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Catfish at the Pump: Humor and the Frontier (Paperback)

By Roger L. Welsch, Linda K. Welsch

University of Nebraska Press, United States, 1986. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Were our forefathers liars? You bet they were, says Roger Welsch, and damned fine ones at that. The proof is in *Catfish at the Pump*, a collection of the kind of humor that softened the hardships of pioneering on the Great Plains. From yellowed newspapers, magazines, and forgotten Nebraska Federal Writers Project files, the well-known folklorist and humorist Roger Welsch has produced a book to be treasured. Here are jokes, anecdotes, legends, tall tales, and lugubriously funny poems about the things that preoccupied the pioneer plainsman: weather extremes; soil quality; food and whiskey; an arkload of animals, including grasshoppers, bed bugs, hoop snakes, the ubiquitous mule, and some mighty big fish; and even sickness and the poverty that would inspire black laughter again in the Great Depression. *Catfish at the Pump* proves abundantly that the art of story telling was practiced diligently by our plains ancestors. Roger Welsch, who brought out *Shingling the Fog and Other Plains Lies* in 1972 (reprinted by the University of Nebraska Press in 1980), now issues this book about lies and liars, knowing full...



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Reviews

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