



## In the Country of Last Things

By Paul Auster

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**In the Country of Last Things** By Paul Auster

**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**

- Sales Rank: #570475 in Books
- Brand: Auster, Paul
- Published on: 1988-05-02
- Released on: 1988-05-02
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.90" h x .60" w x 5.20" l,
- Binding: Paperback
- 208 pages

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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 magicians' 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:**

**Laura Thompson:**

Do you have favorite book? If you have, what is your favorite's book? Publication is very important thing for

us to understand everything in the world. Each publication has different aim as well as goal; it means that guide has different type. Some people truly feel enjoy to spend their a chance to read a book. They can be reading whatever they acquire because their hobby will be reading a book. What about the person who don't like reading through a book? Sometime, person feel need book when they found difficult problem as well as exercise. Well, probably you should have this In the Country of Last Things.

**Gail Cote:**

In other case, little people like to read book In the Country of Last Things. You can choose the best book if you appreciate reading a book. As long as we know about how is important a book In the Country of Last Things. You can add expertise and of course you can around the world by the book. Absolutely right, since from book you can learn everything! From your country until foreign or abroad you will end up known. About simple point until wonderful thing it is possible to know that. In this era, we can open a book or searching by internet device. It is called e-book. You may use it when you feel bored to go to the library. Let's examine.

**Carmen Hamm:**

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**Warren Cruz:**

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