



In the Country of Last Things

By Paul Auster

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From the author of the forthcoming *4 3 2 1: A Novel* – a spare, powerful, intensely visionary novel about the bare-bones conditions of survival

In a distant and unsettling future, Anna Blume is on a mission in an unnamed city of chaos and disaster. Its destitute inhabitants scavenge garbage for food and shelter, no industry exists, and an elusive government provides nothing but corruption. Anna wades through the filth to find her long-lost brother, a one-time journalist who may or may not be alive.

New York Times-bestselling author Paul Auster (*The New York Trilogy*) shows us a disturbing Hobbesian society in this dystopian, post-apocalyptic novel.

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In the Country of Last Things By Paul Auster Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Imagine an American city in the near future, populated almost wholly by street dwellers, squatters in ruined buildings, scavengers for subsistence. Suicide clubs offer interesting ways to die, for a fee, but the rich have fled with their jewels, and those who are left survive on what little cash trade-in centers will give them for the day's pickings. This enthralling, dreamlike fable about a peculiarly recognizable society, now in the throes of entropy, focuses on the plight of a young woman, Anna Blume. Anna has memories of a gentler life, but comes to the city in a "charity ship" to hunt for her missing brother. She first finds shelter with a madman and his wife and later experiences a brief idyll with a writer, Samuel Farr. Together they live in the deteriorating splendor of the marbled public library. Promise is ultimately rekindled when the survivors consider taking to the road as magiciansan action implying that art and illusion can save. Auster, an accomplished stylist, creates a tone that deftly combines matter-of-factness and estrangement. The eerie quality is heightened by the device of a narrator who learns everything from Anna's journal. Auster's The New York Trilogy is soon to be reissued in Penguin paperback.

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From Library Journal

In a book-length letter home, Anna Blume reports that her search for a long-lost brother has brought her to a vast, unnamed city that is undergoing a catastrophic economic decline. Buildings collapse daily, driving huge numbers of citizens into the streets, where they starve or die of exposure if they aren't murdered by other vagrants first. Government forces haul away the bodies, and licensed scavengers collect trash and precious human waste. Weird cults form around the most popular methods of suicide. Anna tries to help, but the charity group she joins quickly runs out of supplies and has to close its doors. A number of post-apocalyptic novels have been published recently; Auster's, one of the best, is distinguished by an uncanny grasp of the day-to-day realities of homelessness. This is a scary but highly relevant book. Edward B. St. John, Loyola Marymount Univ. Lib., Los Angeles

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Review

Praise for *In the Country of Last Things*:

"Powerful, enigmatic, imaginative, and handled with artistry. . . One of the better modern attempts at describing hell."

– *The Washington Post Book World*

"Reminiscent in many ways of Orwell's *1984*. . . Auster creates within these pages a place so real it could be our own country, perhaps our very own city."

– *The Atlanta Journal Constitution*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Michael Hale:

The book *In the Country of Last Things* make one feel enjoy for your spare time. You need to use to make

your capable far more increase. Book can for being your best friend when you getting strain or having big problem together with your subject. If you can make studying a book In the Country of Last Things to become your habit, you can get far more advantages, like add your personal capable, increase your knowledge about several or all subjects. You could know everything if you like available and read a reserve In the Country of Last Things. Kinds of book are several. It means that, science reserve or encyclopedia or other people. So , how do you think about this guide?

Paul Kennedy:

This book untitled In the Country of Last Things to be one of several books that best seller in this year, this is because when you read this publication you can get a lot of benefit upon it. You will easily to buy that book in the book retail store or you can order it via online. The publisher on this book sells the e-book too. It makes you easier to read this book, as you can read this book in your Mobile phone. So there is no reason to you to past this e-book from your list.

David Scott:

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