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Mountain City

By GREGORY MARTIN

North Point Press June 2001, 2001. Paper Back. Book Condition: New. Words seldom let me down. Trace the word history to its Greek root, historia, and you learn that its means "finding out." Mountain City is far more story than dry representation of fact. It is precisely a finding out, in the deepest sense of the term. Gregory Martin crafts this very particular slice of American history as part memoir, part poetry (poetry being that intense sense of experience merged with desire for the truth). He steps away from Mountain City, Nevada, just far enough to notice the essentials of place -- how relationship undergirds geography, how isolation and solitude make a community (even a dying one) whole. His language is spare and poignant but not sentimental. By turning from self-consciousness, he faces the truth of the place head on -- wild and dying. Alive as it is.



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Reviews

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