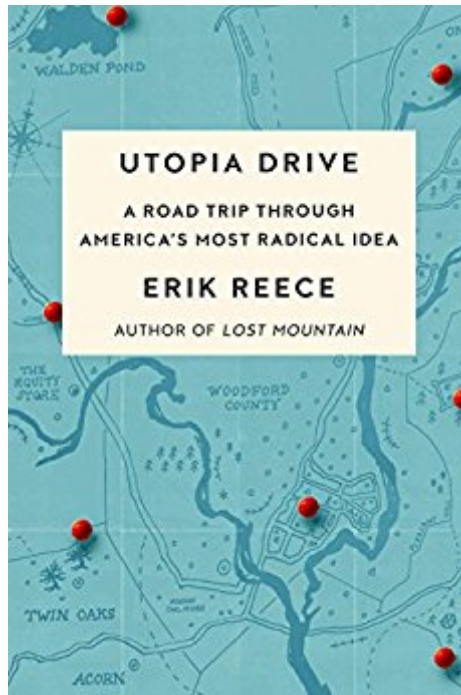


The book was found

# Utopia Drive: A Road Trip Through America's Most Radical Idea



## Synopsis

For Erik Reece, life, at last, was good: he was newly married, gainfully employed, living in a creekside cabin in his beloved Kentucky woods. It sounded, as he describes it, "like a country song with a happy ending." And yet he was still haunted by a sense that the world--or, more specifically, his country--could be better. He couldn't ignore his conviction that, in fact, the good ol' USA was in the midst of great social, environmental, and political crises--that for the first time in our history, we were being swept into a future that had no future. Where did we--here, in the land of Jeffersonian optimism and better tomorrows--go wrong? Rather than despair, Reece turned to those who had dared to imagine radically different futures for America. What followed was a giant road trip and research adventure through the sites of America's utopian communities, both historical and contemporary, known and unknown, successful and catastrophic. What he uncovered was not just a series of lost histories and broken visionaries but also a continuing and vital but hidden idealistic tradition in American intellectual history. *Utopia Drive* is an important and definitive reconstruction of that tradition. It is also, perhaps, a new framework to help us find a genuinely sustainable way forward.

## Book Information

File Size: 1138 KB

Print Length: 369 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 0374106576

Publisher: Farrar, Straus and Giroux (August 9, 2016)

Publication Date: August 9, 2016

Sold by: Macmillan

Language: English

ASIN: B01ARSJKN2

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #380,013 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #44

in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Ideologies & Doctrines > Utopian

#181 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Nonfiction > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics &

## Customer Reviews

We've all taken solitary walks to think through difficult questions, sometimes pausing to consult friends or mentors for advice. Utopia Drive is University of Kentucky writer-in-residence Erik Reece's version of that walk in search of the cure for America's income inequality, social strife and environmental degradation. Given Reece's style - a fan of burgers and baseball who, when offered a free drink, opts for a double martini - and the scope of his quest, his natural method of travel is a pickup truck outfitted with a boxful of CDs. Reece roams from New Harmony, Indiana to the Berkshire Mountains in Massachusetts to discover what the successes and failures of historic and current utopian communities can teach about how society can become more fair and sustainable. Many scholarly books have been written about the Shakers, Robert Owen's New Harmony, the Oneida community and other utopian ventures, but this approach differs in that it is neither a strict economic case study nor a deep sociological analysis. Rather, it's an ongoing train of thought about democracy, human rights, stewardship of the earth and how religion and the nuclear family affect the success of communities. This book could have been drudgery, but the eccentricities and foibles of places he visits, such as the contemporary, highly disciplined Twin Oaks community in Virginia and its spinoff, the free-wheeling Acorn community, keep the narrative interesting. The Shakers, for example, were led by Mother Ann Lee, who settled the tension between family and community by banning sex, while the Oneida community, led by John Humphrey Noyes, attempted to resolve the same issue by encouraging sex among all members of the community.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Utopia Drive: A Road Trip Through America's Most Radical Idea In Search of Captain Zero: A Surfer's Road Trip Beyond the End of the Road Three Early Modern Utopias: Thomas More: Utopia / Francis Bacon: New Atlantis / Henry Neville: The Isle of Pines: Sir Thomas More's "Utopia", Francis Bacon's "New A (Oxford World's Classics) Increase Libido at Any Age Naturally: The Ultimate Guide to An Increased Sex Drive & Improved Sex Life for Men & Women (Increase Sex Drive, Improve Sex Life) The Man Who Walked Through Time: The Story of the First Trip Afoot Through the Grand Canyon Al Qaeda: La verdadera historia del islamismo radical (Al-Qaeda: The True Story of Radical Islam) (Spanish Edition) Holy Hullabaloo: A Road Trip to the Battlegrounds of the Church/State Wars Ultimate Baseball Road Trip: A Fan's Guide To Major League Stadiums Gun

Guys: A Road Trip (Vintage Departures) Water Garden Idea Book (Taunton Home Idea Books) All New Backyard Idea Book (Taunton's Idea Book Series) New Backyard Idea Book (Taunton Home Idea Books) Patios & Walkways Idea Book (Taunton Home Idea Books) Tile Idea Book (Idea Books) Pool Idea Book (Taunton Home Idea Books) Through Our Enemies' Eyes: Osama bin Laden, Radical Islam, and the Future of America Jack Kerouac: Road Novels 1957-1960: On the Road / The Dharma Bums / The Subterraneans / Tristessa / Lonesome Traveler / Journal Selections (Library of America) Thailand: For Tourists! - The Traveler's Guide to Make The Most Out of Your Trip to Thailand - Where to Go, Eat, Sleep & Party Taken Hostage: The Iran Hostage Crisis and America's First Encounter with Radical Islam (Politics and Society in Modern America) The Routes Not Taken: A Trip Through New York City's Unbuilt Subway System

[Dmca](#)