



Bad Luck, Hot Rocks: Conscience Letters and Photographs from the Petrified Forest

From The Ice Plant



Bad Luck, Hot Rocks: Conscience Letters and Photographs from the Petrified Forest From The Ice Plant

The Petrified Forest National Park in Northeast Arizona protects one of the largest deposits of petrified wood in the world. Despite stern warnings, visitors remove several tons of petrified wood from the park each year, often returning these rocks by mail (sometimes years later), accompanied by a "conscience letter." These letters often include stories of misfortune attributed directly to their theft: car troubles, cats with cancer, deaths of family members, etc. Some writers hope that by returning these stolen rocks, good fortune will return to their lives, while others simply apologize or ask forgiveness. "They are beautiful," reads one letter, "but I can't enjoy them. They weigh like a ton of bricks on my conscience. Sorry..." *Bad Luck, Hot Rocks* documents this ongoing phenomenon, combining a series of original photographs of these otherworldly "bad luck rocks" with facsimiles of intimate, oddly entertaining letters from the park's archives.

 [Download Bad Luck, Hot Rocks: Conscience Letters and Photog ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Bad Luck, Hot Rocks: Conscience Letters and Phot ...pdf](#)

Bad Luck, Hot Rocks: Conscience Letters and Photographs from the Petrified Forest

From The Ice Plant

Bad Luck, Hot Rocks: Conscience Letters and Photographs from the Petrified Forest From The Ice Plant

The Petrified Forest National Park in Northeast Arizona protects one of the largest deposits of petrified wood in the world. Despite stern warnings, visitors remove several tons of petrified wood from the park each year, often returning these rocks by mail (sometimes years later), accompanied by a "conscience letter." These letters often include stories of misfortune attributed directly to their theft: car troubles, cats with cancer, deaths of family members, etc. Some writers hope that by returning these stolen rocks, good fortune will return to their lives, while others simply apologize or ask forgiveness. "They are beautiful," reads one letter, "but I can't enjoy them. They weigh like a ton of bricks on my conscience. Sorry...." *Bad Luck, Hot Rocks* documents this ongoing phenomenon, combining a series of original photographs of these otherworldly "bad luck rocks" with facsimiles of intimate, oddly entertaining letters from the park's archives.

Bad Luck, Hot Rocks: Conscience Letters and Photographs from the Petrified Forest From The Ice Plant Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #959574 in Books
- Published on: 2014-11-30
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 10.50" h x 7.50" w x .50" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 144 pages

 [Download Bad Luck, Hot Rocks: Conscience Letters and Photog ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Bad Luck, Hot Rocks: Conscience Letters and Phot ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Bad Luck, Hot Rocks: Conscience Letters and Photographs from the Petrified Forest From The Ice Plant

Editorial Review

Review

Bad Luck, Hot Rocks is part of Thompson's exploration of that relationship, in particular the significance that people attach to geologic oddities. [...] These peculiar interactions of man and mineral speak, Thompson believes, to the breakdown of human logic in the face of geologic time and space. (Nicola Twilley, *The New Yorker*, 2015-01-23)

The fossilized remains of an ancient forest, dazzling with glints of opal and amethyst, have tempted many a visitor to Arizona's Petrified Forest National Park. Some who pocketed a rock were later guilt-stricken into sending them back, and some even included letters of lamentation and curses. *Bad Luck, Hot Rocks: Conscience Letters and Photographs from the Petrified Forest*, published in November by the Ice Plant, is a photography and archive project by artists Ryan Thompson and Phil Orr to document these stolen fossils and their woeful apologies.

"They are beautiful, but I can't enjoy them ? they weigh like a ton of bricks on my conscience," one reads. "I can assure you that I have been smitten of conscience since I returned home and instead of pleasant memories of your park, I feel guilty," wails another. Thompson first discovered these mea culpas during a visit to the park's Rainbow Forest Museum in 2011, where a few of the "conscience letters" were on display. On further investigation, he found they were just a few from an archive of over 1,200 going back to 1934. The next year, he returned with Orr to photograph them in a collaborative project that's now the *Bad Luck, Hot Rocks* book. (Allison Meier *Hyperallergic*)

In *Bad Luck, Hot Rocks*, these letters are paired side-by-side with photographs of rocks from the "conscience pile" (returned rocks cannot be scattered back into the forest and are instead collected in a pile along a service road). The reader of these letters sits on the priest's side of a confessional booth? a non-denominational one, sanctioned by the Parks Service. This offers a distinct and fascinating perspective: throw your problems next to something 200 million years old, step back, and take a look. As you read these painstakingly handwritten confessions, it is possible to see the thieves' cancers and kidney stones in beautiful lumps of rock, trace broken marriages along cracks that were once tree rings, and feel something hard for fleeting moments... a funny thing. This book is timeless, as deep or as shallow as you want it to be. (Jenn Witte *The Improbable*)

"*Bad Luck, Hot Rocks*" is part of Thompson's exploration of that relationship, in particular the significance that people attach to geologic oddities. In earlier projects, he has documented "meteorwrongs," rocks initially identified as meteorites but later demoted to terrestrial status; glacial erratics, boulders left behind in foreign landscapes by melting ice; and an occult belief system built by a former I.B.M. research scientist around the geometries of quartz crystals. These peculiar interactions of man and mineral speak, Thompson believes, to the breakdown of human logic in the face of geologic time and space. (Nicola Twilley *The New Yorker*)

Indeed, if "*Bad Luck, Hot Rocks*" has any anything to tell us, it is that in sharing these small, seemingly insignificant confidences, we find comfort, consolation, if not quite redemption that they are, as they have always been, the currency of our living, for good or ill. (David L Ulin *Los Angeles Times*)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Carmen Fields:

The ability that you get from Bad Luck, Hot Rocks: Conscience Letters and Photographs from the Petrified Forest is a more deep you looking the information that hide into the words the more you get enthusiastic about reading it. It does not mean that this book is hard to understand but Bad Luck, Hot Rocks: Conscience Letters and Photographs from the Petrified Forest giving you enjoyment feeling of reading. The copy writer conveys their point in selected way that can be understood by simply anyone who read it because the author of this reserve is well-known enough. This book also makes your own vocabulary increase well. That makes it easy to understand then can go along, both in printed or e-book style are available. We highly recommend you for having this particular Bad Luck, Hot Rocks: Conscience Letters and Photographs from the Petrified Forest instantly.

Ellen Weiss:

Reading a guide can be one of a lot of pastime that everyone in the world enjoys. Do you like reading book consequently. There are a lot of reasons why people enjoyed. First reading a reserve will give you a lot of new info. When you read a reserve you will get new information mainly because book is one of various ways to share the information as well as their idea. Second, reading through a book will make an individual more imaginative. When you examining a book especially hype book the author will bring that you imagine the story how the character types do it anything. Third, you are able to share your knowledge to other individuals. When you read this Bad Luck, Hot Rocks: Conscience Letters and Photographs from the Petrified Forest, you could tells your family, friends and also soon about yours reserve. Your knowledge can inspire the others, make them reading a e-book.

Melissa Peterson:

Many people spending their moment by playing outside together with friends, fun activity using family or just watching TV 24 hours a day. You can have new activity to pay your whole day by reading a book. Ugh, ya think reading a book will surely hard because you have to bring the book everywhere? It all right you can have the e-book, getting everywhere you want in your Smartphone. Like Bad Luck, Hot Rocks: Conscience Letters and Photographs from the Petrified Forest which is having the e-book version. So , try out this book? Let's see.

Walter Telford:

This Bad Luck, Hot Rocks: Conscience Letters and Photographs from the Petrified Forest is completely new way for you who has curiosity to look for some information mainly because it relief your hunger info. Getting deeper you on it getting knowledge more you know or you who still having tiny amount of digest in reading this Bad Luck, Hot Rocks: Conscience Letters and Photographs from the Petrified Forest can be the light food for you personally because the information inside this kind of book is easy to get by means of anyone. These books build itself in the form which is reachable by anyone, yeah I mean in the e-book web

form. People who think that in book form make them feel sleepy even dizzy this guide is the answer. So there is not any in reading a publication especially this one. You can find what you are looking for. It should be here for you actually. So , don't miss the item! Just read this e-book type for your better life and knowledge.

Download and Read Online Bad Luck, Hot Rocks: Conscience Letters and Photographs from the Petrified Forest From The Ice Plant #75DI43N2LJ8

Read Bad Luck, Hot Rocks: Conscience Letters and Photographs from the Petrified Forest From The Ice Plant for online ebook

Bad Luck, Hot Rocks: Conscience Letters and Photographs from the Petrified Forest From The Ice Plant Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Bad Luck, Hot Rocks: Conscience Letters and Photographs from the Petrified Forest From The Ice Plant books to read online.

Online Bad Luck, Hot Rocks: Conscience Letters and Photographs from the Petrified Forest From The Ice Plant ebook PDF download

Bad Luck, Hot Rocks: Conscience Letters and Photographs from the Petrified Forest From The Ice Plant Doc

Bad Luck, Hot Rocks: Conscience Letters and Photographs from the Petrified Forest From The Ice Plant Mobipocket

Bad Luck, Hot Rocks: Conscience Letters and Photographs from the Petrified Forest From The Ice Plant EPub