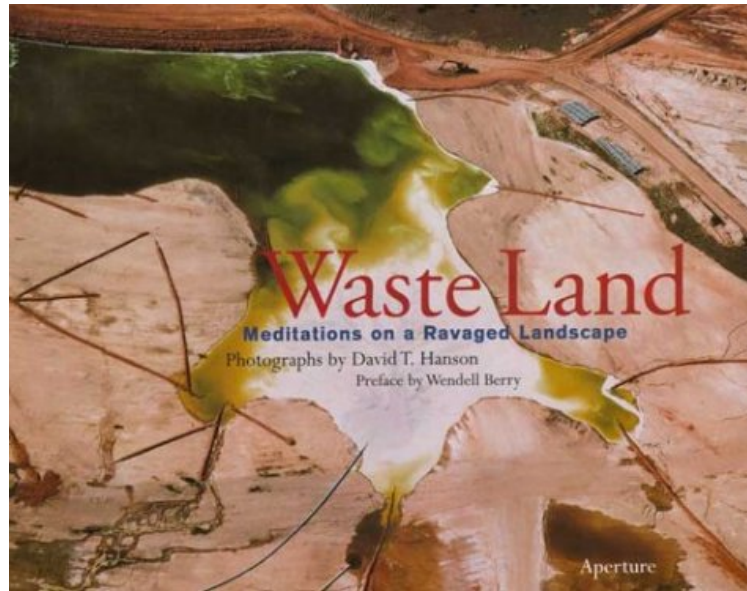


## Waste Land: Meditations on a Ravaged Landscape

David T. Hanson

ebooks | Download PDF | \*ePub | DOC | audiobook



 Download

 Read Online

#2682677 in Books Aperture 1997-09-30 Original language: English PDF # 1 .78 x 11.88 x 9.36l, #File Name: 0893817260160 pages | File size: 30.Mb

**David T. Hanson : Waste Land: Meditations on a Ravaged Landscape** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Waste Land: Meditations on a Ravaged Landscape:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Two StarsBy Ramsey Averynot really strong imagery1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. disturbing beautyBy Chris ReinewaldOp het ICSID congres in Toronto, 1998 merkte een Amerikaanse ecooloog met enige malicieusheid op dat milieuvervuiling gauw uit de wereld is, zo gauw er de verwijdering van vervuilde grond "big business" wordt. Zeker in de Verenigde Staten is de afweging tussen industrialisatie en natuurbehoud een besluiteloze, Catch 22 situatie. Onderwijl gaat de vervuiling door.In zijn fotoboek Waste Land, Meditations on A Ravaged Landscape laat de Amerikaanse fotograaf David Hanson de beelden voor zichzelf spreken. De luchtfoto's zijn verontrustend, niet in de laatste plaats om hun mooie, kleurrijke aanblik als gevolg van de in de grond gedumpte chemicaliën. Vanaf zijn "verheven standpunt" ontdekte Hanson braakliggend land, waarvan - afgezien van de direct betrokkenen en de falende, lokale overheden - de ernstige vervuilde staat veelal onbekend is. Toch zouden er ten minste veertig miljoen Amerikanen naast een zo'n "toxic dump" wonen, zonder dit te realiseren. Of - erger nog - dit te willen weten.Ernstig vervuilde grond komt in de meeste Amerikaanse staten voor. Men schat het aantal locaties op zo'n slordige honderdduizend. Daarvan zouden er zo'n duizend een verhoogd risico voor het milieu opleveren. Hanson registreerde er zeventenzestig als dwarsdoorsnede van Amerikaanse geografie in combinatie met industrieel hij de bijbehorende rapporten, die hij naast de foto's in zijn boek af drukte. Uit de stukken blijkt hoe veel bedrijven en personen zich met doortrapte juridische trucjes onder hun verantwoordelijkheid wisten uit te komen.10 of 22 people found the following review helpful. These Places Are GreatBy Dave HerbsterHaving worked in the heavy industrial electrical/mechanical field for the past 26 years, I have worked at many facilities similar to those illustrated in this book. I love them! You can say what you'd like regarding their environmental impact, but I can tell you, these are great places to work. The process is usually very interesting, and the customer most always demands a quality job. So...there's some pollution, but not one of you reading this review can say that your

purchasing habits, and style of life has not contributed to the very images that you would now turn your nose up at. Sure, the EPA would love to have you believe that they are cleaning up the world, when the fact is, they are only driving real industry out of the USA, only to produce the same if not more 'pollution' over the borders. And with our governments blessing. 'Still buying the same products, are you not? Look and see where they were made next time! It makes me sad to see these big industrial sites closed down. I love the book, because I can show my kids, and my grandkids the types of places that used to exist in this country\_The type of places that has enabled us to go around as the police department of the world, and enforce what WE deem as right on every continent of the earth. It would have made a nice closing statement though, if you would have included an aerial shot of the Pulp Paper Mill that produced the pages of this book. I am assuming that is, that they were made in the USA.

In *Waste Land*, photographer David T. Hanson presents a picture of our environment that is unfamiliar and deeply disturbing. It is, however, a picture that must be looked at and contended with if our environment is to survive. In the words of the writer Wendell Berry, Hanson has "given us the topography of our open wounds." *Waste Land* is a powerful book that will not permit us to turn our backs on the declining state of our environment. During the past fifteen years of his career as an artist/photographer, Hanson has documented-- often in aerial photographs that are deceptively, inexorably beautiful-- some of the devastations that humans have inflicted and continue to impose upon the environment. Each of the four photographic series in this book provides a different look at the consequences of our actions. *Waste Land* opens with a series of photographs of strip mines in Colstrip, Montana that Hanson created in the early 1980s, a series he describes as "a chronicle of entropy, an elegy for a lost landscape." Beginning with photographs depicting trailer parks and company houses-- void of any human presence-- the vantage point moves upwards through images of the community's mine, power plant, and industrial site, to aerial shots that become increasingly abstract. Ultimately, the series reveals Colstrip as arena and metaphor for the use, misuse, and abuse of power. Hanson's *Minuteman Missile Sites* series focuses on one aspect of the American industrial and military landscape: bleak aerial views of silos, each containing a missile with a destructive potential nearly a hundred times that of the bomb dropped on Hiroshima. These images disclose some of America's secret landscapes; they mirror in both form and content the military's applications of photography for surveillance and targeting. The harrowing centerpiece of this book is Hanson's *Waste Land* series. In 1982, from some 400,000 toxic sites throughout the U.S.A., the Environmental Protection Agency listed 418 as highly hazardous and in need of urgent attention. In only a few years, that number more than tripled. *Waste Land* is a study of sixty-seven of the most dangerously polluted waste sites in the United States. In this series of triptychs, Hanson juxtaposes an aerial photograph, a modified topographic map, and an EPA site description exposing some of the elaborate legal strategies that corporations and individuals have used to avoid taking responsibility for the contamination-- or the cleanup. The book's final sequence is devoted to Hanson's recent series, ironically entitled "The Treasure State": Montana 1889-1989. Here, the photographer begins with an aerial view of a site that affects one of Montana's imperiled species, and overlays each image with a sheet of glass, discreetly etched with the name of the impacted animal. Perhaps the most visually abstract series in the book, "The Treasure State" features haunting, intensely colorful images that lure the viewer in, only to be struck by the realization that a vital and sustaining element of this landscape is on the brink of disappearing. *Waste Land* includes an Afterword by Mark Dowie, author of 1995's *Losing Ground: American Environmentalism at the Close of the Twentieth Century*. In his text, Dowie explores the historical mutability of our country's policies toward the environment. The book also features poignant commentary by Susan Griffin, William Kittredge, Peter Montague and Maria B. Pellerano, and Terry Tempest Williams. "The power of these photographs is in their terrifying, because undeniable, particularity....What we can see in these vandalized and perhaps irreparable landscapes we are obliged to understand as symbolic of what we cannot see: the steady seeping of poison into our world and our bodies."--Wendell Berry, in the Preface to this book

"The history of Western industrial society's assault on the earth and the devastation it has wrought are the subjects of Hanson's aerial photographs....Hanson's photographs of this ongoing drama are among the most powerful and disturbing images ever to be seen, perhaps because their eerie, abstract beauty almost seems to negate the sinister life that glimmers in them...."--Suzi Gablik, Art historian and critic