



On the Road with Charles Kuralt

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"Read Kuralt's words and discover America with him."

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

He has entertained and informed us about ourselves on television for years. Taking to the highways, he has met the little-known and the famous, and shared them with the rest of us. This heartwarming book reminds us again of some of the extraordinary people he has met over the years in words and photographs, and provides the exact words of the interviews, so that we can permanently enjoy his visits with people we have come to know and care for, again and again.

On the Road with Charles Kuralt Details

Date : Published February 7th 1995 by Fawcett (first published January 1st 1985)

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Author : Charles Kuralt

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Ann says

While I like listening to Kuralt's vignettes, this was a little different. It did not read as essay rather was just a written transcript of some of his interviews. But I love reading about the places he's been and things he's seen.

Wendy says

I always loved the brief snippets by Charles Kuralt on the Sunday show. Sometimes we would be late to church waiting for his piece to run but didn't get yelled at because my Dad was waiting for the piece to air too; they were that good.

I read this book on my honeymoon in Cabo San Lucas. I vividly remember reading it while lounging in the shallow end of a beautiful pool with a disappearing edge that dropped right into ocean; pure paradise.

The stories in this book were so sweet and beautifully written. Many made me want to pack up and head home to the America and the Americans he describes.

Quick easy read that I am sure you would enjoy.

Rini Cobbey says

Read through my 2017 eyes, the vignette collection is occasionally sweet, rarely--though not never--provocative, and always repetitive. Besides a few gestures at poverty, which is never confronted, just overcome through good will--none of the stories incorporates conflict. It's a picture of the people on the back roads of the US that is too comfortable in nostalgia and its yearning for authoritative, meaningful, cohesive, harmonious pastness: The Past and The Old Ways which must be glorified because goshdarnit they're the good ol' guys. The book works as it's designed, in spurts of short and vivid anecdotes. But if I weren't reading it to get some genre context for a comparable current project I'm editing, I'd have had no drive to keep reading to the end.

Heidi says

Such a comforting and happy book- the idea of hopping in your car, driving down back roads and through small towns, and discovering wonderful characters and magical places. Boy, am I in the mood for a road trip!

Jenifer says

Meh. Skimmed most of it. I think I'm just not the audience for this vignette-style, feel-good type of reading. Maybe if you love the Reader's Digest this would be your thing.

Dave says

A re-cap of Charles Kuralt's TV vignettes. I always loved his "On the Road" stories on CBS. I could hear Charles talking as I read this book.

B.C. Kowalski says

It's a great slice of an Americana I think that's gotten lost. Charles Kuralt had a knack for teasing out those great feature stories. Sure, he's cherry picking the good parts, but it's nice reading these stories of people self-sacrificing, or just quirky. The photography in the book is horrendous, and you'll often think you wish you could get a good look at the people he's talking to. And sometimes the fact that these are transcripts of TV segments mean it can occasionally be missed an important visual cue. Despite that, On the Road is a tremendous read and should be required of any aspiring feature writer.

David Horn says

This book collects a number of Kuralt's pieces that he prepared for CBS news as he drove around the US looking for interesting stories to tell the news viewing public. One thing Kuralt can do well is tell a story. In the space of two minutes (TV time) he could really paint a picture and this book is full of interesting people and pictures of an America that no longer exists.

My favorite story is about Bill Bodisch, a 68 year old Iowa farmer, who never keen about farming always wanted to sail around the world. Bill Bodisch built a 68 foot boat from scratch (using materials he had available to him) in his barnyard, and he and his wife auctioned off the farm and all their property and began their journey around the world.

Ian says

Nice little read. A look back on the way things used be done in TV News. Some good points on writing and perceiving..but NOT ENOUGH on the why's and how's of things. A wistful read.

Jerry Rehkemper says

It is a very short book, which I enjoyed and brought back memories from when I listened to him in the 80's

and 90's.

F says

without meaning to do it Kuralt sums up the mindset difference between legal immigrants and illegal immigrants in Chapter 9, Seasons, the section on July 4th. That alone was worth the price of the book- or, getting it from a library and reading it.

Anne M says

This was a light read, very pleasant. Kuralt is a nice person to spend a few hours with. Not to be read with serious literature in mind, but rather a relaxing visit with a warm, thoughtful companion who shares his adventures.

Carol Merrill says

I liked this book because of the "feel good" factor. Charles Kuralt traveled around and talked to ordinary people who are always extraordinary in some way, like we all are. This is a collection of stories about some of the people and things that he has encountered. One of my favorite parts, that I always remember, is when a man walks out his front door and is upset that he walked through a spiderweb and got it all over himself. Then it is pointed out, how about the spider who took all day to create that web. I like looking at things in this way when I think things are going badly for me. There is always a bigger picture.

Patrick Shryock says

Yet another great traveling book.

Dbeasley says

My family ("Thanksgiving") is featured in this book, so it will always be one of my favorites!
