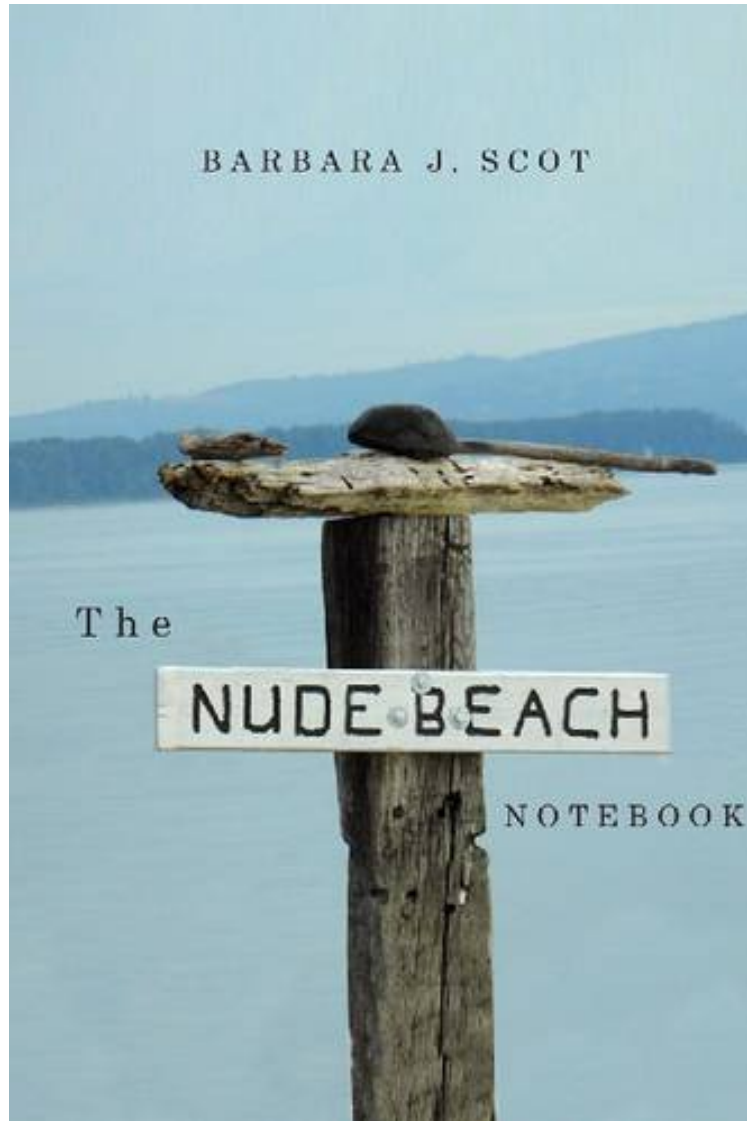


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The Nude Beach Notebook

Barbara J. Scot

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Barbara J. Scot : The Nude Beach Notebook before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Nude Beach Notebook:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Questionable.By Kindle CustomerThe story line jumped around too much making it difficult to follow. Not very believable though the writer claims it is a true story.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Hip GrandmaAn easy read about a difficult subject dealt with honesty, grace and a little humor.

In this engaging new memoir, a loose sequel to her earlier *Prairie Reunion*, Barbara Scot explores her reluctance and longing to reconnect with a much-loved brother, lost to alcoholism for thirty years. Scot uses long, meditative walks on the clothing optional beach of the idyllic Sauvie Island near Portland, Oregon, to explore family responsibility, times passage, and faith. She weaves entries from her notebooka record of the islands wildlife, descriptions of the Odd Ones she encounters on the beach, and stories about the native people who once lived on the riverwith the main narrative, tracing her search for her brother, her close friendship with a fellow writer, and daily life on the houseboat moorage where she lives. *The Nude Beach Notebook* highlights the importance of place as a means for exploring and interpreting ones own story. In the end, Scots walks on Sauvie Island lead to her own redemptive journey. She considers the uses of fiction and non-fiction in memory and in writing, the brevity and beauty of human existence, and the inscrutable, enduring mystery of death.

As Barbara Scot invites us along on her daily Sauvie Island walks, she deftly weaves together not only her own complicated personal history but the history and life of that beautiful island. And as she asks questions of herself, questions that most of us will have asked of ourselves at some time or another, her story becomes the story of us all, our lives rooted in place and family. *The Nude Beach Notebook* is just a beautiful book, a book of great heart and intelligence and rigorous honestyan elegant and moving evocation of the ghosts that haunt families, and the spirits inherent in the landscapes where we walk. Molly Gloss, author of *The Jump-Off Creek*, *The Dazzle of Day*, *Wild Life*, and *The Hearts of Horses*