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Carlsbad Caves and a Camera

Robert Nymeyer

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Robert Nymeyer : Carlsbad Caves and a Camera before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Carlsbad Caves and a Camera:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. About caving in the Guadalupe Mountains in the 1930'sBy A CustomerIf you're a caver or just interested in caving, this book is a lot of fun. The Guadalupe Mountains of New Mexico are home to some of the world's most beautiful caves, including Carlsbad Caverns and Lechuguilla Cave. This book describes Robert Nymeyer's adventures and misadventures with his buddies in the high Guadalupe caves. The descriptions of early vertical caving techniques using lariats and the photographs taken with flash powder are priceless examples of what folks will do when bitten by the exploration bug.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Like Reading A DiaryBy JimI've already wore out 2 previous paperback editions as this book is so fascinating and warrants rereading from time to time. Mr Nymeyer wrote it in a fashion that makes you feel like your along with him on his explorations as well as reading his personal diary.

In Carlsbad, Caves, and a Camera the author, a professional photographer, recalls his cave exploration while a young man in the 1930's. This is the story of amateurs who plunged, inexperienced, unadvised, and unguided, into the underground, who met their problems as they arose, and who bungled their way into competence. It is the thrill of penetrating the unknown, with the threat of danger ever present in the darkness beyond. It is the thought of boundless beauty, lost for aeons in darkness, until the feeble light of the explorer brings it into view. It is the surge of pride in

knowing that no human beings had been there before. It is a story of people simply having fun. This book is a deeply felt tribute to a way of life and a part of nature that have almost disappeared from our experience. The author, who learned cave photography as apprentice to Ray V. Davis, the first Carlsbad Caverns photographer, kept a visual and written record of these explorations. As a result, we have an intimate written account of what these young men saw, what they said, how they felt. In addition we have a photographic essay of 185 large-format pictures, many of breathtaking beauty.

Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. The irresistible lure of caving actually hit me in a small cave a few miles north of Carlsbad Caverns. This was in 1933 in Little Spider Cave when I was twenty-three years old. For the first time I crawled up an unexplored tunnel, negotiated a tight pinch, and stepped out into virgin cave stretching far beyond the limits of my flashlight. For the first time I knew the thrill of "She goes!"