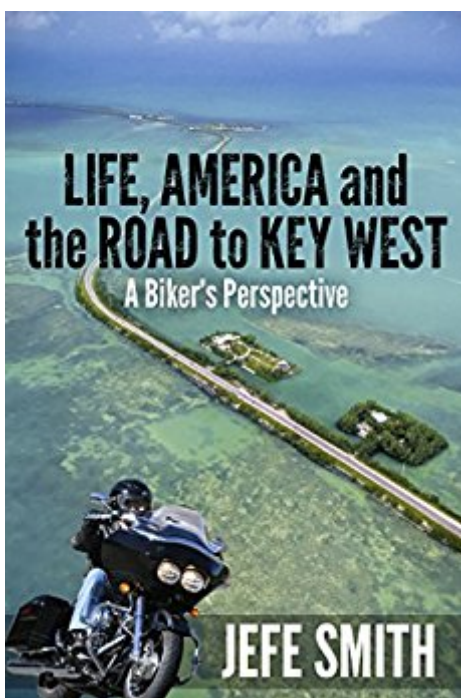


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# LIFE, AMERICA And The ROAD To KEY WEST A Biker's Perspective



## Synopsis

Pop open a beer and park your butt on a plastic chair next to Jefe Smith outside a cheap motel room with motorcycles in the parking lot in front of you. Lean back and settle in for some road stories and life stories from another two-wheel cruise across America and through life with an observant, insightful, entertaining, late-60's-vintage road warrior. You'll find the edgy sex, drugs and rock and roll of his generation peppering the obscure, local history of the America he rides through and the characters he encounters as well as the humorous and poignant life experiences from a curious biker searching for lessons of how to live the later part of life well. Whether you are a biker or not, you will be entertained and come away with the motivation to get yourself moving and expand your own road and life journey beyond stacking up some miles on an odometer. You may find yourself enjoying much deeper, fulfilling and possibly life-changing adventures through our spectacularly unique and beautiful America.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is a follow-up book to Jefe Smith's first one (wonderful reading!) and he takes off into it as if he barely took the time to fill up his tank. I read it over three rainy days, living it almost, and

thoroughly enjoyed every not-being-able-to-ride-myself moment of it. Just like a great ride, I didn't want it to stop. Smith completely captures the art and enjoyment of cruising long distances; the loneliness, the camaraderie, the spectacular surroundings lush and desolate, the immediacy of the road and how it mingles with the wanderings of your mind. Everything from a wacky GPS unit to bull riding to Sir Frances Drake to a dog named Ben to margaritas and beer. And of course, the incomparable feeling of just being on the road. The real bottom line is that Jefe Smith knows how to spin a yarn and in this book, there are a lot of them.

OMG. Just buy the book. After page 3, I was disappointed to see at the top of my Kindle it said "the average reader gets through the book in less than 6 hours"... It took me about 15 minutes to get through the first few pages! "my life felt like an aging Chinese satellite, exiting orbit into a fiery burn up of reentry into the atmosphere". Damn. That's 5 minutes right there. This book is like a beautiful meal: taste it slowly and enjoy everything. Take your time. This book was recommended to me by a wonderful friend I have spent hours with, and never met (Foster Kinn, *Freedoms Rush*). I trust his judgement would not lead me astray, and have been rewarded with hours of pleasure. The book is a bit about motorcycle (as you can see from the cover) but in the same way that Robert Persig used *Zen and the Art*, as a vehicle to take you to a place, and tell stories. Some of the chapters have nothing to do with bikes, beyond "I rode my bike to..." but the mentions of motorcycle riding are genuine, and they will resonate with anyone who rides a bike further than a few miles. Don't be put off if you aren't interested in motorcycles. You don't need to be. I learned about the civil rights movement in the US (chapter 21), and read one of the most gripping reports of a tank battle in Desert Shield, that will have you wide-eyed and full of respect for the folk we sent to fight for us. These are the notes of a guy who loves people and is curious and admiring of humanity. It's funny, & honest, and an absolute delight to read. Please don't try and finish it in 6 hours. The world is full of junk food press, designed to be woofed down quickly, leaving you overfed and under nourished. Read a chapter, and tell somebody what you just read. Start an old fashioned conversation.

In this revised and updated version of his second book, Jefe Smith takes off from where he last left us "looking for more adventures on his Harley Davidson Road Glide. And he doesn't disappoint, giving the reader a first-person account of such varied topics as bull riding, Sir Francis Drake, rattlesnakes, and how to make a perfect margarita. In between wry comments on life and how to live it better, are pristine views of an America from the seat of a motorcycle. Chapters and varied topics blend together smoothly as the author paints riveting pictures and sometimes graphic

perspectives. Weaving between long stretches of highway and beautiful scenery, the theme remains constant: live for the now and experience everything you can. Jefe's observations on life may not be for everyone as he shares thoughts on various topics ranging from weed, taking risks, and the importance of friendships. But they are keen comments, rife with intelligence and a practiced, nuanced eye at finding the good and bad in many endeavors and experiences. You don't have to be a motorcycle aficionado to enjoy this book. I'm certainly not. But if you're of Jefe's generation, do yourself a favor and dig in. If you're not of his age group, too bad; read it anyway and learn from a master observer.

Being a long distance Harley rider, albeit not with the kind of money Jefe has, I can relate to parts of his book. The parts where he talks about his motorcycle and people he meets and the sights, sounds and smells of the road. However, his book is mostly a history, geography text and I found myself flipping through chapters looking for motorcycle stuff and finding 8th grade history lessons. It was boring. I like motorcycle stories that tell about motorcycling not the history of every place he happened to visit. Frankly I could care less about that. This book might be okay for a kid or someone who isn't a biker but for a biker who wants to read about life on the road--skip this book.

Easy read of entertaining tales on the road by Jefe! Makes you want to saddle up and ride yourself right now. Can't wait for Jefe's next new book! AJ

Great book. I really enjoyed joining Jefe as he shared his adventures. He captures what it means to ride a bike and the awesome experiences, relationships and fun times it brings.

Great read and has points on life ,and if you ride you can really relate too, for the non rider I am sure will evoke curiosity about a ride

Of the book but I felt the booze and drugs were over emphasized. I feel bad for jefe that God is not a part of his life.

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