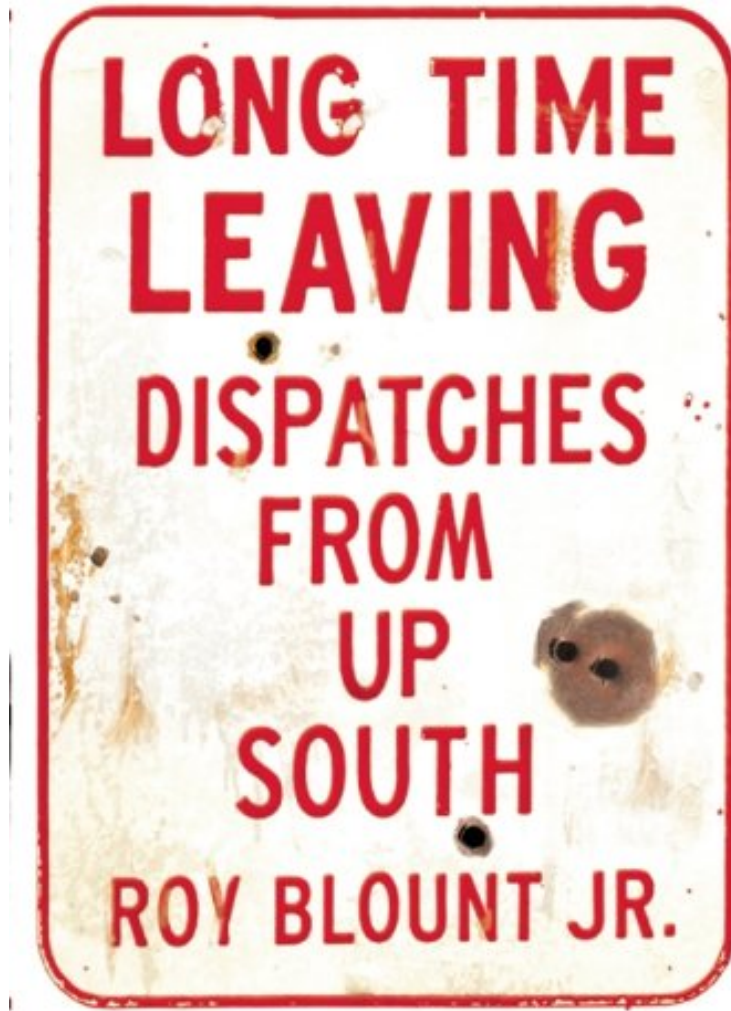


[Mobile ebook] Long Time Leaving: Dispatches from Up South

Long Time Leaving: Dispatches from Up South

Roy Blount Jr.

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Roy Blount Jr. : Long Time Leaving: Dispatches from Up South before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Long Time Leaving: Dispatches from Up South:

11 of 12 people found the following review helpful. Observations of American life with a gimlet Southern eye...By Vermeer fanDespite being ensconced-or maybe because of-in the Berkshires, Mr. Blount casts an uneasy eye on contemporary Southern life and the larger American political scene. One gets the sense that since his Massachusetts neighbors and New York coworkers feel compelled to call upon him to explain certain Southern folkways and news events that the author has taken the time to distill his childhood and college years in the South into a bourbon that fuels

his philosophizing. The book is a collection of his essays that have appeared in various periodicals from the mid 1990's and later-food, travel, covering the KKK, life in Manhattan, the blues, a pinch of this and a smidgin of that. You have to have lived a couple of decades-mid 1950s and up would help-to get some of the references-or be willing to investigate the names, dates and places Mr. Blount mentions. You can read a couple of the essays before bed or a whole section on a lazy Sunday morning-it's easy to pick up and put down without losing track, kind of like an ongoing conversation with a friend. A well read, post graduate educated, erudite friend who hides behind the visage of a good ol' boy. The porch light is on and someone is definitely at home...One caveat-the author is enamoured of a certain joke he uses to illustrate a point. Mr. Blount please get another line besides the "Do you believe in infant baptism? "H--I, I've seen one!" 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. North by SouthBy Clarin BlessingIt gives you a good idea of the differences between the North and the South. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I wanted to love it.By AimEMcC13I LOVE Roy Blount Jr and really really tried to love this book. I couldn't love it so I put it down. I hope I'm simply in the wrong head space to love it right now. I'll come back to it after some time has passed.

In this acerbic, eminently quotable book, humorist Roy Blount Jr. focuses on his own dueling loyalties across the great American divide. Scholarly, raunchy, biting, and affable, Blount takes on topics ranging from chicken fingers and yellow dog Democrats to Elvis's toes while sharing some experiences of his own: chatting with Ray Charles, meeting an Okefenokee alligator, imagining Faulkner's tennis game, and being swept up, sort of, in the filming of Nashville. His yarns, analyses, and flights of fancy transcend all standard shades of Red, Blue, and in between. Blount's sidesplitting, irreverent musings may not end our tacit Civil War at long last, but they do clarify, or aptly complicate, divisive delusions on both sides of the long-standing national rift. Long Time Leaving is a comic ode to American variety and a droll assault on complacency both North and South from one of the most definitive and esteemed humorists of our time.

From Publishers WeeklyStarred . Ever since beloved Southern writer Blount moved to Massachusetts, he's been trying to use his "regional ambivalence...to get Aunt Dixie and Uncle Sam on speaking terms." In this diverse collection of humorous essays and occasional verse, Blount tackles a number of topics, including Emmanuel Kant, the mind-boggling "Bushy Juggernaut" and the correct grammatical usage of y'all (always plural). Concerned largely with his own pleasures and peccadilloes, Blount sings the praises of New Orleans's jazzy Boswell sisters, staying up late and the company of Jack Russell terriers ("like living with a movie star who seems to be able to handle quite a lot of cocaine). On the other hand, Tom DeLay of Texas gets called "the thinking person's Satan," Garth Brooks and Forrest Gump both receive snubs, and caring about college sports in the Northeast draws comparison to "caring about French food in South Carolina." Adorned with poetical lists and quirky details, Blount's work is unflaggingly passionate and provocative over a range of subjects, including food, politics and all things Southern, and he's as likely to quote The Women's Times as Shakespeare or Zora Neale Hurston. A lively curmudgeon who's talked to just about everyone on just about everything (especially grits), Blount's energetic, unpredictable essays are sure-fire fan-pleasers, and fine discoveries for newcomers. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From BooklistIt's gotta be tough to be Roy Blount Jr., a displaced southern liberal living in the Northeast. To hear him tell it, just about everyone he ever meets invariably blurts out something along the lines of "You know, the thing about the South is that it's just so [insert deprecatory simplification here]." Fortunately, Blount bristles at each and every one of them in the 70 or so pieces in this collection, culled mainly from articles and columns written for various publications. Although admittedly they begin to take on the quality of a broken record when lumped together, at least the needle is stuck on a pretty heady groove. With humor so dry you might miss it, Blount's flexible musings on all manner of subjects--history, politics, limericks, songs, food, songs about food--are uniformly sharp, even if he sometimes falls into making the same sort of sweeping generalizations that work him into such a lather to begin with. Droll but not necessarily folksy, and often rankled but never cantankerous, Blount is a quintessential opinionist when he writes, "I just wish the South would let me decide what it should change and what it shouldn't." Now watch him shake his fist and give 'em all what-for. Ian Chipman Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved "Blount's work is unflaggingly passionate and provocative over a range of subjects, including food, politics and all things Southern ... [His] energetic, unpredictable essays are sure-fire fan-pleasers, and fine discoveries for newcomers."