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# CADILLAC DESERT

**THE AMERICAN WEST** *and its*  
**DISAPPEARING WATER**

**MARC REISNER**

*With a New Postscript by*

**LAWRIE MOTT**



# Cadillac Desert

**Matthew S. Henry (Ph.D.)**



## **Cadillac Desert:**

*Cadillac Desert* Marc Reisner, 1993-06-01 I've been thinking a lot about Cadillac Desert in the past few weeks as the rain fell and fell and kept falling over California much of which despite the pouring heavens seems likely to remain in the grip of a severe drought Reisner anticipated this moment He worried that the West's success with irrigation could be a mirage that it took water for granted and didn't appreciate the precariousness of our capacity to control it Farhad Manjoo The New York Times January 20 2023 The definitive work on the West's water crisis Newsweek The story of the American West is the story of a relentless quest for a precious resource water It is a tale of rivers diverted and dammed of political corruption and intrigue of billion dollar battles over water rights of ecological and economic disaster In his landmark book Cadillac Desert Marc Reisner writes of the earliest settlers lured by the promise of paradise and of the ruthless tactics employed by Los Angeles politicians and business interests to ensure the city's growth He documents the bitter rivalry between two government giants the Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the competition to transform the West Based on more than a decade of research Cadillac Desert is a stunning expose and a dramatic intriguing history of the creation of an Eden an Eden that may only be a mirage This edition includes a new postscript by Lawrie Mott a former staff scientist at the Natural Resources Defense Council that updates Western water issues over the last two decades including the long term impact of climate change and how the region can prepare for the future

**A Study Guide for Mark Reisner's "Cadillac Desert: The American West and its Disappearing Water"** Gale, Cengage Learning, 2001 A Study Guide for Mark Reisner's Cadillac Desert The American West and its Disappearing Water excerpted from Gale's acclaimed Nonfiction Classics for Students This concise study guide includes plot summary character analysis author biography study questions historical context suggestions for further reading and much more For any literature project trust Nonfiction Classics for Students for all of your research needs Cadillac Desert John J. Ansbrosio, Marc Reisner, 1982 *Cadillac Desert* Marc Reisner, 2002

**A Study Guide for Mark Reisner's "Cadillac Desert"** Cengage Learning Gale, 2017-07-25 A Study Guide for Mark Reisner's Cadillac Desert The American West and its Disappearing Water excerpted from Gale's acclaimed Nonfiction Classics for Students This concise study guide includes plot summary character analysis author biography study questions historical context suggestions for further reading and much more For any literature project trust Nonfiction Classics for Students for all of your research needs

**Hydronarratives** Matthew S. Henry (Ph.D.), 2023 2023 Choice Outstanding Academic Title The story of water in the United States is one of ecosystemic disruption and social injustice From the Standing Rock Indian Reservation and Flint Michigan to the Appalachian coal and gas fields and the Gulf Coast low income communities Indigenous communities and communities of color face the disproportionate effects of floods droughts sea level rise and water contamination In Hydronarratives Matthew S. Henry examines cultural representations that imagine a just transition a concept rooted in the U.S. labor and environmental justice movements to describe an alternative economic

paradigm predicated on sustainability economic and social equity and climate resilience Focused on regions of water insecurity from central Arizona to central Appalachia Henry explores how writers artists and activists have creatively responded to intensifying water crises in the United States and argues that narrative and storytelling are critical to environmental and social justice advocacy By drawing on a wide and comprehensive range of narrative texts historical documentation policy papers and literary and cultural scholarship Henry presents a timely project that examines the social movement just transition and the logic of the Green New Deal in addition to contemporary visions of environmental justice

*Hydronarratives* Matthew S. Henry,2022 Focusing on creative responses to intensifying water crises in the United States Hydronarratives explores how narrative and storytelling support environmental justice advocacy in Black Indigenous and low income communities

**At the Base of the Giant's Throat** Anthony R. Palumbi,2023-04 Anthony R Palumbi dives into the history of dam building in the United States as natural waterscapes have been replaced with engineered environments and the bone dry West became America s produce aisle

Cadillac Desert Marc Reisner,1993 Cadillac Desert Marc Reisner,1990-01

**A Study Guide for Mark Reisner's ""Cadillac Desert** Cengage Learning Gale,2016

**Humans Versus Nature** Daniel R. Headrick,2020 Since the appearance of Homo sapiens on the planet hundreds of thousands of years ago human beings have sought to exploit their environments extracting as many resources as their technological ingenuity has allowed As technologies have advanced in recent centuries that impulse has remained largely unchecked exponentially accelerating the human impact on the environment Humans versus Nature tells a history of the global environment from the Stone Age to the present emphasizing the adversarial relationship between the human and natural worlds Nature is cast as an active protagonist rather than a mere backdrop or victim of human malfeasance Daniel R Headrick shows how environmental changes epidemics climate shocks and volcanic eruptions have molded human societies and cultures sometimes overwhelming them At the same time he traces the history of anthropogenic changes in the environment species extinctions global warming deforestation and resource depletion back to the age of hunters and gatherers and the first farmers and herders He shows how human interventions such as irrigation systems over fishing and the Industrial Revolution have in turn harmed the very societies that initiated them Throughout Headrick examines how human driven environmental changes are interwoven with larger global systems dramatically reshaping the complex relationship between people and the natural world In doing so he roots the current environmental crisis in the deep past

**Cadillac Desert** Marc Reisner,John Lust,1986 **Trails** Patricia Nelson Limerick,Clyde A. Milner,Charles E. Rankin,1991 Reexamination of the role of the West in U S history and of the field of western history itself told by ten historians

**Rooted in Dust** Pamela Riney-Kehrberg,1994 Examines the social impact of drought and depression in Kansas illustrating how both farm and town families dealt with the deprivation by finding odd jobs working in government

programmes or depending on federal and private assistance **The New Urban Park** Hal Rothman,2004 From Yellowstone

to the Great Smoky Mountains America's national parks are sprawling tracts of serenity most of them carved out of public land for recreation and preservation around the turn of the last century America has changed dramatically since then and so has its conceptions of what parkland ought to be In this book one of our premier environmental historians looks at the new phenomenon of urban parks focusing on San Francisco's Golden Gate National Recreation Area as a prototype for the twenty first century Cobbled together from public and private lands in a politically charged arena the GGNRA represents a new direction for parks as it highlights the long standing tension within the National Park Service between preservation and recreation Long a center of conservation the Bay Area was well positioned for such an innovative concept Writing with insight and wit Rothman reveals the many complex challenges that local leaders politicians and the NPS faced as they attempted to administer sites in this area He tells how Representative Phillip Burton guided a comprehensive bill through Congress to establish the park and how he and others expanded the acreage of the GGNRA redefined its mission to the public forged an identity for interconnected parks and struggled against formidable odds to obtain the San Francisco Presidio and convert it into a national park Engagingly written *The New Urban Park* offers a balanced examination of grassroots politics and its effect on municipal state and federal policy While most national parks dominate the economies of their regions GGNRA was from the start tied to the multifaceted needs of its public and political constituents including neighborhood ethnic and labor interests as well as the usual supporters from the conservation movement As a national recreation area GGNRA helped redefine that category in the public mind By the dawn of the new century it had already become one of the premier national park areas in terms of visitation Now as public lands become increasingly scarce GGNRA may well represent the future of national parks in America Rothman shows that this model works and his book will be an invaluable resource for planning tomorrow's parks

**Re-animating the Heroic Waterscape** Laura Marie Shagalov, 2008

*Analysis and Review of Cadillac Desert* FastReads, 2018-01-29 PLEASE NOTE This is a summary analysis and review of the book and not the original book Marc Reisner holds back no criticism in his sweeping expose of the history of water legislation in the American West and the dangers this poses to the nation the economy and the environment in the definitive work on the West's water crisis *Cadillac Desert* This FastReads Analysis offers supplementary material to *Becoming Wise* to help you distill the key takeaways review the book's content and further understand the writing style and overall themes from an editorial perspective Whether you'd like to deepen your understanding refresh your memory or simply decide whether or not this book is for you FastReads is here to help Absorb everything you need to know in under 20 minutes What does this FastReads Analysis Include A synopsis of the original book Key takeaways analysis Key themes In depth Review A short bio of the author Supplementary Info Recommended Reading About the Original Book The American West's history with water is as controversial as it is intriguing Fraught with fraudulent land grabs political corruption cutthroat bureaucratic rivalries and environmental disaster the tale of Western water development plays out like a television drama

Cadillac Desert is a thorough account of the relationship that Americans and their government have with water and how this relationship has changed over time for better and for worse BEFORE YOU BUY The purpose of this FastReads Analysis is to help you decide if it s worth the time money and effort reading the original book if you haven t already FastReads has pulled out the essence but only to help you ascertain the value of the book for yourself This analysis is meant as a supplement to and not a replacement for Cadillac Desert

**Water, Land, and Law in the West** Donald J. Pisani,1996 The series presents an interdisciplinary approach to the use and misuse of resources in the American West This volume comprises essays written between 1982 and 1994 and previously published in journals such as Western Historical Quarterly J of American History and Environmental History Review Pisani one of the nation s leading environmental and Western historians highlights the central role played by land water and timber allocation in the American West and shows how efforts to achieve justice and efficiency were compromised by the region s obsession with achieving rapid economic growth Annotation copyright by Book News Inc Portland OR

*Collecting Nature* Andrew G. Kirk,2001 Finds in the history of Denver s Conservation Library a microcosm of the growth of the environmental movement as a whole

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