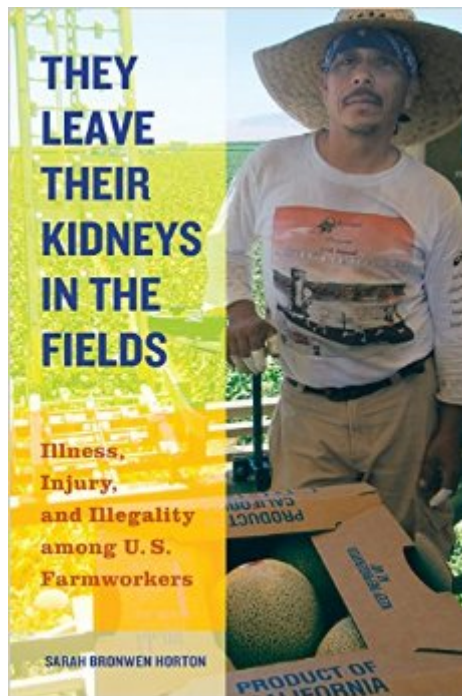


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They Leave Their Kidneys In The Fields: Illness, Injury, And Illegality Among U.S. Farmworkers (California Series In Public Anthropology)



Synopsis

They Leave Their Kidneys in the Fields takes the reader on an ethnographic tour of the melon and corn harvesting fields of California's Central Valley to understand why farmworkers suffer heatstroke and chronic illness at rates higher than workers in any other industry. Through captivating accounts of the daily lives of a core group of farmworkers over nearly a decade, Sarah Bronwen Horton documents in startling detail how a tightly interwoven web of public policies and private interests creates exceptional and needless suffering.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I loved this book. I feel a little awkward saying that when it's basically a book about people suffering. But it was getting a glimpse into a world I'd otherwise never have access to that I really appreciated, and I felt tremendous admiration and empathy for the subjects of the book. I certainly think about it every time I shop for produce now... the book does a good job of telling the workers' stories and tying together the factors -- bad laws, good laws with poor implementation, culture -- that lead to farmworkers' deaths and disablement. The level and length of the author's involvement with the subjects is impressive. For the most part it's written accessibly but there were some more academic bits that were over my head. For me, it ended too soon. I could have used a lot more detail about just about everything, and it's made me very curious to learn more about the agriculture industry, lives of migrants, etc.

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