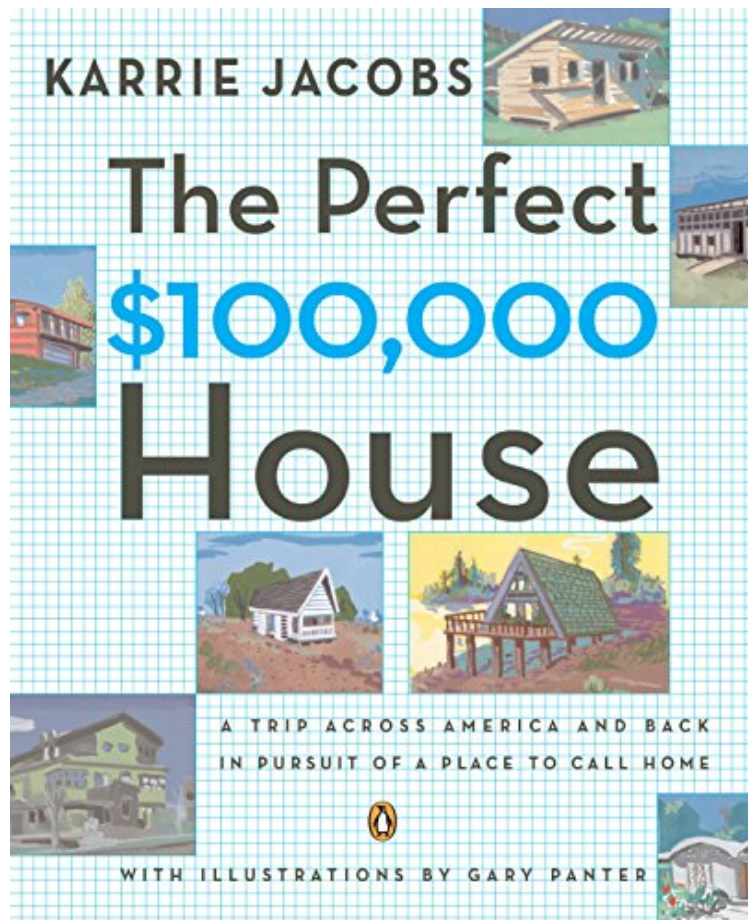


(Library ebook) The Perfect \$100,000 House: A Trip Across America and Back in Pursuit of a Place to Call Home

The Perfect \$100,000 House: A Trip Across America and Back in Pursuit of a Place to Call Home

Karrie Jacobs

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Karrie Jacobs : The Perfect \$100,000 House: A Trip Across America and Back in Pursuit of a Place to Call Home before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Perfect \$100,000 House: A Trip Across America and Back in Pursuit of a Place to Call Home:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. She Found Lots of Perfect \$100k Homes!By Len MoskowitzShe found lots of perfect \$100k homes -- too bad they weren't perfect for her!I enjoyed this book immensely -- read it in two days.With a warm and friendly writing style, Ms. Jacobs (former editor at Dwell magazine) introduces us to host of talented architects, each with their own take on the \$100,000 home, based on local needs, economics politics and aesthetics. Some are mid-century moderns, some are updated classics, and others defy classification. All are interesting!Along the way she gives us some insight into what's going on across the spectrum in the world of architecture, from the huge corporate builders to the "one-off" customs.As others have noted, there aren't enough

pictures (just one black white drawing for each chapter), but the two page index of the architects' Web site URLs make up for that in spades. I spent two hours surfing them and had a ball! Finally, I'm glad it was her doing the extended road trip and not me -- I surely would not have lasted as long as she did! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Title a bit misleadinghellip;.By Barefoot DudeEntertaininghellip;.19 of 22 people found the following review helpful. Disappointing, I was hoping for a great deal more....By Suzanne Elizabeth AndersonI suppose I was expecting a journey along the lines of Tracey Kidder's House, something personal and organic.I found this book frustrating for two basic reasons:1. The lack of photographs, especially of the specific houses discussed was frustrating. Akin to discussing the merits of a painting, without a picture of it! I don't know if this oversight was the fault of a cheap publisher's budget, or the author's choice, but the book suffers as a result.2. The author's voice: seemed bitter or jaded or tired of her journey about two-third's before the road trip was done. Needless to say, it seems that she never found a house that she could actually commit to.As a result of the above, the reader leaves the book neither caring about the author's quest or any closer to discovering where to find the perfect \$100,000 house.Perhaps the only thing I got from this book was a fleeting desire to subscribe to Dwell magazine.

A home of one's own has always been a cornerstone of the American dream, fulfilling like nothing else the desire for comfort, financial security, independence, and with a little luck, even a touch of distinctive character, or even beauty. But what we have come to regard as almost a national birthright has recently begun to elude more and more prospective homebuyers. Where housing is concerned, affordable and well-crafted rarely exist together. Or do they? For years, founding editor-in-chief of Dwell magazine and noted architecture and design critic Karrie Jacobs had been confronting this question both professionally and personally. Finally, she decided to see for herself whether it was possible to build the home of her own dreams for a reasonable sum. The Perfect \$100,000 House is the story of that quest, a search that takes her from a two-week crash course in housebuilding in Vermont to a road trip of some 14,000 miles. In the course of her journey Jacobs encounters a group of intrepid and visionary architects and builders working to revolutionize the way Americans think about homes, about construction techniques, and about the very idea of community. By her trip's end Jacobs, has not only had a practical and sobering education in the economics, aesthetics, and politics of homebuilding, but has been spurred to challenge her own deeply held beliefs about what constitutes an ideal home. The Perfect \$100,000 House is a compelling and inspiring demonstration that we can live in homes that are sensible, modest, and beautiful.