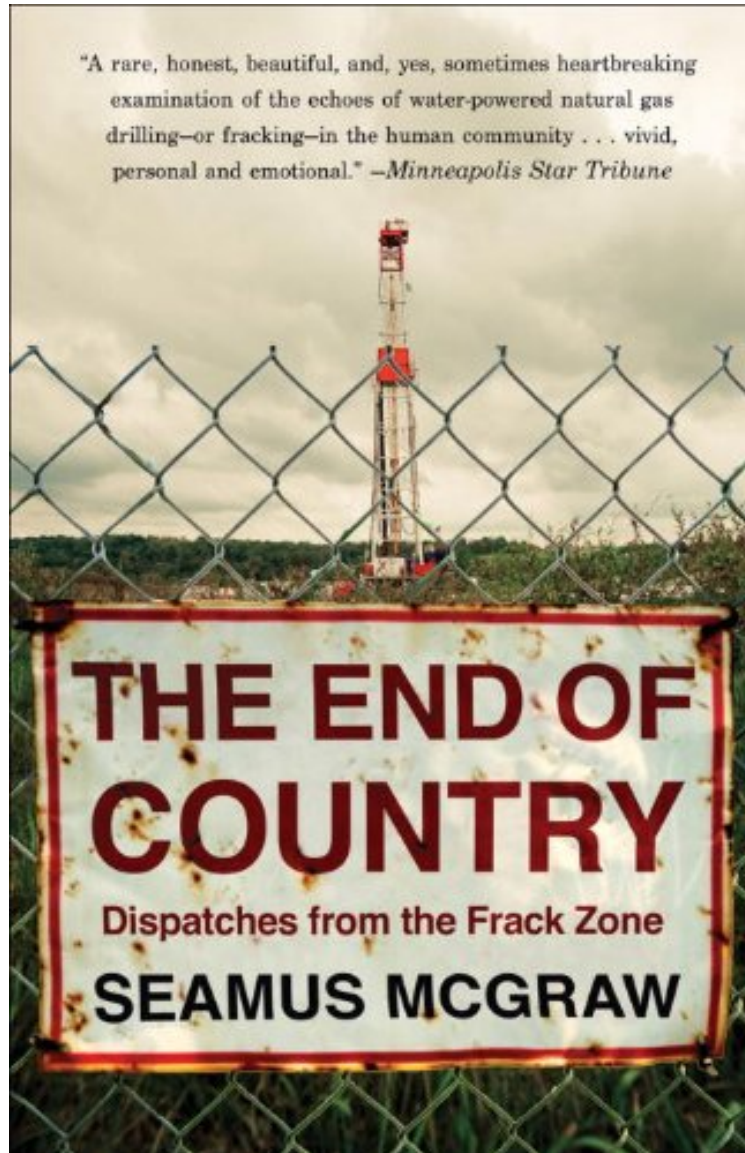


The End of Country: Dispatches from the Frack Zone

Seamus McGraw

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Seamus McGraw : The End of Country: Dispatches from the Frack Zone before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The End of Country: Dispatches from the Frack Zone:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Everyone in the industry should read this book to gain perspective from a neutral standpoint By Michael R Muder Everyone that works in the shale industry, particularly those in Pennsylvania, in which this book takes place, should read this book. It is a very neutral first-hand, journalistic account of the history of the technology and the beginning of the boom in Susquehanna County, PA. I read this in one sitting, as it was so interesting and well written that I found I could not sit it down other than to use the restroom or grab a

drink.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Potential and Perils in Gas CountryBy Barb WriterI just finished reading End of Country and enjoyed it on several levels. I, too, moved back to northern Pennsylvania (9 short years ago) to take care of my parents and the farm, and being a professor 4 miles from our farm has been more-than-a-little exciting, and often confounding. Everything you described brings clarity both to the micro- and macro-political levels of something this big. I probably enjoyed most your keen insight into how this whole Marcellus experience is an opportunity: for individuals, for families, and as citizens, to see if we can listen more to the better angels of our nature than to the current zeitgeist of maximizing greed. I believe this book could be a Pulitzer Prize Winner and will let my graduate students choose it as such. Wish I could send it to all my family members and friends for Christmas--an enjoyable, informative read!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Intriguing look at lives affected by frackingBy Donna S. MeredithI disagree with the reviews that said this book projected the idea that all progress is good. This thoroughly researched narrative certainly lays out all the negatives of hydrofracking, from the obscene noise to the spills of fracking fluids. What I liked is that the author also showed why people signed on the dotted line to allow fracking on their property. And he offers perspective on what natural gas might mean for U.S. energy independence. He doesn't say it comes without a price. And the price can be high.I felt the pain of these farm residents as they gave away their mineral rights too cheaply and as they suffered from the careless actions of energy companies. The book cut through the data to reveal the human hearts affected by fracking. Highly recommended.

ldquo;A rare, honest, beautiful, and, yes, sometimes heartbreaking examination of the echoes of water-powered natural gas drillingdash;or frackingdash;in the human community . . . vivid, personal and emotional.rdqo;mdash;Minneapolis Star Tribune nbsp; Susquehanna County, in the remote northeastern corner of Pennsylvania, is a community of stoic, low-income dairy farmers and homesteaders seeking haven from suburban sprawldash;and the site of the Marcellus Shale, a natural gas deposit worth more than one trillion dollars. In *The End of Country*, journalist and area native Seamus McGraw opens a window on the battle for control of this land, revealing a conflict that pits petrodollar billionaires and the forces of corporate America against a band of locals determined to extract their fair share of the windfalldash;but not at the cost of their values or their way of life. Rich with a sense of place and populated by unforgettable personalities, McGraw tells a tale of greed, hubris, and envy, but also of hope, family, and the land that binds them all together. nbsp; ldquo;To tell a great story, you need a great story. Seamus McGraw . . . has lived a great story. . . . [He] is just one of its many charactersdash;very real charactersdash;caught up in a very human story in which they must make tough, life-altering decisions for themselves, their community, and ultimately their country.rdqo;mdash;Allentown Morning Call nbsp; ldquo;Compelling . . . *The End of Country* is like a phone call from a close friend or relative living smack-dab in the middle of the Pennsylvania gas rush. . . . Anyone with even a passing interest in the [fracking debate should] read it.rdqo;mdash;Harrisburg Patriot-News nbsp; ldquo;This cautionary tale should be required reading for all those tempted by the calling cards of easy money and precarious peace of mind.rdqo;mdash;Tom Brokaw nbsp; ldquo;A page-turner . . . McGraw brings us to the front lines of the U.S. energy revolution to deliver an honest and humbling account that could hardly possess greater relevance.rdqo;mdash;The Humanist

.com Photographs from *The End of Country* Click on the photos below to enlarge. Narrow country roads more suited to tractors and rusting pickup trucks are quickly buckling under the weight of thousands of tons of heavy drilling equipment and the trucks needed to ferry it all. A Cabot drill pad in Springville Township, Susquehanna County. The heavy trucks and other equipment necessary for the drilling industry are tearing up the roads of northeastern Pennsylvania. Barns and gas drilling rigs have become familiar pairs throughout the Marcellus Shale region. A drilling rig in Meshoppen, Wyoming County. Once the rig is in place, the work of extracting the gas goes on around the clock. Farm property along a winding country road near West Nicholson in Northeast Pennsylvania. Advance praise for *The End of Country*ldquo;[An] impressively detailed, highly engaging look at issues of energy policy, economics, and sociology that arose when a bucolic town was suddenly faced with the lquo;traveling circusrsquo; of energy exploration. McGraw presents a rich history of the economics and geopolitics of energy as well as a fascinating cast of characters . . . A completely engaging look at how energy policy affected a quiet, rural town.rdqo;mdash;Booklist (starred review)ldquo;Deeply personal, sometimes moving, sometimes funny, *The End of Country* lays out the promises and the perils faced not just by the people of one small Pennsylvania town but by our whole nation.rdqo;mdash;Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.ldquo;The End of Country is an elegantly written and unsettling account of what can happen when big energy companies come calling in rural America. This cautionary tale should be required reading for all those tempted by the calling cards of easy money and precarious peace of mind. The result too often is bitter feuds, broken dreams, a shattered landscape.rdqo;mdash;Tom Brokawldquo;This is an environmental tale on the surface, yet something more powerful lurks beneath the soil of this wonderful book. Seamus McGraw is really writing about the enduring complexities and contradictions of the United States. He goes beyond the easy stereotypes of greedy promoters preying on farmers and gives us the unvarnished truth about a twenty-first-century energy rush in a place we never expected it. This is tale told with heart, gusto, close observation, and sly humordash;truly a

remarkable memoir. — Tom Zoellner, author of *The Heartless Stone* and *Uranium* From the Hardcover edition.

About the Author Seamus McGraw is a full-time writer who has seen his work published in *Playboy*, *Reader's Digest*, *Penthouse*, *Radar*, *Spin*, and *The Forward*. He has received the Freedom of Information Award from the Associated Press Managing Editors, as well as honors from the Casey Foundation and the Society of Professional Journalists. McGraw is currently working on a documentary trailer about his family's experiences with the Marcellus shale. He grew up pitching hay and spreading manure on the same fields the gas companies are now prospecting. He still lives in the woods of northeastern Pennsylvania with his wife and four children.