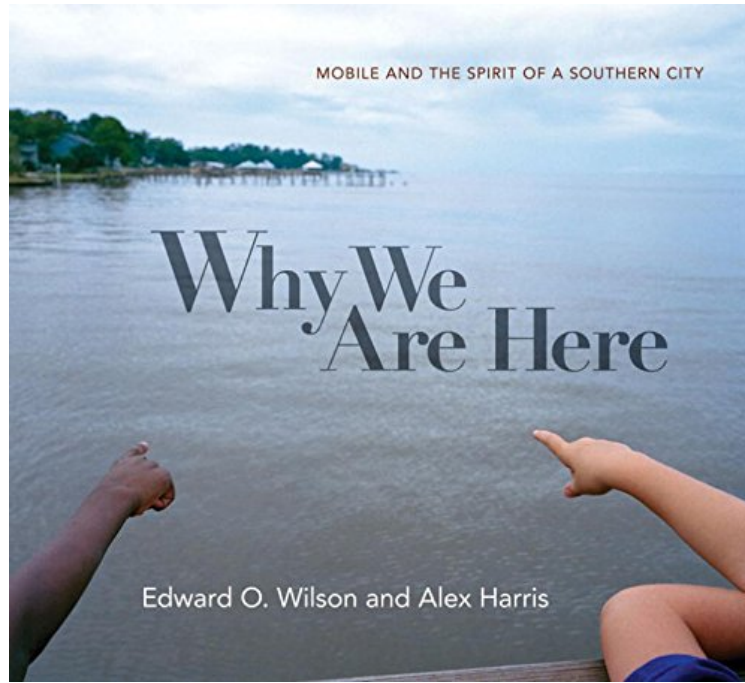


(Ebook free) Why We Are Here: Mobile and the Spirit of a Southern City

Why We Are Here: Mobile and the Spirit of a Southern City

Edward O. Wilson, Alex Harris

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Edward O. Wilson, Alex Harris : Why We Are Here: Mobile and the Spirit of a Southern City before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Why We Are Here: Mobile and the Spirit of a Southern City:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. FANTASTIC BOOKBy Carol PritchettThis book is one our family will treasure. I gave it to my daughter for her main Christmas gift, but we will be borrowing it to read the text. My husband and I looked at the wonderful pictures, but when I have more time I want to read it. There were other nice gifts for my daughter, but this was the first go-to gift she opened. It was expensive in the local book store, but on line it was an amazing savings even with shipping, I got it \$15 less than the books store. If you are interested in Mobile, or just in a classic Southern City, this is a book you need to have. I'd read about it in our local newspaper, so began to hunt it then. But I was positive I could beat the \$35 price tag at the book store. I highly recommend this book. It is well worth paying even the full price, but the site makes it even better. I always love getting a bargain, and this may have been the top one of the season. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Lovely book about an overlooked cityBy downtownsoundMobile gets some much-deserved attention in this well-written book. Packed with history and good food, the city is one of America's hidden treasures, and Mr. Wilson's obvious personal affection shows up in his fine writing. A gift! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy betty buschMy neighbor who has origins there finds the book beautiful and interesting as do I, of elsewhere.

From this historic collaboration between a beloved naturalist and a great American photographer emerges a South weve never encountered before. Entranced by Edward O. Wilson's mesmerizing evocation of his Southern childhood in

The Naturalist and Anthill, Alex Harris approached the scientist about collaborating on a book about Wilson's native world of Mobile, Alabama. Perceiving that Mobile was a city small enough to be captured through a lens yet old enough to have experienced a full epic cycle of tragedy and rebirth, the photographer and the naturalist joined forces to capture the rhythms of this storied Alabama Gulf region through a swirling tango of lyrical words and breathtaking images. With Wilson tracing his family's history from the Civil War through the Depression when mule-driven wagons still clogged the roads to Mobile's racial and environmental struggles to its cultural triumphs today, and with Harris stunningly capturing the mood of a radically transformed city that has adapted to the twenty-first century, the book becomes a universal story, one that tells us where we all come from and why we are here. 115 color photographs; 3 maps

Pulitzer Prizewinning naturalist and Harvard professor Wilson (*On Human Nature*) and acclaimed photographer and Duke University professor Harris (*River of Traps*) team up to convey the spirit of Mobile, Ala., through text and images. Wilson writes of his childhood in Mobile and recounts the complicated heritage of his hometown in a sprawling essay that weaves personal, social, economic, political, and natural history.... Harris's intimate pictures beautifully capture quotidian moments, offering a context for the diverse characters, lush landscapes, and events, traumatic and joyful, that define Mobile today: a high school football team marches arm-in-arm; a tiger swallowtail hesitates in a verdant meadow; a Civil War re-enactor poses with Confederate memorabilia; two outstretched arms, one black and one white, point toward the infinity of the Gulf of Mexico's horizon. A hybrid document meant to be as much about the meaning of place as it is about a place itself, the book is a thoughtful meditation on community and storytelling that reminds us we will never understand ourselves until we know where we come from. - Publishers Weekly

The great naturalist E. O. Wilson, who grew up in Mobile, and the photographer Alex Harris evoke and explore that exceptional city and its surroundings. The upshot, revealed in this uncommonly effective marriage of photographs and text, is a place at once deeply southern and more than a bit foreign. - Atlantic Monthly

Delightful The Mobile Bay area is a distinctive and special place, as anyone who lives here knows. E. O. Wilson, world-renowned scientist and author; and Alex Harris, appreciative outsider with a gifted eye, get this in their bones, and in *Why We Are Here* proclaim it from the rooftops. - John S. Sledge, *Mobile Bay Magazine*

Excellent Mr. Harris's photographs are inquisitive, and Mr. Wilson's prose is similarly vivid. - Dwight Garner, *New York Times*

About the Author Edward O. Wilson is widely recognized as one of the world's preeminent biologists and naturalists. The author of more than thirty books, including *The Social Conquest of Earth*, *The Meaning of Human Existence*, and *Letters to a Young Scientist*, Wilson is a professor emeritus at Harvard University. The winner of two Pulitzer Prizes, he lives with his wife, Irene Wilson, in Lexington, Massachusetts. Born in Atlanta, Georgia, in 1949, Alex Harris, acclaimed photographer, Duke University professor, and Pulitzer Prize finalist for *River of Traps*, lives in Durham, North Carolina.