

SEEING AMERICA

BRIAN GROVES

Copyright © 2018 by Brian Groves. All Right Reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, distributed, or transmitted in any form or by any means, including photocopying, recording, or other electronic or mechanical methods, or by any information storage and retrieval system without the prior written permission of the author/publisher, except in the case of very brief quotations embodied in critical reviews and certain other noncommercial uses permitted by copyright law.

**For regular development blog postings,
be sure to visit [Brian's blog](#)**



INDIES UNITED PUBLISHING HOUSE, LLC

P.O. BOX 3071

QUINCY, IL 62305-3071

www.indiesunited.net

WHY I WROTE THIS BOOK

Being kindly invited to collaborate with the new publishing venture Indies United Publishing House, I wanted to offer something novel to potential readers in the States. As an Englishman living in Italy, it is common to hear many stereotypes about North America. National bias and a continental attitude towards our 'Atlantic Cousins' cloud many a conversation. Yet these things are only a tiny piece of the picture. The poems set out here represent America as described or at least experienced by American friends, clients and social media contacts. Each piece has been inspired with a specific person in mind, not that it is necessary to know who he or she is. I hope this collection of twenty-six poems, written in British English, provides food for thought as well as some pleasure along the way.

WHY YOU SHOULD READ THIS BOOK

Seeing ourselves is never an easy exercise. Seeing ourselves as others see us is even harder. This collection is, of course, a set of personal viewpoints. Reading the poems gives you an occasion to see your country from afar, through the eyes of its inhabitants, filtered through my mind and heart. The insights may mean something or nothing. Quite rightly the eventual interpretation is the personal responsibility of you, much appreciated reader. In any case, I hope this book becomes a catalyst for further reflection and input for you not only today but also tomorrow. With that said, enjoy!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A heartfelt thank you has to be given to Lisa Orban for involving me in this project. Her energy, creativity and determination shine brightly. As my proof-reader and partner Donatella Tomassone likewise deserves my thanks. This book is dedicated to you kind reader. For your presence here, thank you, thank you, thank you.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Why I Wrote This Book
Why You Should Read This Book
Acknowledgements
Table Of Contents
Brooklyn Blues
Iowa Flowers
Sunny Days
Texas Calling
Salty Tales
Tallahassee Break
Philly Efforts
Island Life
Illinois Creativity
Delaware delights
Sacramento It Is
Charlotte, Carolina
Pageant Passion
NYC Beacon
Vaguely Vegas
Spirit And Belief
Ageing Gracefully
Seeds Grow
Sitting, Just Sitting
Loud!
Timeless Elegance
Living The Faith
Greenville
Colorado Bard
Acting Up
About The Author
Other Books By Brian Groves

BROOKLYN BLUES

Each person gives it a twist.
Yet the message remains sharp.

Attitude is key
to the Brooklyn Blues.
No hassle is accepted,
limits will not be breached.
Theirs is a mindset
for today,
tomorrow
and beyond.

What makes it so special?
Don't ask, won't tell.

Toughness without anger
unless they are pushed.
Wonder whether it is universal,
or merely a trait of three stars
playing the Brooklyn Blues.