

(Read free) Someplace Like America: Tales from the New Great Depression

Someplace Like America: Tales from the New Great Depression

Dale Maharidge

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Dale Maharidge : Someplace Like America: Tales from the New Great Depression before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Someplace Like America: Tales from the New Great Depression:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Will still be relevant 50 years from now By Kindle Customer Much like the journalists who documented the 1930's depression, this book provides a 30 year perspective of the destruction of the American middle class. The personal stories read like a novel, and were both heart breaking and uplifting. The American spirit has been trampled on, but will rise again. The stories criss-cross the country and follow some of the same families over the same 30 year period. The choices and optimism average Americans showed is inspirational. I highly recommend to anyone interested in current events and history. This book will make you think and ask - what would I do? 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Someplace Like America By Derek Putonen I would just echo what other reviewers have written. The best description is sobering and I too could only read the book in small sections. The stories of our fellow citizens are so overwhelming. I looked at the photos taken by Michael Williamson

and thought how they looked like old pictures you would find from the Dust Bowl during the Depression. Unfortunately, they are from the present. This book is a stunning look into the widening income gap in America and the Americans of all races, beliefs and location who are being left behind. 11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Sobering....By She-SheThis is an excellent book. If you have been in denial just how bad some folks in our country have it....please read this book. It was well written, the pictures capture the sad but yet determined individuals mentioned in the book. The forward from Bruce Springsteen is wonderful.

In *Someplace Like America*, writer Dale Maharidge and photographer Michael S. Williamson take us to the working-class heart of America, bringing to life through shoe leather reporting, memoir, vivid stories, stunning photographs, and thoughtful analysis the deepening crises of poverty and homelessness. The story begins in 1980, when the authors joined forces to cover the America being ignored by the mainstream media; people living on the margins and losing their jobs as a result of deindustrialization. Since then, Maharidge and Williamson have traveled more than half a million miles to investigate the state of the working class (winning a Pulitzer Prize in the process). In *Someplace Like America*, they follow the lives of several families over the thirty-year span to present an intimate and devastating portrait of workers going jobless. This brilliant and essential study; begun in the trickle-down Reagan years and culminating with the recent banking catastrophe; puts a human face on today's grim economic numbers. It also illuminates the courage and resolve with which the next generation faces the future.

From *Publishers Weekly* The Pulitzer Prize-winning author and photographer team Maharidge and Williamson continue their heartfelt chronicle of the travails facing America's poor and homeless in this follow-up to the 1995 *Journey to Nowhere*. Presenting new stories from today's "Great Depression" and updating their accounts of those impoverished during the recession of the '80s and the supposed boom years of the '90s, this book evokes the Depression-era collaboration of Walker Evans and James Agee. Maharidge delves into causes: the pernicious effects of NAFTA; the hollowing-out of the Rust Belt of the Midwest through deindustrialization; a deeply unbalanced tax system in which the middle classes pay a higher proportion of their income than the wealthy, even in the face of ever-skyrocketing pay for CEOs. However, at the core of the narrative are the individuals who've found themselves dispossessed, hopping freight trains to look for work, waiting in food bank lines, huddling in shanties hand-built from scraps and billboard tarps, and mourning the closings of the steel mills where they once worked. Williamson's gritty photographs; of blind storefronts, abandoned lots choked with weeds, faces lined with dirt and worry, stalwart families, and squatters hunched over meager campfires; are an equally eloquent testimonial. (June) "'Someplace Like America' is unrelenting prose. . . . There's something doggedly heroic in this commitment to one of journalism's least glamorous, least remunerative subjects."