

"If this smart, engaging, funny, and frank  
manifesto doesn't make you want to quit  
the rat race at least a little bit, then you  
must be one big, fat rat."

—VICE



# Possum Living

HOW TO LIVE WELL WITHOUT A JOB  
AND WITH (ALMOST) NO MONEY

# Dolly Freed

INTRODUCTION BY NOVELLA CARPENTER

Dolly Freed

Possum Living: How to Live Well without a Job and With (Almost) No Money



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Thirty years later on, Freed's philosophy is certainly world-famous and Possum Living continues to be as amazing, inspirational, and pertinent as it was upon its primary publication. During its publication in 1978, Possum Living became an instant classic, known for its plucky narration and no-nonsense practical information on how best to quit the corporate jungle and live frugally. In her delightful, straightforward, and irreverent design, Freed guides readers on how best to buy and keep maintaining a home, outfit well, cope with the law, stay healthy, save money, and become lazy, proud, miserly, and honest, all while enjoying leisure and keeping up a middle-course façade. This updated edition includes new reflections, insights, and life lessons from a mature and wiser Dolly Freed, whose knowledge of how to live just like a possum provides given her monetary security and the self-confidence to try new ventures. In the late seventies, at the age of eighteen and with a seventh-grade education, Dolly Freed wrote Possum Living, about the five years she and her father lived off the land on a half-acre lot beyond Philadelphia, ade.



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I was so ready to love this book being a personal reliance buff myself with ... I was so ready to love this book being a personal reliance buff myself with strong libertarian sights. There need to be. great book This is a classic. The guidance she gives in the "Law" section is absolutely the most ridiculous stuff I have ever read. Lots of usable information. Great reserve for the newly homesteading movement. Three Stars Lots of hunting info - wii book for someone who does not want to kill animals. A real let down. I possibly could write an improved one I'm sure. As a forty year old man that has been growing his food, heating my home with solid wood, and avoiding employment for many years, periodically I was just shaking my head at the bad guidance in this reserve. If you've ever had to improve directions in your task plan, you might have already figured out the majority of this and more. By the end of the book, decades after it was written, the author adds an addendum essentially informing us that the reserve is silly, it had been written when she was youthful and stupid and she requires most of it all back!! If weren't for that, I would possibly give this reserve 3 stars, simply for having spirit if not articles. But imagine selling somebody a publication, and after he/she reads it, you tell them that everything you just told them was incorrect.. "OK you merely paid money, here's my item BTW its a bit of junk!. That is certainly exactly what the writer of the book has done. You can find better books with more practical advice for achieving self sufficiency and dropping from the rat race. The book is dated by today's standards and certainly contains some socially unacceptable elements, but the majority of the simple philosophies found in the text still hold true. Instead it had been just a smartass watch of two lazy people who seemed to look at life like they were having to live it. I threw it out. Sorry, nevertheless, you are wrong. B) Say what you want, however they really did have rabbits and hens in the basement (more rabbits than chickens). Putting all that apart, the biggest repudiation of the book comes not from myself or anyone like myself, but from the writer herself! Possum Living: How exactly to Live Well Without a Job and with (Almost) No Money, Dolly Freed This is a bit disingenuous a title. In case you are willing to live partially at the expense of others, it really is doable. And written by an incredibly intelligent person. It is interesting in that it really is an insight into how others think that. Five Stars Great story. Playing around threatening people in the center of the night time and damaging private home won't end well for you. The advice is, nevertheless, dubious - things were completely different in 1978, and I feel that you'd operate the risk of making yourself sick/injuring yourself (not forgetting poaching endangered species) by following it if you don't know what you're performing, which seems like plenty of unnecessary problems. Possum Living: How to Live Well With no employment and with (Almost) No Money First, I should let you know that We am Dolly's young brother (briefly mentioned in the publication and in the documentary). For the many people who have asked, right here and somewhere else, Dolly is very much alive and well. To reviewer "Howard": A) The intro to reserve clearly says 1/2-acre lot 40 kilometers from Philadelphia. It had been not 5 acres, 5 miles from Philadelphia. It was a quick read. Fast read This was pretty cheesy with not much meat. C) Since we already established that your geographic positioning was incorrect, we can also conclude that your assumption about the quality of the wildlife can be wrong. Nearly what I was expecting. The fish and game 40 miles away from Philadelphia are some of the best eating around! To reviewer "Gregory": You bet! But a great tale as well. To all or any of the others, Dolly is still probably the most quick witted and frugal people I know. She is also pleased and wryly amused that so many people still take an interest in her book. Not what I expected I thought this would be a fascinating book about living off the grid with lots of good advice and ideas. You might also want to maintain your kids from reading the "Necessities of Life" chapter. I liked it well enough that We brougth this for a ". It could be an outrage if the whole lot weren't therefore silly, lol. I bought this publication in early 80s it had been well written and incredibly usefull book also for a farm boy who roamed the woods at will angling and hunting. I enjoyed it well enough that I brougth this for a friend, Love this book (don't take its suggestions though) I've loved this reserve for a long time. It's humorous and inspiring. Possum Living - "THE REAL THING" \*\*\* EDIT \*\*\*

8/24/2009 - An updated edition has been published and can be purchased: But, you can view the process and figure out points for yourself based on your resources and environment if you are so inclined. I loved the book A good easy read. However, I'd have preferred that these people "perform" for themselves. great story and useful information all at the same time! I love the spirit of the book, and the message provides value overall, but the content and information border on silly occasionally. Dad had not been to be studied lightly! Love her recap at the end right now that she's grown up from this story. Weird, with a severely unlikable narrator So this publication came up in an organization I participate in, and I was curious. I mean, if you want to keep livestock in the dark of your basement, even more power to you, I guess. That is someone who has little but contempt for society and other people, and also making allowance for the fact that she supposedly wrote it at 18, I found her take on getting by to end up being obnoxious. They lived correct next to the drinking water reservoir and several farms. I found the "suggestions" for frugal living both outdated and in several situations, criminal. But while we could all probably perform with a readjustment of our industrial outlook, Possum Living seriously isn't for me. Just a little extreme, but never know when it'll be needed I read this book when it first was out. It made a lasting impression. I have purchased this for my 16 year aged grandson who probably will need it LOL Bare essential living using backwoods skills An interesting take on living without a stable income. Some questionable concepts ethically. If the SHTF the majority of the suggestions in this book would keep you fed. Though well crafted ( making me think she got a lot of help ) it was obviously written by an extremely young, arrogant young lady with very limited life experience. I think its a book I will re-read again and again. Well written and very interesting.



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