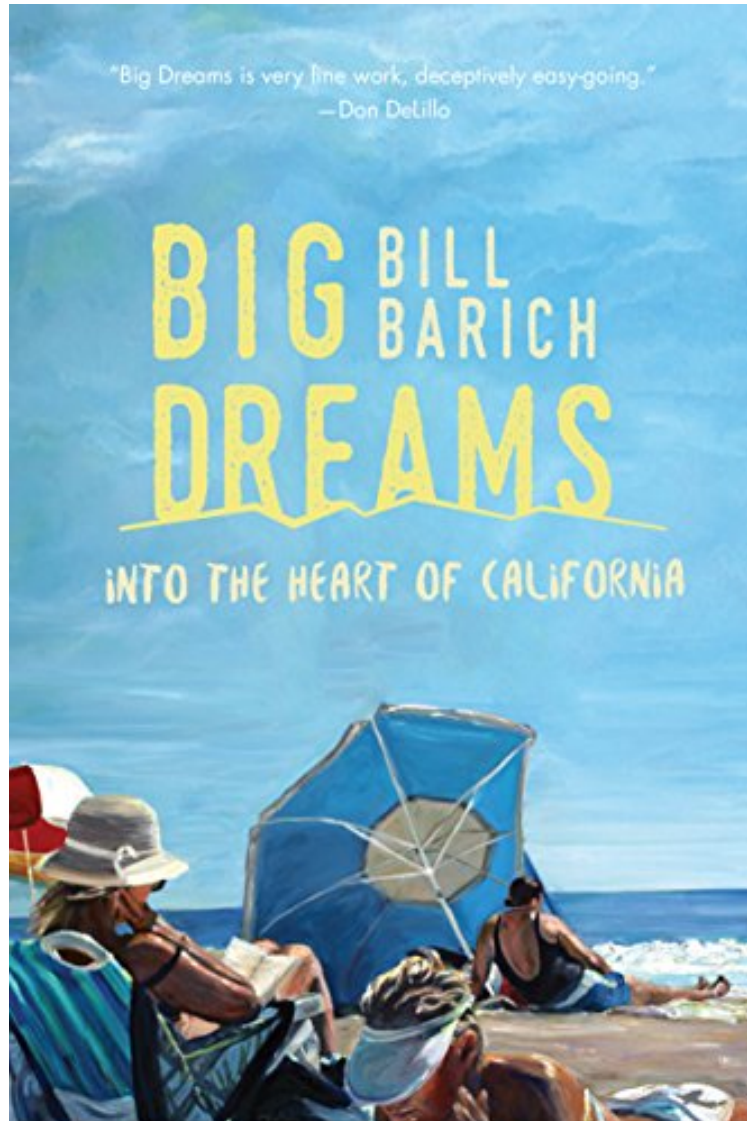


Big Dreams: Into the Heart of California

Von Bill Barich

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Von Bill Barich : Big Dreams: Into the Heart of California before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Big Dreams: Into the Heart of California:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A beautiful soul-searching book .Von Ein KundeThe Kirkus review missed the point. The book was on California, technically. It tells the history of places there. But what the reviewer missed was the ride each reader gets to take with Mr. Barich as he drives from the tip of California down briefly into Mexico. On it we hear bits of Mr. Barich's past

when he first moved to California, then settled down with his wife only to be upheaved again 15 or so years later when that love ends. Those are brief mentions with the crux of the story being HIS observations on the state of things in California, meaning the state of things all over. How we haven't grown much as a culture (despite our young dreams and hopes for ourselves), how we still remain ignorant to others experiences, and how kindness is so rarely shown but desperately needed. Reading the book I didn't feel like a reader at all, but a listener along on the journey.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Where's the politics of water? Von Ein Kunde Barich can write colorfully about California, no doubt about that, but he errs in including too much minutiae and not enough about California's most important issue: water. The politics of water must be central to ANY discussion of California. Southern California would not exist as we know it today without Northern California water. The movers and shakers in the water game are crucial for any understanding of 20th century California. Barich misses the boat, so to speak.

Kurzbeschreibung The land of opportunity, a golden Eden, the last frontier. What is this place that has given rise to countless metaphors but can still quicken the imagination? For Bill Barich, the question became a quest when he realized that home was no longer New York, where he had grown up, but California, to which he had been lured twenty years earlier. Now, in this account of his journey through California, he captures the true nature of the state behind the stereotypes. From the fogbound fishing towns of the North to the Mexican port of entry at San Ysidro, Barich describes an amazing diversity among people who have staked a claim to California's promise. He introduces us to a Native American hairdresser and the head priest of a Sikh temple; we meet loggers, bikers, an aging lifeguard, and the prison warden whose job is to keep Charles Manson behind bars. He follows the traces of John Muir, Robert Louis Stevenson, Walt Disney, and Ronald Reagan, and weighs the impact their dreams have had on the rest of us. The result is a book that captures all the promise, heartache, grandeur, and incongruity of California and its unabashed Big Dreams.