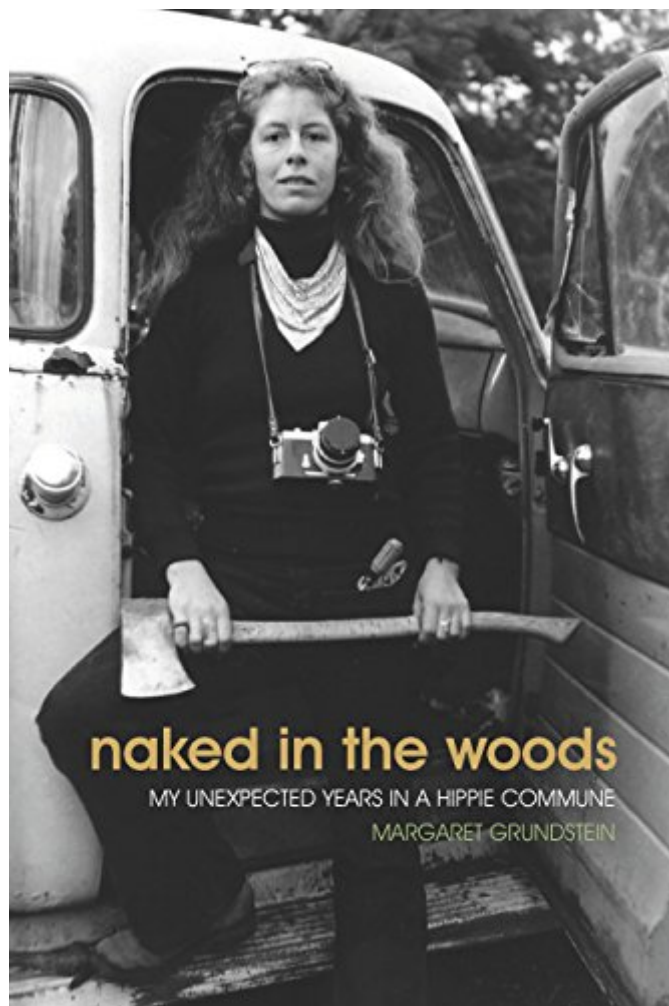


The book was found

Naked In The Woods: My Unexpected Years In A Hippie Commune



Synopsis

In 1970, Margaret Grundstein abandoned her graduate degree at Yale and followed her husband, an Indonesian prince and community activist, to a commune in the backwoods of Oregon. Together with ten friends and an ever-changing mix of strangers, they began to build their vision of utopia. *Naked in the Woods* chronicles Grundstein's shift from reluctant hippie to committed utopian—sacrificing phones, electricity, and running water to live on 160 acres of remote forest with nothing but a drafty cabin and each other. Grundstein, (whose husband left, seduced by “freer love”) faced tough choices. Could she make it as a single woman in man's country? Did she still want to? How committed was she to her new life? Although she reveled in the shared transcendence of communal life deep in the natural world, disillusionment slowly eroded the dream. Brotherhood frayed when food became scarce. Rifts formed over land ownership. Dogma and reality clashed. Many people, baby boomers and millennials alike, have romantic notions about the 1960s and 70s. Grundstein's vivid account offers an unflinching, authentic portrait of this iconic and often misreported time in American history. Accompanied by a collection of distinctive photographs she took at the time, *Naked in the Woods* draws readers into a period of convulsive social change and raises timeless questions: how far must we venture to find the meaning we seek, and is it ever far out enough to escape our ingrained human nature?

Book Information

File Size: 9639 KB

Print Length: 224 pages

Publisher: Oregon State University Press; 1 edition (May 1, 2015)

Publication Date: May 1, 2015

Sold by: Amazon Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B0136EPWFE

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #212,823 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #51 in [Kindle eBooks > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Ideologies & Doctrines > Utopian](#) #149 in [Kindle eBooks > Biographies & Memoirs > Regional U.S. > West](#) #2867 in [Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Biographies & Memoirs > Memoirs](#)

Customer Reviews

For those of us who opted for a more traditional life following college, but who once considered communal living, "Naked in the Woods" provides a very readable account of what we may have missed. Few books document the experience as well as Margaret Grundstein's authentic narrative. The struggles in building a utopia in the backwoods of Oregon in the early 70's are recounted as unvarnished as any social historian could wish. I had a very clear sense of the difficulties these ersatz pioneers faced as they set off to create an alternative way of living. The basic reasons the vast majority of all of these attempts to create successful alternative ways of living failed are evident as Grundstein discusses her own frustrations with power, money, inequality, and other salient elements that are more often notable in third world countries. Put this one in a time capsule that captures a time in America's development that has been idealized well beyond the realities these experiences entailed.

This was a very well written personal history of this phenomenon. The author has a knack, and I would imagine we could be hearing more from her in the future. I was about 6 when she was beginning to make these decisions, and this movement did end up helping to pave the way for the more mature development of self-reliant living and the very necessary questioning of the status quo which continues to go on today. Even though I would have lasted 2 days in a place without structure, intention, showers and bathrooms, most anyone who has gone through youth understands the power of human connection and camaraderie which held these folks together in the wilderness for so long. I also think the presence of all the drugs (on day-to-day living and productivity) could bear more examination.

This book is a page-turner! The author presents an intriguing and engaging memoir of her counterculture experience of communal living in Oregon in the 1970's. The story is rich with interesting people, relationships, and the imagery of day-to-day life in a hippie commune. A well-told story and very satisfying read.

Want to know what it was like to live on a commune in the Oregon wilderness in the early 1970's? An interesting moment in idealistic utopian community building is gracefully recounted in the dreamlike "Naked in the Woods" expertly told by M. Grundstein.

Margaret Grundstein's *Naked in the Woods* is a loving yet unsentimental portrait of a place and time in history of monumental change and experimentation. Grundstein was on the front lines in the Sixties, living the utopian dream on a hippie commune in Oregon. She writes with the sharp eye of a photographer and the analytical mind of the urban planning student she was when she left East Coast academia for the forest. The photographs she took at the time illustrate the book beautifully. How could she and her band of friends, all twenty-somethings, live for over five years without electricity or plumbing or the support of their families or elders of any kind, isolated by miles of dirt roads deep in the woods? Grundstein tells us how. They chopped the wood to build the fire to heat the water to boil the diapers. They practiced free love and scavenged for free food and plowed the fields and slaughtered the chickens and often went hungry. Rural living set back the clock for women in many ways. It also taught the women of the commune how to survive. Grundstein writes with candor about the ethical dilemmas she and the others faced over the years. It's a fantastic, mind-blowing story told with direct, confident style, well-written, and ultimately universal.

Reading Ms Grundstein's book gave me a visual and visceral look into the dream and life I had only heard about during that special era of my young adulthood. She injected the image with color and texture with her inner flashlight and I appreciate her heart, soul and sense of family. Her daughters are very lucky to have her as mother and life guide. I could go on about the many women's issues she addressed as well as those of the era and the roles women and men played, both literally and in our minds. But I'll leave that for another time. And one last thing: I read for pleasure, but as important to me as the story, is how it is expressed. After I finished the book, it was not surprising to me how many phrases I had underlined, to be visited again at another time.

Cool Insights on the time and lifestyke. I expected more wild stories and more politics/history, but still good personal narrative of the times.

Was an interesting account of one woman's journey. I liked her spunk.

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

Naked in the Woods: My Unexpected Years in a Hippie Commune The Emergence of Social Space:

Rimbaud and the Paris Commune (Radical Thinkers) Building the Commune: Radical Democracy in Venezuela Bordeaux St Estephe: The Wines Of A Great Commune The Unexpected (Unexpected Series Book 1) Naked Women : Explicit And Lustful Naked Women Pic Bound To Get You Aroused. (Adult Picture Books) Naked Magazine's Worldwide Guide to Naked Places - 8th Edition Naked Magazine's Worldwide Guide to Naked Places Naked Women Pics : Sexy Naked Women Pics With Them Getting Hot And Randy. (Adult Picture Books) The Naked Roommate: And 107 Other Issues You Might Run Into in College (Naked Roommate) The Naked Guide to Bath (Naked Guides) Staining and finishing unfinished furniture and other naked woods Father Water, Mother Woods: Essays on Fishing and Hunting in the North Woods (Laurel-Leaf Books) HUNTED IN THE WOODS;; Unexplained Vanishings & Mysterious Deaths; Creepy Mysteries of the Unexplained (Something in the Woods is Taking People) Stuart Woods Series Reading List - Will Lee Series - Stone Barrington Series - Holly Barker Series - Ed Eagle Series - Stand Alone Novels: STUART WOODS SERIESREADING ORDER WITH SPECIAL ADDED MATERIAL Hippy Modernism: The Struggle for Utopia Hippy Animals Coloring Book (Coloring Is Fun) In Search of the Lost Chord: 1967 and the Hippy Idea Bliss: Transformational Festivals & the Neo Hippy Weird Scenes Inside the Canyon: Laurel Canyon, Covert Ops, and the Dark Heart of the Hippy Dream

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)