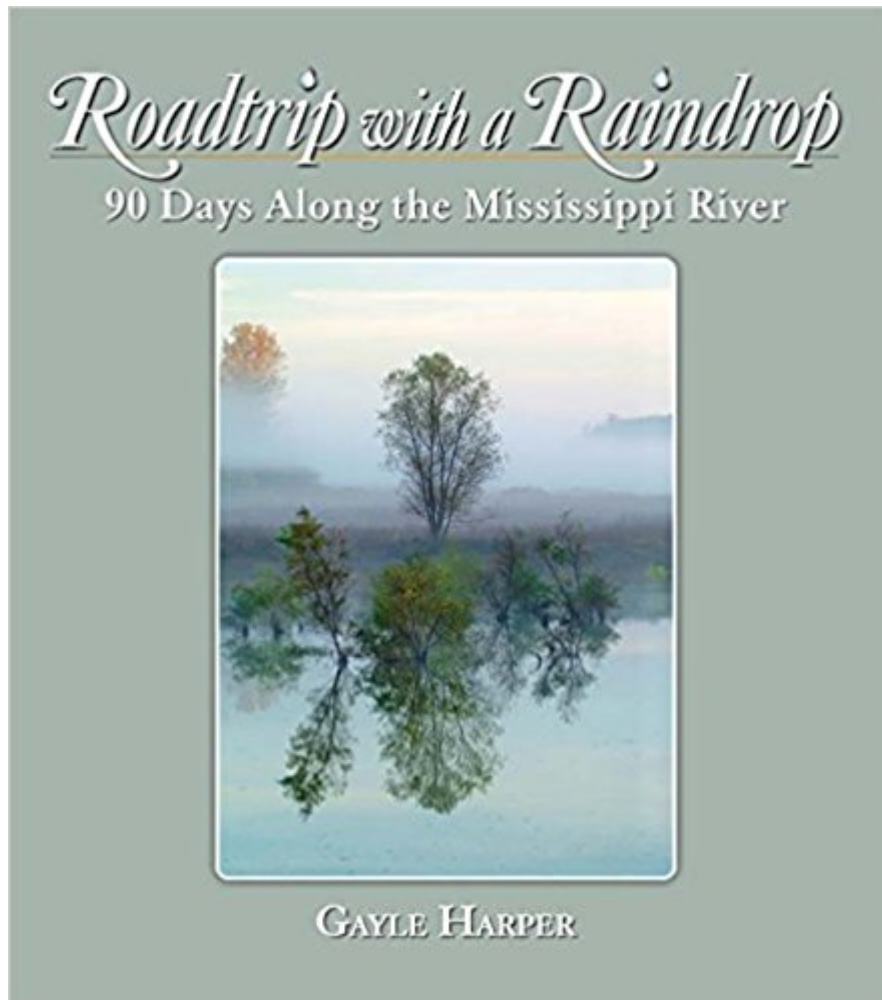




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Roadtrip With A Raindrop: 90 Days Along The Mississippi River



Synopsis

A raindrop that falls into the headwaters of the Mississippi River in Minnesota will reach the Gulf of Mexico 90 days later. When I learned that, my world was sent spinning in a new direction. I knew in that instant that I would make a 90-day road trip, following the entire course of the Mississippi River, while keeping pace with an imaginary raindrop that I would call "Serendipity." From that moment on, this adventure has created itself in ways that often seem magical. People offered lodging in places that let me slide body and soul into the local culture. There was a fisherman's cabin, a trendy downtown loft, a tugboat converted to a B&B, a plantation mansion, a sharecropper's cabin - and once, an entire 30-room manor! The Mississippi is one of America's greatest treasures. It is embedded in our history, our present and our identity as a nation. Along its roughly 2,400 mile journey, it is transformed from a tiny creek into an immense force of nature. It passes through dramatic changes in geography, climate, culture, lifestyles and accents.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"...a beautiful, warm and intimate portrait, as stunning to look at as it is to read...It's an exterior trip that prompts an interior journey." --From the Foreword by Bob Krist, Photographer for National Geographic Traveler and Smithsonian and 3-time winner of "Travel Photographer of the Year." "I love the spirit of this project. So many ways to wander this world!" ---Elizabeth Gilbert, author of Eat Pray Love. "The pages of this book capture the allure of the Mississippi and of her colorful people - and it shows us why the Mississippi is an American icon." --- Chad Pregracke, CNN Hero of the Year, Living Lands and Waters.

Gayle Harper has been a travel photographer and writer for more than two decades. She knows from experience that the world is made up of fascinating destinations and remarkable people. When she turned her eyes, heart and camera toward the Mississippi River and her people, however, she was simply captivated. It began with making time for little "River trips" in a crowded calendar of assignments with regional and national clients and publications and then, gradually, but inexorably, moved into making time for anything else. Roadtrip with a Raindrop is a gift of gratitude to the River and her people - and Gayle's way of paying it forward to you. Her home is wherever she is, but she is often at home in Springfield, Missouri, with her husband, Mike and their cat, Louie.

I read an article about this book in a gardening magazine and was intrigued by the idea Ms Harper had of following a raindrop down the Mississippi river. This book turned out to be so much more than I anticipated. It is poetically written and beautifully photographed. She takes you on a journey that gives you a history lesson both of the river and the people that live and work along it. This trip is definitely on my bucket list of must-do's and will hopefully start with a friend (I must share this experience) this spring.

A spectacularly illustrated book about a 90-day journey along the mighty Mississippi River that reveals both the heart and soul of the generous people who live nearby and the "spirit" of this great river. I find myself compelled to undertake a similar trip to experience the quaint, small towns along the river and discover the rich history of these often overlooked places. Thank you, Gayle, for re-igniting my appreciation for this magnificent river.

Beautiful and brilliant both in conception and achievement -- in the plashing of words and images -- this book is as mesmerizing as any eddy in the Mighty Mississippi. I am bound to love it, because it begins with the sentence, "Memory is a fickle and unreliable librarian." This surprisingly delightful and moving book has this librarian currently beating his readerly feet in the Mississippi mud near New Madrid, MO.

This is a beautiful book that would grace any home. The wonderful pictures and stories Gayle Harper includes make this book feel like you are her traveling companion. Wait you are a companion. Give this book to yourself as a gift that keeps on giving back and I promise you will want to gift copies to those who love the grand old river.

Wonderful book and the illustrations beautiful.

I am not a reader, but i read this in 2 sittings. Loved the stories about the roadtrip and how Gayle enjoyed each community. My favorite was the time she spent the night on a working tug boat. Thank you Gayle Harper for writing this!!

It's so nice to buy something that's more than you would expect. This is a beautifully executed artwork, good for a coffee table, or when you have time to browse. I bought a copy and then ordered a couple more for gifts.

Excellence at a variety of levels! Beautiful, professional photos. Great stories of all varieties. And a peek at the marvelous gal who did it all! Highly recommend!

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