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Townie: A Memoir

By Dubus, Andre, III.

Norton. 1 Cloth(s), 2011. hard. Book Condition: New. (A Finalist for the 2012 Indies Choice Adult Nonfiction Book of the Year and a New York Times Editor's Choice for 2011) The author of the National Book Award Finalist House of Sand and Fog, Andre Dubus III presents this harrowing yet profoundly redemptive memoir of his youth in a hardscrabble Massachusetts mill town after his celebrated father left the family. Drugs and everyday violence were facts of life among the "townies" in Haverhill, and the younger Dubus eventually trained as a fighter to protect his overworked mother and his three siblings, while still visiting the educated world of his father's Bradford College campus on Sundays. Only when he set aside his rage in favor of forgiving and writing did Dubus begin to communicate with his remote namesake. "This is a memoir both disconcertingly naked and immensely careful; Dubus refrains from bitterness the way a Buddhist monk renounces worldly possessions. It's tempting to get angry on the author's behalf, but Townie patiently teaches its readers that rage is self-poisoning." Salon "Townie is a better, harder book than anything the younger Mr. Dubus has yet written; it pays off on every bet that's been placed on him...."



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