

[FREE] Betsy, "the Best Car I Ever Owned": Auto-Biographies of America's Favorite Cars

Betsy, "the Best Car I Ever Owned": Auto-Biographies of America's Favorite Cars

Jeff Hagen

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Jeff Hagen : Betsy, "the Best Car I Ever Owned": Auto-Biographies of America's Favorite Cars before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Betsy, "the Best Car I Ever Owned": Auto-Biographies of America's Favorite Cars:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Why do people love cars? Read this and find outBy Mark HastyThis book has an interesting concept. Hagen interviewed ordinary people, collecting stories of their favorite cars they've owned. Most of the cars turn out to be lovable old jalopies, and the stories revolve around how reliable they were (or weren't).This book is really just for fun, but it explores the relationship between cars and their owners in a unique way, quite unlike anything else I've ever read. The illustrations are well-done, especially considering the rarity of some of the cars--where does one find a photo of a 1947 Simca, anyway?I'd like to see an updated edition to see if people love newer cars the way they loved older ones, but that's just a quibble. Reading this book was a lot of fun, and it made me nostalgic for all the old cars I've owned.3 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A Lemon of a Book!By John A. HeitmannThis collection of short reminiscences about people and the lingering memories of their automobiles proved to be very disappointing. The concept of collecting "auto-biographies" is a good one. After all, the automobile was the quintessential technology of the twentieth century, and an analytical examination of the relationship between the car and individuals could tell us much about not only technology-society interactions but also perceived and real

human needs. Good autobiographies reflect more than personal ideosyncracies, but unfortunately Hagen's book is little more than a superficial assemblage of thoughtless responses to a question posed newspaper readers located in several states about Betsy, that one car we cannot forget through the mists of time. The author/editor does not blend these autobiographies together into a more consistent whole, and it is only his artwork that saves this work from being a total loss. To make matters worse, my copy had several production flaws, including creased and improperly cut pages. I would not recommend this book to anyone who has an IQ over 85.

Book by Hagen, Jeff