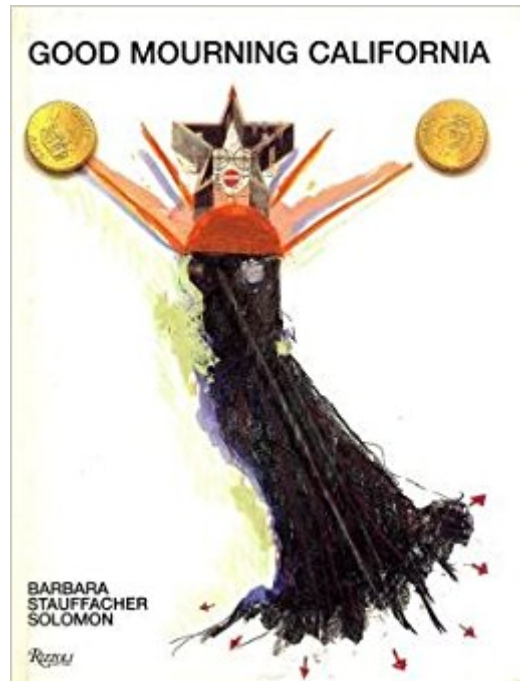




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Good Mourning California



Synopsis

A poetic exploration of California's landscape, nature, and gardens mixes the author's drawings, collages, and photographs with a lively text to bring the state's seductive terrain to life. By the author of *Green Architecture* and *the Agrarian Garden*. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Seventeenth-century European explorers imagined California to be an island; in Solomon's view, the Golden State today is an oasis of myths and illusions. Spliced together with her own images of highways, the Marlboro Man, painted maps, conceptualist doodles and photomontages, her reflective free-form essay presents the California dream as a triumph of the synthetic, a narcissistic haven where "everyone writes their own myths," where originality is passe and "freedom is being free to conform." A California artist and architect, Solomon (*Green Architecture* and *the Agrarian Garden*) here provides a social topology of gardens, from San Franciscans' backyard vegetable patches to the golf-course-sized lawns of conservative Republicans. She examines the racist and jingoist underpinnings of westward-moving Americans' myth of Manifest Destiny, then looks at California's new wave of Asian and Latino immigrants, squeezed in a state where "poverty has always been a sin." A disturbing, provocative collage. Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Quirky, engaging and prophetic, this highly personal account of the history and problems facing

California remains a valid and lively tome nearly 25 years after it was published (1992). The author's drawings and photos lighten up the pages as the reader is delivered interesting factoids and historical points of view on the development of California. Drought, immigration, rampant urban development, it's all here!

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