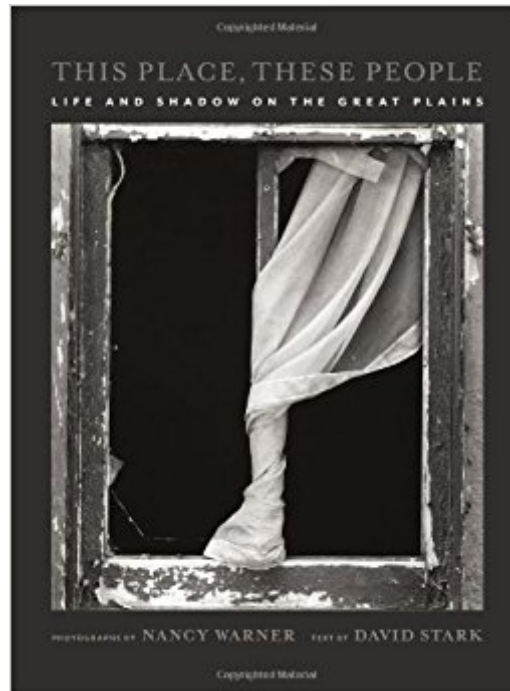




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# This Place, These People: Life And Shadow On The Great Plains



## Synopsis

The numbers of farms and farmers on the Great Plains are dwindling. Disappearing even faster are the farm places—the houses, barns, and outbuildings that made the rural landscape a place of habitation. Nancy Warner's photographs tell the stories of buildings that were once loved yet have now been abandoned. Her evocative images are juxtaposed with the voices of Nebraska farm people, lovingly recorded by sociologist David Stark. These plainspoken recollections tell of a way of life that continues to evolve in the face of wrenching change. Warner's spare, formal photographs invite readers to listen to the cadences and tough-minded humor of everyday speech in the Great Plains. Stark's afterword grounds the project in the historical relationship between people and their land. In the tradition of Wright Morris, this combination of words and images is both art and document, evoking memories, emotions, and questions for anyone with rural American roots.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I was very moved by this evocative, literate, and informative book. Warner's beautiful and painful photographs are a perfect companion to Stark's writing and the 'voices' of the Nebraskans that are included. I am very grateful for this sensitive and sad look back. (Ruth Silverman, former associate curator of the International Center of Photography and two-time winner of the Photography-Book-of-the-Year award for *The Dog and Athletes*) Richly nuanced. (Publishers Weekly) A melancholy, touching look at a vanishing way of life. (Sarah Bryan Miller St. Louis Post-Dispatch) Each photo presents a snapshot of a place vacated. Together, they tell a larger story of an America fading into the landscape.... Conversations, captured by Stark, are sprinkled

throughout the book, bringing insight and understated humor to the inanimate beauty of Warner's photographs. (Casey Logan The Omaha World Herald)A moving collection... The country and the book are spacious, the stories are moving, and the photographs are wonderful. (RALPH magazine)Quietly evocative (Billings Gazette)

David Stark is the Arthur Lehman Professor of Sociology and International Affairs at Columbia University, where he directs the Center on Organizational Innovation. His most recent book is *The Sense of Dissonance: Accounts of Worth in Economic Life*. Nancy Warner is a fine-art and portrait photographer based in San Francisco. Many of the photographs in this book were first exhibited at the Great Plains Art Museum as *Going Back: Midwestern Farm Places* (2008). The photographs are available for sale, exhibit, or licensing. Contact Nancy Warner at [www.warnerphoto.com](http://www.warnerphoto.com).

I loved this book. It made me remember that we are all just one step from poverty. The depression should have been a wake up call for us and we should honor our farmers instead of trying to take away their land. I was raised on a cotton plantation in Mississippi and it was a very hard life as it always depended on what nature handed out. This book had a very big impact on me.

My husband was raised in Cuming County so I purchased the book for him as a Christmas gift. He enjoyed seeing the farm places as he remembered them! Beautiful photography and thoughtful commentary!

Excellent photography & well written memories of the Midwest.

This Place was an impressive an impressive photo survey for my 97 year-old parents as well other family members that have lived in the Midwest. Pictures and words set memories in motion for all.

The photography reminds me of Walker Evans's work, except that this concentrates on places rather than people. But I see people in the places, and the echoes of lives lived. Beautiful book.

It is about the area I grew up in. I've been in contact with the author & photographer & they are very interesting & caring people.

Order arrived quickly. It was as expected and I enjoy the photographs. It's a gift for my brother who

is from Nebraska.

Black and White photography at its best. Beauty does not have a color. Memories in the pictures on the pages.

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