemaker's thoughtful exploration of life's impermanence leaves us hopeful to find meaning inside our own normal lives. The first reading, a cover-to-cover binge. Her passionate protection of whole and inherently dignified human beings has certainly encouraged me to become a better neighbor and a far more compassionate friend. Her sense of humor and capability to describe stuff from the normal to the amazing makes this go through delightful and thought-provoking. Love you Jan! It's dank It's dank, go buy it. Each essay is both available and profound, building subtly on earlier entries and satisfying the attentive reader with sufficient motifs, allusions, and anecdotes. It was with this familiarity that I purchased her memoir, *Flesh and Stones*. It's been a treat to read, in part since it is indeed well crafted, but even more because I resonated with the topics. I experienced like I possibly could have created it myself. When she wrote about her mother dying (mine in dying as I type this), about her major depression and failed relationships, even about the famous 2013 Christmas ice storm, I noticed she and I hadn't only walked the same exact streets, we had at times lived the same specific lives. Many thanks for posting yourself: your vulnerability, your encounters, your struggles, and your humor with me. I'm going to be passing this reserve to many friends.



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