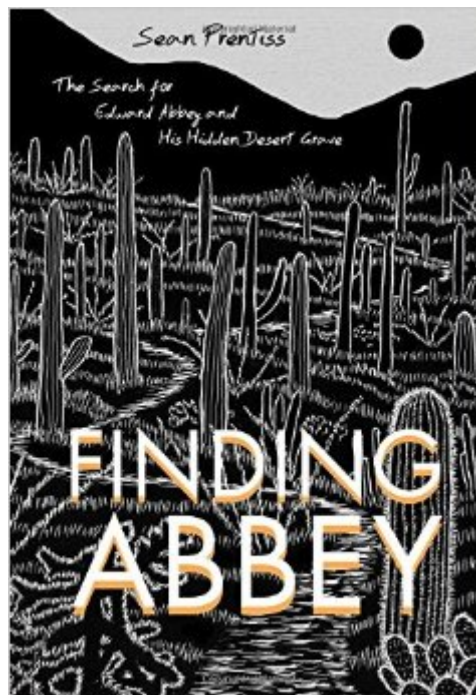


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Finding Abbey: The Search For Edward Abbey And His Hidden Desert Grave



Synopsis

When the great environmental writer Edward Abbey died in 1989, four of his friends buried him secretly in a hidden desert spot that no one would ever find. The final resting place of the Thoreau of the American West remains unknown and has become part of American folklore. In this book a young writer who went looking for Abbey's grave combines an account of his quest with a creative biography of Abbey. Sean Prentiss takes readers across the country as he gathers clues from his research, travel, and interviews with some of Abbey's closest friends—including Jack Loeffler, Ken "Seldom Seen" Sleight, David Petersen, and Doug Peacock. Along the way, Prentiss examines his own sense of rootlessness as he attempts to unravel Abbey's complicated legacy, raising larger questions about the meaning of place and home.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

He's the father of the modern environmental movement, the Thoreau of the West, the inspiration for Earth First!, he's Edward Abbey. Edward Abbey died in 1989 and he was buried somewhere in the American Southwest. His friends, at Abbey's request, took him from the hospital to allow him to die the way he wanted to—in the high desert of Arizona surrounded by his closest friends who gave him an illegal burial and vowed to keep the location of his grave a secret. Like many Abbey admirers, I have often wondered where his final resting place is. I discovered Abbey's works after his death, and I have come to listen and, I mean really listen, to his words and I have made them my own environmental commandment, and where I make my stand. But I too wonder

about his grave and the mystery associated with it adds to the benevolence of Abbey. He is larger than life. I carry his texts like a guidebook on my own environmental activist journey. If any of you had ever read Abbey, you know him to be a hypocrite, a kind man, but a man who spoke the truthâ ”the truth about himself. In an age where everyone is fake and tries so hard to please everybody else, Abbey did not. This added to the complexity of the man and his anarchist beliefs. Bear no allegiance to nobody, except yourself, stand upright. Stand up for who you are and bear down to fight those who stand against you. Sean Prentiss is an Abbey follower. He has been haunted with Abbeyâ™s words for most of his life and somehow or for some reason, he has sought the location of his grave, trying to get into the inner circle of Abbeyâ™s closest friends. Prentiss has some good passages and he has made me want to go on the journey into the Cabreza Prieta to look and search for the Masterâ™s final resting place.

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