

Dust Bowl



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著者:Donald Worster

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In the mid 1930s, North America's Great Plains faced one of the worst man-made environmental disasters in world history. Donald Worster's classic chronicle of the devastating years between 1929 and 1939 tells the story of the Dust Bowl in ecological as well as human terms. Now, twenty-five years after his book helped to define the new field of environmental history, Worster shares his more recent thoughts on the subject of the land and how humans interact with it. In a new afterword, he links the Dust Bowl to current political, economic and ecological issues-including the American livestock industry's exploitation of the Great Plains, and the on-going problem of desertification, which has now become a global phenomenon. He reflects on the state of the plains today and the threat of a new dustbowl. He outlines some solutions that have been proposed, such as "the Buffalo Commons," where deer, antelope, bison and elk would once more roam freely, and suggests that we may yet witness a Great Plains where native flora and fauna flourish while applied ecologists show farmers how to raise food on land modeled after the natural prairies that once existed.

作者介绍:

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标签

环境史

美国

科技史

社会史

history

environmental-history

评论

die,capitalism,die!

Worster's parents were from that area and suffered dust storms in 1930s.

groundbreaker, 也是真无聊……一直感觉有biblical narrative在里面。是capital-driven吗？是的。是capitalism-driven吗，未必。作为环境历史没有看到平原被呈现成商品的根本原因。

A good storyteller. But more descriptive than analytical.

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书评

Worster既不是一个生态学家，也不是一个经济学家，或许正是由于他只关注于历史的循环演替，而没有陷入现代技术的沼泽，才得以用更广阔的视野和更富穿透力的目光来跨越狭隘的所谓“专业”的藩篱，从历史中来探询现实问题的根源。人类社会的发展与传统自然体系的冲突已然不可避...

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