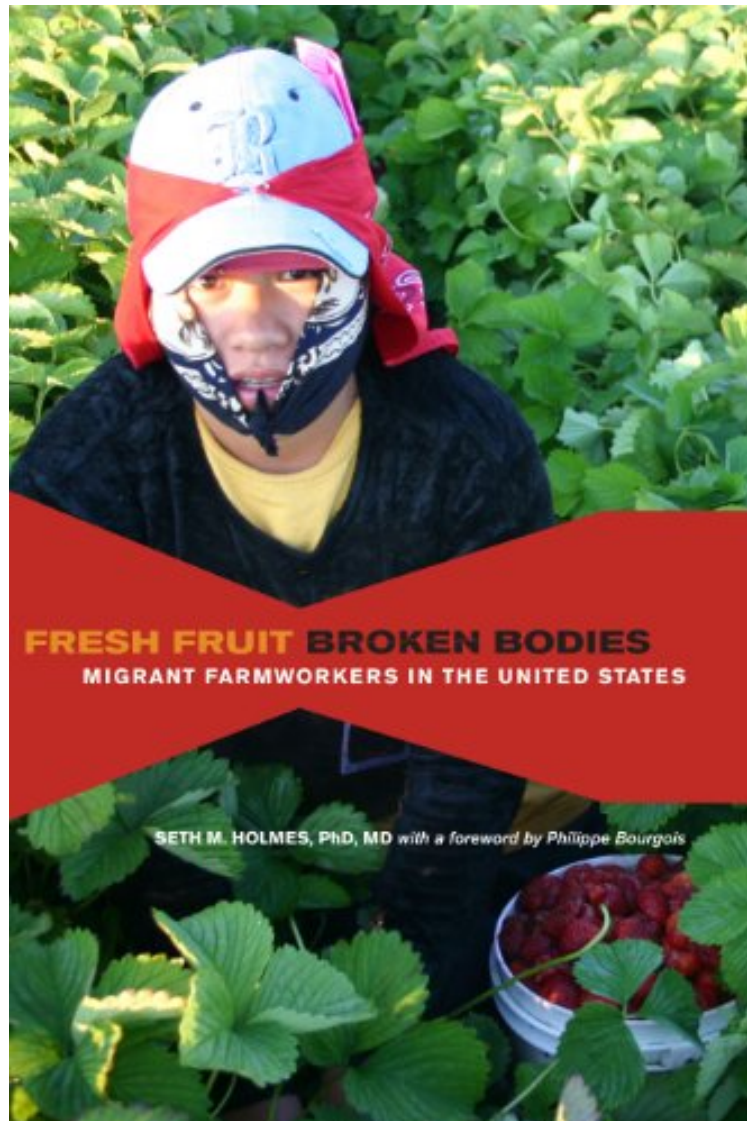


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## Fresh Fruit, Broken Bodies: Migrant Farmworkers in the United States (California Series in Public Anthropology)

*Seth Holmes*

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**Seth Holmes : Fresh Fruit, Broken Bodies: Migrant Farmworkers in the United States (California Series in Public Anthropology)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Fresh Fruit, Broken Bodies: Migrant Farmworkers in the United States (California Series in Public Anthropology):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. "Behind the curtain" of produce aislesBy H. McPhersonI was doing some research/reading on the topic of migrant farm workers and came across this book. This professor lived as a

migrant worker (even making a dangerous illegal crossing from Mexico to the U.S.) to study this population's world. In short, I don't now walk through a grocery store's produce department in the same way -- not thinking about the men, women, and kids who picked those items for pennies. The book stays readable for the most part; it's only when Holmes dips into academic language that my eyes glazed over (and I skipped ahead). His recounting his time in the fields, as well as traveling and living with a usually invisible population, was fascinating. Well worth reading. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Magnificent Treatment By Dedan Excellent read from start to finish. The author uses ethnography to tell the story of Triqui Mexican migrants in an immensely illuminating fashion. He expands our perceptions by analysing the domestic and international social, economic and political structure in which migration exists. He also utilizes critical theories to explain the normalization of migrant suffering and how that suffering is illegitimate, along with its naturalization. I'd recommend this book to anyone interested in social justice and is looking for articulate language to illustrate clear ideas around some of the problems precluding and solutions for bringing about social justice and general equity. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A worthy, important book By Bruce Neuburger This book tells a story that needs to be told, of the people who tend and harvest the food that sustains us, that sustains society who are driven out of their homeland by the hidden hand of an exploitive economic system and then marginalized and criminalized -- the better to exploit you with. The author tells this story as someone who walked in the shoes of his protagonists. And more, he writes with a scientific spirit of uncovering not only the clear injustice of the condition of migrant farmworkers, but the different social groupings they interact with and how each views their roles in this structure. He pays particular attention to health issues and reveals important insights on how social services are delivered to those this social order views as worthy only so long as they produce wealth for others.

Fresh Fruit, Broken Bodies provides an intimate examination of the everyday lives and suffering of Mexican migrants in our contemporary food system. An anthropologist and MD in the mold of Paul Farmer and Didier Fassin, Holmes shows how market forces, anti-immigrant sentiment, and racism undermine health and health care. Holmes's material is visceral and powerful. He trekked with his companions illegally through the desert into Arizona and was jailed with them before they were deported. He lived with indigenous families in the mountains of Oaxaca and in farm labor camps in the U.S., planted and harvested corn, picked strawberries, and accompanied sick workers to clinics and hospitals. This "embodied anthropology" deepens our theoretical understanding of the ways in which social inequalities and suffering come to be perceived as normal and natural in society and in health care. All of the book award money and royalties from the sales of this book have been donated to farm worker unions, farm worker organizations and farm worker projects in consultation with farm workers who appear in the book. nbsp; nbsp;

"By giving voice to silenced Mexican migrant laborers, Dr. Holmes exposes the links among suffering, the inequalities related to the structural violence of global trade which compel migration, and the symbolic violence of stereotypes and prejudices that normalize racism."