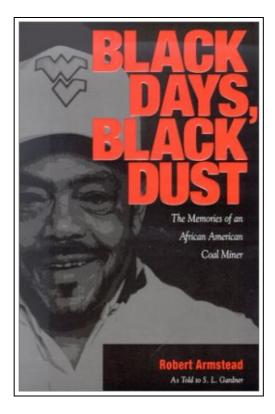
Black Days, Black Dust The Memories Of An African American Coal Miner



Filesize: 9.14 MB

Reviews

An extremely wonderful book with perfect and lucid explanations. This really is for those who statte that there had not been a worth reading. Your way of life span will be convert when you comprehensive reading this book.

(Effie Douglas)

BLACK DAYS, BLACK DUST THE MEMORIES OF AN AFRICAN AMERICAN COAL MINER



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Univ Tennessee Press. Paperback. Condition: New. 255 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 0.8in. Among those drawn to jobs in the booming West Virginia coal mines during the first part of the twentieth century were thousands of African Americans. They proved successful in this industrydespite low wages and discrimination at the hands of mine operators. This book, the first published memoir by an African American coal miner, is a stirring tale of survival and achievement. Bob Armstead interweaves stories of family and community with a broad history of underground mining to paint an engrossing picture of the work, the dangers, and the drama of that industry. Armstead remembers his childhood, growing up in a segregated coal camp during the Great Depression, and he recalls his familys efforts to confront economic challenges while also dealing with the reality of racism. His father worked as a horse driver in the mines until machinery put him out of work. Even though, as a youth, Armstead saw how his father had suffered, he himself went to work in the mines in 1947. From his first day on the job, coal mining fascinated him. He initally labored in a timber crew, shoring up mine roofs. Then, in a life peppered with mine closings and layoffs that sent him from one place to another in search of work, he eventually became a mining machine operator, a foreman over predominantly white crews, and finally a safety inspector. Black Days, Black Dust evokes a vivid sense of a coal miners life. Armsteads recollections of his father provide descriptions of primitive mining methods in the 1930s and grueling twelve-hour work days. Armsteads memories of his own career document his enthusiasm for mining and the work ethic that earned him responsible positions in the mines. Engagingly told, Armsteads story is both...



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