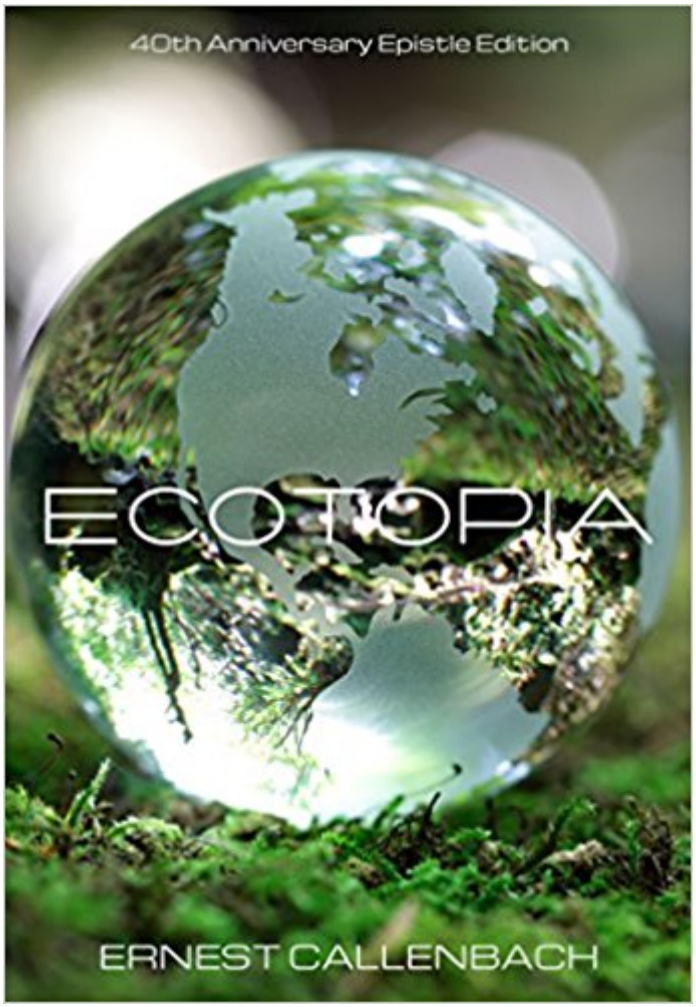
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Ecotopia: 40th Anniversary Epistle Edition



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Synopsis

Nearly one million copies sold in nine languages Twenty years have passed since northern California, Oregon, and Washington seceded from the United States to create a new nation, Ecotopia. Now, this isolated, mysterious country welcomes its first American visitor, jaded reporter Will Weston, who explores a society structured around sustainability and social justice. Innovative and unsettling ideas unravel everything that Weston knows to be true about government, economics, and human nature and ultimately force him to choose between two competing views of civilization. Since it was first published in 1975, Ecotopia has inspired and challenged readers throughout the world. This fortieth-anniversary edition includes Callenbach's final essay, ''An Epistle to the Ecotopians,'' written in the weeks before his death in 2012, and a new foreword by Callenbach's close friend and Heyday publisher, Malcolm Margolin.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

An environmental classic. --TimeThe newest name after Wells and Verne and Huxley and Orwell is Ernest Callenbach, creator of Ecotopia. --Los Angeles Times''One of the most important utopian novels of the twentieth century that still has very important lessons to teach us. It will always convey to perfection the wild optimism of that moment: a feeling we need to recapture, adjusted for our time.'' --Kim Stanley Robinson''One of the most important utopian novels of the twentieth century that still has very important lessons to teach us. It will always convey to perfection the wild optimism of that moment: a feeling we need to recapture, adjusted for our time.'' --Kim Stanley Robinson

Twenty years have passed since Northern California, Oregon, and Washington seceded from the United States to create a new nation, Ecotopia. Rumors abound of barbaric war games, tree worship, revolutionary politics, sexual extravagance. Now, this mysterious country admits its first American visitor: investigative reporter Will Weston, whose dispatches alternate between shock and admiration. But Ecotopia gradually unravels everything Weston knows to be true about government and human nature itself, forcing him to choose between two competing views of civilization. Since it was first published in 1975, Ecotopia has inspired readers throughout the world with its vision of an ecologically and socially sustainable future. This fortieth-anniversary edition includes Ernest Callenbach's final essay, "An Epistle to the Ecotopians," and a new foreword by Callenbach's close friend and publisher, Malcolm Margolin.

This book, called prescient in 2008, is more stunningly so today. Ecotopia translates ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“home placeÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• and was born out of an attempt to deal with a practical issue ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â œ sewage. Written in 1975, it is set in the future of 1999. In 1980 the states of Washington and Oregon had joined northern California in seceding from the union. Most Americans have been barred from traveling to Ecotopia and the book is made up of the newspaper articles and the diary entries of Will Weston, the first American mainstream reporter to visit. The book is one of the manuals of the bioregional movement I have been a part of since 1984, as the country of Ecotopia was formed out of a vision of relating to the earth sustainably, emphasizing biology more than physics. The vision involves being rooted to place. Community relationships are central. Everyone is an artist of some kind and everyone sings and dances. Attitudes toward sex are looser and politically it is egalitarian (Ecotopia has a woman president). Ecological values rule. In 2012, Callenbach, aware of his upcoming death, left an epistle to us Ecotopians. It is included in the 40th anniversary edition and can also be found online. It is his ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“thoughts and attitudes that may prove useful in the dark times we are facing.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• He discusses hope, mutual support, practical skills, organizing, learning to live with contradictions, and the Big Picture. In one paragraph he describes with amazing specificity (in 2012, mind you) our present president. He closes with an encouragement to appreciate the Japanese wisdom of the beauty of wabi-sabi. ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Let us embrace decay, for it is the source of all new life and growth.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•

Even though this book was written in 1985 a lot of the content is relevant today. Fun read and if it became reality I'd be the first in line at the gates of Ecotopia!

Arrived promptly, and was in new condition. Great story, though written in the 70's so a bit dated in some areas. Would love to live there!

book was in new condition

What a great book, has such an amazing message, hard to put down.It is so crazy how non fiction this fiction book feels Ernest callenbach was a future teller cause we as the United States are in the footprints of this book and I wish we could get over our egos and become an ecotopia maybe then we will not go extinct. But this is a fantastic book I recommend it to anyone who is interested in enviromental and political books.

This is an important book, one of the few positive Utopias of the late 20th century. It is too simple, without enough detail to reveal how the favorable lifestyle could be halfway plausible. The writing is average, but not bad.

I read an early addition from the library years ago. A few years ago, I bought the prequel and enjoyed it immensely. When I saw this 40th anniversary addition, I decided it was time to complete my Callenbach collection. Totally influenced my personal politics.

Read this 40 years ago...and, while a simple read, is a book I reference to folks.

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