

SLIDE

MOUNTAIN



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T H E O D O R E S T E I N B E R G

Slide Mountain Or The Folly Of Owning Nature

Karl Boyd Brooks



Slide Mountain Or The Folly Of Owning Nature:

Slide Mountain Theodore Steinberg, 1996-11-07 The drive to own the natural world in twentieth century America seems virtually limitless Signs of this national penchant for possessing nature are everywhere from suburban picket fences to elaborate schemes to own underground water clouds even the ocean floor Yet as Theodore Steinberg demonstrates in this compelling witty look at Americans attempts to master the environment nature continually turns these efforts into folly In a rich narrative style recalling the work of John McPhee Steinberg tours America to explore some of the more unusual dilemmas that have arisen in our struggle to possess nature Beginning along the Missouri River Steinberg recounts the battle for three thousand acres of land the river carved from a Nebraska Indian reservation and deposited in Iowa Then he travels to Louisiana where an army of lawyers butted heads over whether Six Mile Lake was actually a lake or a stream He continues to Arizona to investigate who owned the underground then to Pennsylvania s Blue Ridge Mountains to see who claimed the clouds He ends in crowded New York City with Donald Trump s struggle for air rights Americans obsession with owning nature was immortalized by Mark Twain in the tale of Slide Mountain where a landslide prone Nevada peak turned the American dream of real estate into dust In relating these modern day Slide Mountain stories Steinberg illuminates what it means to live in a culture of property where everything must have an owner **Slide mountain** , Industrial Cowboys David Igler, 2005-01-28 The process by which two neighborhood butchers turned themselves into landed industrialists depended to an extraordinary degree on the acquisition manipulation and exploitation of natural resources Igler examines the broader impact of western industrialism as exemplified by Miller Lux on landscapes and waterscapes bringing to the forefront the important issues of land reclamation water politics San Francisco s unique business environment and the city s relation to its surrounding hinterlands He provides a rich discussion of the social relations engineered by Miller Lux from the dispossession of Californio rancheros to the ethnic segmentation of the firm s massive labor force Jacket *Research Handbook on Legal Semiotics* Anne Wagner, Sarah Marusek, 2023-11-03 This comprehensive Research Handbook explores the wide variety of work conducted in legal semiotics to provide a broad understanding of how the law works through signs and symbols Demonstrating that law is a strategical system of fluctuating signs contributors critically analyse the ever evolving conceptualisations of law and legal discourse Property Diversity and its Implications John Page, 2016-08-05 Property is more diverse than is usually assumed Developing the concept of property diversity this book explores the varied role of property in placed human landscapes In acknowledging the propertied diversity about us the book highlights the paucity of our settled contemporary assumptions of property as defined by private ownership Challenging this universalizing model the book analyses how this self limiting view produces critical blind spots in modern property discourse In response it offers a re conceptualization of property that matches the grounded reality of our rich and diverse relationships with land Integrating the plurality of real property types private public and common with inclusive understandings of both interest and ownership

it thus identifies and substantiates an overarching theory of property diversity Drawing on studies from numerous jurisdictions including the USA New Zealand Australia and the UK its analysis of property as something more and indeed other than a place less abstraction provides an invaluable contribution to the contemporary law and theory of property

The Place with No Edge Adam Mandelman,2020-04-08 In The Place with No Edge Adam Mandelman follows three centuries of human efforts to inhabit and control the lower Mississippi River delta the vast watery flatlands spreading across much of southern Louisiana He finds that people s use of technology to tame unruly nature in the region has produced interdependence with rather than independence from the environment Created over millennia by deposits of silt and sand the Mississippi River delta is one of the most dynamic landscapes in North America From the eighteenth century establishment of the first French fort below New Orleans to the creation of Louisiana s Coastal Master Plan in the 2000s people have attempted to harness and master this landscape through technology Mandelman examines six specific interventions employed in the delta over time levees rice flumes pullboats geophysical surveys dredgers and petroleum cracking He demonstrates that even as people seemed to gain control over the environment they grew more deeply intertwined with and vulnerable to it The greatest folly Mandelman argues is to believe that technology affords mastery Environmental catastrophes of coastal land loss and petrochemical pollution may appear to be disconnected but both emerged from the same fantasy of harnessing nature to technology Similarly the levee system s failures and the subsequent deluge after Hurricane Katrina owe as much to centuries of human entanglement with the delta as to global warming s rising seas and strengthening storms The Place with No Edge advocates for a deeper understanding of humans relationship with nature It provides compelling evidence that altering the environment whether to make it habitable profitable or navigable inevitably brings a response sometimes with unanticipated consequences Mandelman encourages a mindfulness of the ways that our inventions engage with nature and a willingness to intervene in responsible respectful ways

Fantastic Cities Stefan Rabitsch,Michael Fuchs,Stefan L. Brandt,2022-02-04 Contributions by Carl Abbott Jacob Babb Marleen S Barr Michael Fuchs John Glover Stephen Joyce Sarah Lahm James McAdams Cynthia J Miller Fernando Gabriel Pagnoni Berns Chris Pak Mar a Isabel P rez Ramos Stefan Rabitsch J Jesse Ram rez A Bowdoin Van Riper Andrew Wasserman Jeffrey Andrew Weinstock and Robert Yeates Metropolis Gotham City Mega City One Panem s Capitol the Sprawl Caprica City American and Americanized urban environments have always been a part of the fantastic imagination Fantastic Cities American Urban Spaces in Science Fiction Fantasy and Horror focuses on the American city as a fantastic geography constrained neither by media nor rigid genre boundaries Fantastic Cities builds on a mix of theoretical and methodological tools that are drawn from criticism of the fantastic media studies cultural studies American studies and urban studies Contributors explore cultural media across many platforms such as Christopher Nolan s Dark Knight Trilogy the Arkham Asylum video games the 1935 movie serial The Phantom Empire Kim Stanley Robinson s fiction Colson Whitehead s novel Zone One the vampire films Only Lovers Left Alive

and A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night Paolo Bacigalupi's novel The Water Knife some of Kenny Scharf's videos and Samuel Delany's classic Dhalgren Together the contributions in Fantastic Cities demonstrate that the fantastic is able to realize that which is normally confined to the abstract metaphorical and or subjective Consequently both utopian aspirations for and dystopian anxieties about the American city become literalized in the fantastic city

Empire and Ecology in the Bengal Delta Debjani Bhattacharyya, 2018-05-24 Explores how the British Empire responded to the environmental challenges of the world's largest tidal delta

Think Like a Commoner David Bollier, 2014-03-04 A new world based on fairness participation accountability is closer than you think if you learn to think like a commoner

Before Earth Day Karl Boyd Brooks, 2012-03-09 Most Americans even environmentalists date the emergence of laws protecting nature to the early 1970s But Karl Boyd Brooks shows that far from being a product of that activist decade American environmental law emerged well before the first Earth Day often in unexpected places far from Capitol Hill Surveying the landscape from the end of World War II to Earth Day 1970 Brooks traces a dramatic shift in Americans' relationship to the environment and the emergence of new environmental statutes He takes readers into legislative hearing rooms lawyers' conferences and administrators' offices to describe how Americans forged a new body of law that reflected their hopes for rescuing the land from air pollution deforestation and other potential threats For while previous law had treated nature as a commodity more and more Americans had come to see it as a national treasure worth preserving Brooks explores the way key features of the New Deal's legal legacy influenced environmental law This path breaking environmental history examines how cultural intellectual and economic changes in postwar America brought about new solutions to environmental problems that threatened public health and degraded natural aesthetics Visiting riverbanks and freeways duck blinds and airsheds Before Earth Day reveals the new strategies and efforts by which the unceasing process of legal change created environmental law And through real world examples how Los Angelenos pressed cases about water and air quality how an Idaho lawyer helped clients pursue new environmental regulations how citizens challenged government and corporate plans to dam rivers Brooks demonstrates that key changes in property procedure contract and other legal rules in those early years stimulated the national environmental laws to come Gracefully written and meticulously researched Brooks's work dramatically updates our understanding of the origins of environmental law By taking the postwar years more seriously he shows that earlier actions across the country played a central role in shaping the structure and goals of well known federal laws passed during the environmental decade of the seventies Before Earth Day describes nothing less than an entirely new way of thinking as environmental law emerged from local jurisdictions to reshape national agendas firing the popular imagination and only then remodeling law school curricula A long needed corrective to standard political and legal history it demonstrates both the longstanding environmental concerns of Americans and the resilience of law

Ducktown Smoke Duncan Maysilles, 2011-05-30 It is hard to make a desert in a place that receives sixty inches of rain each year But after decades of copper mining all that remained

of the old hardwood forests in the Ducktown Mining District of the Southern Appalachian Mountains was a fifty square mile barren expanse of heavily gullied red hills a landscape created by sulfur dioxide smoke from copper smelting and destructive logging practices In Ducktown Smoke Duncan Maysilles examines this environmental disaster one of the worst the South has experienced and its impact on environmental law and Appalachian conservation Beginning in 1896 the widening destruction wrought in Tennessee Georgia and North Carolina by Ducktown copper mining spawned hundreds of private lawsuits culminating in Georgia v Tennessee Copper Co the U S Supreme Court s first air pollution case In its 1907 decision the Court recognized for the first time the sovereign right of individual states to protect their natural resources from transborder pollution a foundational opinion in the formation of American environmental law Maysilles reveals how the Supreme Court case brought together the disparate forces of agrarian populism industrial logging and the forest conservation movement to set a legal precedent that remains relevant in environmental law today

Americans and Their Weather William B. Meyer, 2014-10-10 This revealing book synthesizes research from many fields to offer the first complete history of the roles played by weather and climate in American life from colonial times to the present Author William B Meyer characterizes weather events as neutral phenomena that are inherently neither hazards nor resources but can become either depending on the activities with which they interact Meyer documents the ways in which different kinds of weather throughout history have represented hazards and resources not only for such exposed outdoor pursuits as agriculture warfare transportation construction and recreation but for other realms of life ranging from manufacturing to migration to human health He points out that while the weather and climate by themselves have never determined the course of human events their significance as been continuously altered for better and for worse by the evolution of American life

Free, Fair, and Alive David Bollier, Silke Helfrich, 2019-09-03 The power of the commons as a free fair system of provisioning and governance beyond capitalism socialism and other isms From co housing and agroecology to fisheries and open source everything people around the world are increasingly turning to commoning to emancipate themselves from a predatory market state system Free Fair and Alive presents a foundational re thinking of the commons the self organized social system that humans have used for millennia to meet their needs It offers a compelling vision of a future beyond the dead end binary of capitalism versus socialism that has almost brought the world to its knees Written by two leading commons activists of our time this guide is a penetrating cultural critique table pounding political treatise and practical playbook Highly readable and full of colorful stories coverage includes Internal dynamics of commoning How the commons worldview opens up new possibilities for change Role of language in reorienting our perceptions and political strategies Seeing the potential of commoning everywhere Free Fair and Alive provides a fresh non academic synthesis of contemporary commons written for a popular activist minded audience It presents a compelling narrative that we can be free and creative people govern ourselves through fair and accountable institutions and experience the aliveness of authentic human presence

Virtual America John

Opie,2008-01-01 Virtual America traces the complex relationship between Americans technology and their environment as it has unfolded over the past several centuries Throughout history Americans have constructed mental pictures of unique places such as the American West that have taken on more authority than the actual gritty landscapes This disconnect from reality is magnified by the new world of virtual realities on the computer screen where personal immersion in interactive simulations becomes the default environment Virtual America identifies the connections or lack thereof between our individual selves an American identity and the geography out there John Opie examines what he calls First Nature the natural world Second Nature metropolitan infrastructure built environment and Third Nature virtual reality in cyberspace He also explores how Americans have historically dreamed about a better life in daily ordinary existence and then fulfilled it through the Engineered America of our built environment the Consumer America of material well being and the Triumphant America of our conviction that we are the world s exceptional model But these dream worlds have also encouraged placelessness and thus indifference to our dwelling in home ground Finally Opie explores Last Nature a sense of place and argues that when we identify an authentic place we can locate authenticity of self a reification of place and self by their connectedness

Down by the Bay Matthew Booker,2013-06-07 San Francisco Bay is the largest and most productive estuary on the Pacific Coast of North America It is also home to the oldest and densest urban settlements in the American West Focusing on human inhabitation of the Bay since Ohlone times *Down by the Bay* reveals the ongoing role of nature in shaping that history From birds to oyster pirates from gold miners to farmers from salt ponds to ports this is the first history of the San Francisco Bay and Delta as both a human and natural landscape It offers invaluable context for current discussions over the best management and use of the Bay in the face of sea level rise

Where Land & Water Meet Nancy Langston,2003 Although remote and specific the Malheur Basin has myriad ecological and political connections to much larger places

Mammalogy , *Bring Back the Buffalo!* Ernest Callenbach,2000-10-10 How America s Great Plains can become a thriving sustainable region by utilizing its two dominant renewable resources grass and wind Bison and wind power are the twin keys to its long term future

The Vortex Frank Uekötter,2024-04-18 Environmental challenges are defining the twenty first century To fully understand ongoing debates about our current crises climate change loss of biological diversity pollution extinction resource woes means revisiting their origins in all their complexity With this ambitious highly original contribution to the environmental history of global modernity Frank Uek tter considers the many ways humans have had an impact on their physical environment throughout history Ours is not a one way trajectory to sudden collapse he argues but rather death by a thousand cuts The many paths we ve forged to arrive in our current predicament from agriculture to industry to infrastructure must be considered collectively if we are to stay afloat in what Uek tter describes as a vortex a powerful metaphor for the flow of history capturing the momentum and the many crosscurrents that swept people and environments along His book invites us to look at environmental challenges from

multiple perspectives including all the twists and turns that have helped to create the mess we find ourselves in Uek tter has written a world history for an age where things are falling apart where we know what lies ahead and are equipped with the right tools technological and otherwise and plenty of experience to deal with environmental challenges but somehow fail to get our affairs in order

Nachituti's Gift David M. Gordon, 2006-02-01 Nachituti s Gift challenges conventional theories of economic development with a compelling comparative case study of inland fisheries in Zambia and Congo from pre to postcolonial times Neoclassical development models conjure a simple abstract progression from wealth held in people to money or commodities instead Gordon argues primary social networks and oral charters like Nachituti s Gift remained decisive long after the rise of intensive trade and market activities Interweaving oral traditions songs and interviews as well as extensive archival research Gordon s lively tale is at once a subtle analysis of economic and social transformations an insightful exercise in environmental history and a revealing study of comparative politics Honorable Mention Melville J Herskovits Award African Studies Association A powerful portrayal of the complexity fluidity and subtlety of Lake Mweru fishers production strategies Natchituti s Gift adds nuance and evidence to some of the most important and sophisticated conversations going on in African studies today Kirk Arden Hoppe International Journal of African Historical Studies A lively and intelligent book which offers a solid contribution to ongoing debates about the interplay of the politics of environment history and economy Joost Fontein Africa Well researched and referenced Natchituti s Gift will be of interest to those in a wide variety of disciplines including anthropology African Studies history geography and environmental studies Heidi G Frontani H SAfrica

Whispering the Secrets of Language: An Emotional Quest through **Slide Mountain Or The Folly Of Owning Nature**

In a digitally-driven world wherever screens reign supreme and quick interaction drowns out the subtleties of language, the profound techniques and emotional subtleties hidden within phrases usually move unheard. Yet, nestled within the pages of **Slide Mountain Or The Folly Of Owning Nature** a charming fictional value pulsating with fresh thoughts, lies an extraordinary quest waiting to be undertaken. Written by a skilled wordsmith, that wonderful opus encourages visitors on an introspective trip, delicately unraveling the veiled truths and profound affect resonating within the very cloth of each and every word. Within the mental depths of the poignant evaluation, we shall embark upon a honest exploration of the book is key themes, dissect its fascinating publishing model, and fail to the strong resonance it evokes strong within the recesses of readers hearts.

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Slide Mountain Or The Folly Of Owning Nature Introduction

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