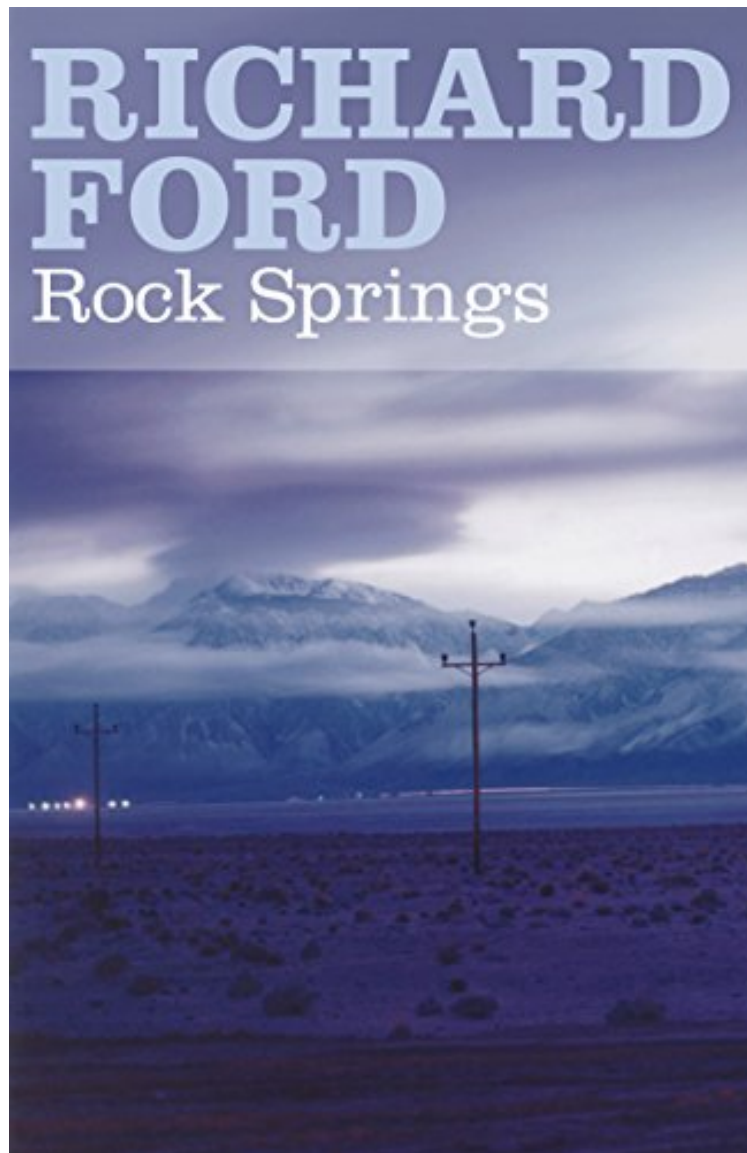


Rock Springs

Von Richard Ford

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Von Richard Ford : Rock Springs before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rock Springs:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Possibly the best collection I've ever read.Von Zak2surf@aol.comRock Springs is like a fine wine. The more you drink from it the better it gets. Ford's ability to take the day-to-day travails of ordinary people and make these seemingly mundane travails ring with importance is astounding. The prose is simple and clear. The dialogue is pointed, fresh and witty.

I've read *Rock Springs* perhaps a dozen times over the years and find something new and inspiring each time. Like a true master, he makes it look simple. No bells. No whistles. Just lean to the bone writing, with the marrow clearly visible beneath the surface. Short story writers and admirers should put this on their shelf but quick.² von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Ford's best Von jdouglas@dismail.ucsf.edu Having read all of Richard Ford's published works, I feel that *Rock Springs* is his finest. His stories are beautiful in their simplicity, and somehow sadly poignant. A wonderful collection of short stories.¹ von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The Unvarnished Truth Von Bud Gonzalez Ford's short stories here are set in the West- far from the urban East of Frank Bascombe, his best-known character. But these ten stories are each peopled by indelible people who Ford seems less to have created than to have stumbled over. He follows them for a while, then lets them go. His realism brings with it an aching sadness along with the empathy it provokes. From heartbreak to humor, Ford's short stories are as powerful as his novels.

Kurzbeschreibung In these ten stories, Ford mines literary gold from the wind-scrubbed landscape of the American West - and from the guarded hopes and gnawing loneliness of the people who live there. A refugee from justice driving across Wyoming with his daughter; an unhappy girlfriend and a stolen Mercedes; a boy watching his family dissolve in a night of tragicomic violence; two men and a woman swapping hard-luck stories in a frontier bar as they try to sweeten their luck. *Rock Springs* is a masterpiece of taut narration, cleanly chiselled prose, and empathy so generous that it feels like a kind of grace. From Publishers Weekly The stories in this collection read like textbook exercises in classic short story form: in each, a lifetime of sadness is suddenly crystallized around a momentan image, a discovery, a confrontation after which a life has been irrevocably, if at first imperceptibly, changed. Ford approaches the genre with reverent precision and delivers an array of haunting, enduring images: a stalled train about to be engulfed in a brushfire; a misdirected collect phone call to a father from a son in trouble; a wounded snow goose swimming circles in a lake that moments before had been covered by the rest of its flock "like a white bandage laid on the water." Together, these portraits of violence and betrayal among the unemployed and unmotivated in rural Montana present an almost relentlessly bleak picture of difficult lives, and the frequent presence of children as witnesses to their parents' disgraces further darkens the vision. It may well be too dark for many readers. The accessible appeal of Ford's most recent novel *The Sportswriter* is missing here, in large part because the characters lack the wit and perspective that could give voice to their endeavors at self-awareness. Comparisons to Raymond Carver are appropriate, but where Carver's depictions of the basic struggle to make sense out of things strike a universal chord that transcends the narrow focus of the part of the world he examines, Ford's stories only outline that world and remain bounded by its constraints despite their intermittent beauty. First serial to the *New Yorker* and *Vanity Fair*; paperback rights to Vintage. Copyright 1987 Reed Business Information, Inc. Pressestimmen 'Stunning ... one of the most compelling and eloquent story tellers of his generation' *New York Times* 'A collection of stunning impact which marks Ford's arrival at the pinnacle of his craft' *Sunday Times* 'A marvellous book of short stories ... *Rock Springs* confirms Ford's place among our finest writers' *The Times* 'These are beautifully imagined and crafted stories. By turns heart-rending and wickedly funny - and just plain wicked. Ford is a born storyteller with an inimitable lyric voice - and *Rock Springs* is the very poetry of realism' Joyce Carol Oates