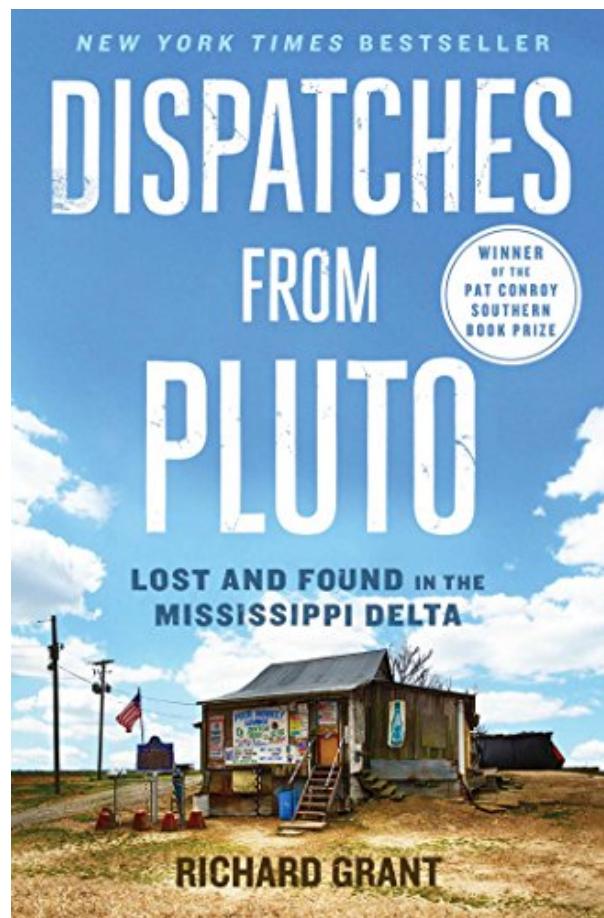
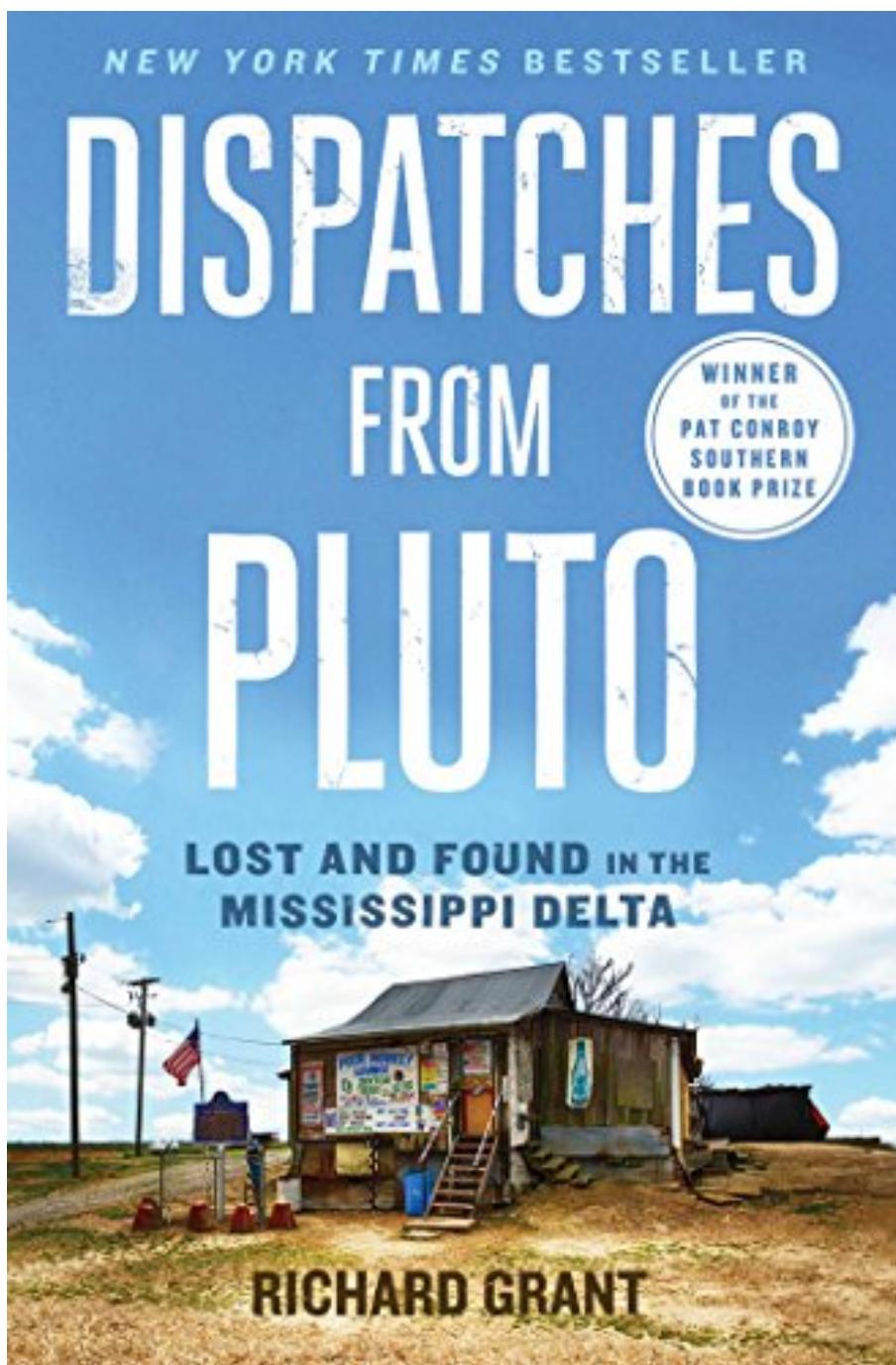


DISPATCHES FROM PLUTO: LOST AND FOUND IN THE MISSISSIPPI DELTA BY RICHARD GRANT



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Winner of the Pat Conroy Southern Book Prize
Mississippi's #1 Bestseller of 2015 and 2016 (The Clarion-Ledger)
A New York Times Bestseller

In Dispatches from Pluto, adventure writer Richard Grant takes on “the most American place on Earth”—the enigmatic, beautiful, often derided Mississippi Delta.

Richard Grant and his girlfriend were living in a shoebox apartment in New York City when they decided on a whim to buy an old plantation house in the Mississippi Delta. Dispatches from Pluto is their journey of discovery into this strange and wonderful American place. Imagine A Year In Provence with alligators and assassins, or Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil with hunting scenes and swamp-to-table dining.

On a remote, isolated strip of land, three miles beyond the tiny community of Pluto, Richard and his girlfriend, Mariah, embark on a new life. They learn to hunt, grow their own food, and fend off alligators, snakes, and varmints galore. They befriend an array of unforgettable local characters—blues legend T-Model Ford, cookbook maven Martha Foose, catfish farmers, eccentric millionaires, and the actor Morgan Freeman. Grant brings an adept, empathetic eye to the fascinating people he meets, capturing the rich, extraordinary culture of the Delta, while tracking its utterly bizarre and criminal extremes. Reporting from all angles as only an outsider can, Grant also delves deeply into the Delta’s lingering racial tensions. He finds that de facto segregation continues. Yet even as he observes major structural problems, he encounters many close, loving, and interdependent relationships between black and white families—and good reasons for hope.

Dispatches from Pluto is a book as unique as the Delta itself. It’s lively, entertaining, and funny, containing a travel writer’s flair for in-depth reporting alongside insightful reflections on poverty, community, and race. It’s also a love story, as the nomadic Grant learns to settle down. He falls not just for his girlfriend but for the beguiling place they now call home. Mississippi, Grant concludes, is the best-kept secret in America.

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- Published on: 2015-10-13
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- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.37" h x .80" w x 5.50" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 320 pages

Features

- Dispatches from Pluto Lost and Found in the Mississippi Delta

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Most helpful customer reviews

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful.

Delta. Blues

By Becky Chunn

Richard Grant wrote a story based on facts of life in the South that could only be known by living in the Delta. After years of oppression the black people are often expected to "shake it off" and be thankful for their civil rights. At the same time we see racism is not just white toward black; but, we see it manifested in black toward White and Mexican, the same as the Mexican and Whites. I believe racism has been seen in most areas of our country as different nationalities learn to live together. Mr Grant pointed out the need for people to help themselves. To gain respect and acceptance one must take care of their own business. All of this was told in a story of two people moving from NYC to the Delta and learning to live together in a foreign culture. Great book.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful.

Very enjoyable!

By JES

I thoroughly enjoyed this book. I was born in the Delta and lived there for 10 years before moving to and being raised in Jackson. Now I live in Memphis. I say all of that to emphasize that I know the area. The author does an outstanding job of capturing the Delta in the written word. It is written so well that it almost seems like a story of fiction. To know that it is true just makes the story even better. If you want to know something about the Delta, Mississippi and just good old southern living, read this book. The area is not perfect. It has many faults. But, it is still one of the most unique spots in the entire USA!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful.

The Unique Mississippi Delta

By boulanger

Very entertaining. The author (British) was thorough in getting a balanced view of life in the Mississippi delta area. Rich, poor, black, white, redneck, far left, etc. It was refreshing to find that there was not one pre-targeted villain responsible for the delta's ills – and there are many ills; nor was there one pat solution offered up. In other words, the author came at this with an open mind and found, possibly to his surprise, that both the issues and potential solutions are complex.

There is no doubt that this area of the south is more than a bit idiosyncratic; in it's topography, it's relative isolation and it's richness in eccentric characters. The author took time to get close to the action to capture all of these in meticulous fashion making Dispatches from Pluto a very interesting read.

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