



## Book of Dreams

By Jack Kerouac

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**Book of Dreams** By Jack Kerouac

*Book of Dreams* is Jack Kerouac's record of his dream life, a parallel autobiography of the soul, the sleeper's *On the Road*:

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"I got my weary bones out of bed & through eyes swollen with sleep swiftly scribbled in pencil in my little dream notebook till I had exhausted every rememberable item . . . ."

Awake or asleep, Jack's mind spun the web of relationships that were the substance of almost everything he wrote:

"In the book of dreams I just continue the same story but in the dreams I had of the real-life characters I always write about."

"Lost love, madness, castration, cats that speak, cats in danger of their lives, people giving birth to cats, grade school classrooms, Mel Torme, Zsa Zsa Gabor, Tolstoy and Genet all make repeated appearances, lending the collection a repetitive, nonprogrammatic logic and exposing an unfamiliar sort of vulnerable beauty in Kerouac's iconic persona." —*Publishers Weekly*

"There is much to lament in the saga of his life, and quite a bit is surprising."  
—Michael Kammen, *Los Angeles Book Review*

Jack Kerouac (1922-1969) was a principal actor in the Beat Generation, a companion of Allen Ginsberg and Neal Cassady in that great adventure. His books include *On the Road*, *The Dharma Bums*, *Mexico City Blues*, *Lonesome Traveler*, *Visions of Cody*, *Pomes All Sizes* (City Lights), *Scattered Poems* (City Lights), and *Scripture of the Golden Eternity* (City Lights).

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## Book of Dreams By Jack Kerouac Bibliography

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- 360 pages

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### Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

This new edition of the primary beat's private dream diaries presents the whole of Kerouac's original manuscript, including some 200-odd dreams not published in the initial selection (1961). More or less liberated from the requirements of the Beat swagger, Kerouac's writing is at times blissfully uncool, evoking an almost naive and sentimental sensibility: "this kitty was an angel, and spoke the truth"; "nobody loves me 'cause there's no me." Correspondences between some dream characters and their counterparts in the novels are not accidental, and are correlated in a prologue (and by poet Robert Creeley, in an insightful introduction). But many facets of Kerouac's oeuvre appear here much less polished, and more naked and powerful: "My mother and I are arm in arm on the floor, I'm crying afraid to die, she's blissful and has one leg in pink sexually out between me, and I'm thinking 'Even on the verge of death women think of love & snaky affection' Women? who's dreaming this?" Lost love, madness, castration, cats that speak, cats in danger of their lives, people giving birth to cats, grade school classrooms, Mel Torme, Zsa Zsa Gabor, Tolstoy and Genet all make repeated appearances, lending the collection a repetitive, nonprogrammatic logic and exposing an unfamiliar sort of vulnerable beauty in Kerouac's iconic persona. One only wonders, in the end, whether anyone, even Jack Kerouac, really has such fantastic dreams. (June 30) Forecast: With memoir still a dominant beach-read genre, and with Kerouac still a Dean-like name, proper promotion and review attention could lead to significant sales. City Lights, still the premier publisher of Beatiana, will also bring out a collection of interviews, *San Francisco Beat: Talking with the Poets* (including Joanne Kyger, Kenneth Rexroth and Gary Snyder), in June (\$19.95 paper 384p ISBN 0-87286-379-4). Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc.

### About the Author

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#### Deborah Knight:

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been ride on and with addition associated with. Even you love Book of Dreams, you may enjoy both. It is very good combination right, you still desire to miss it? What kind of hangout type is it? Oh seriously its mind hangout fellas. What? Still don't get it, oh come on its called reading friends.

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