

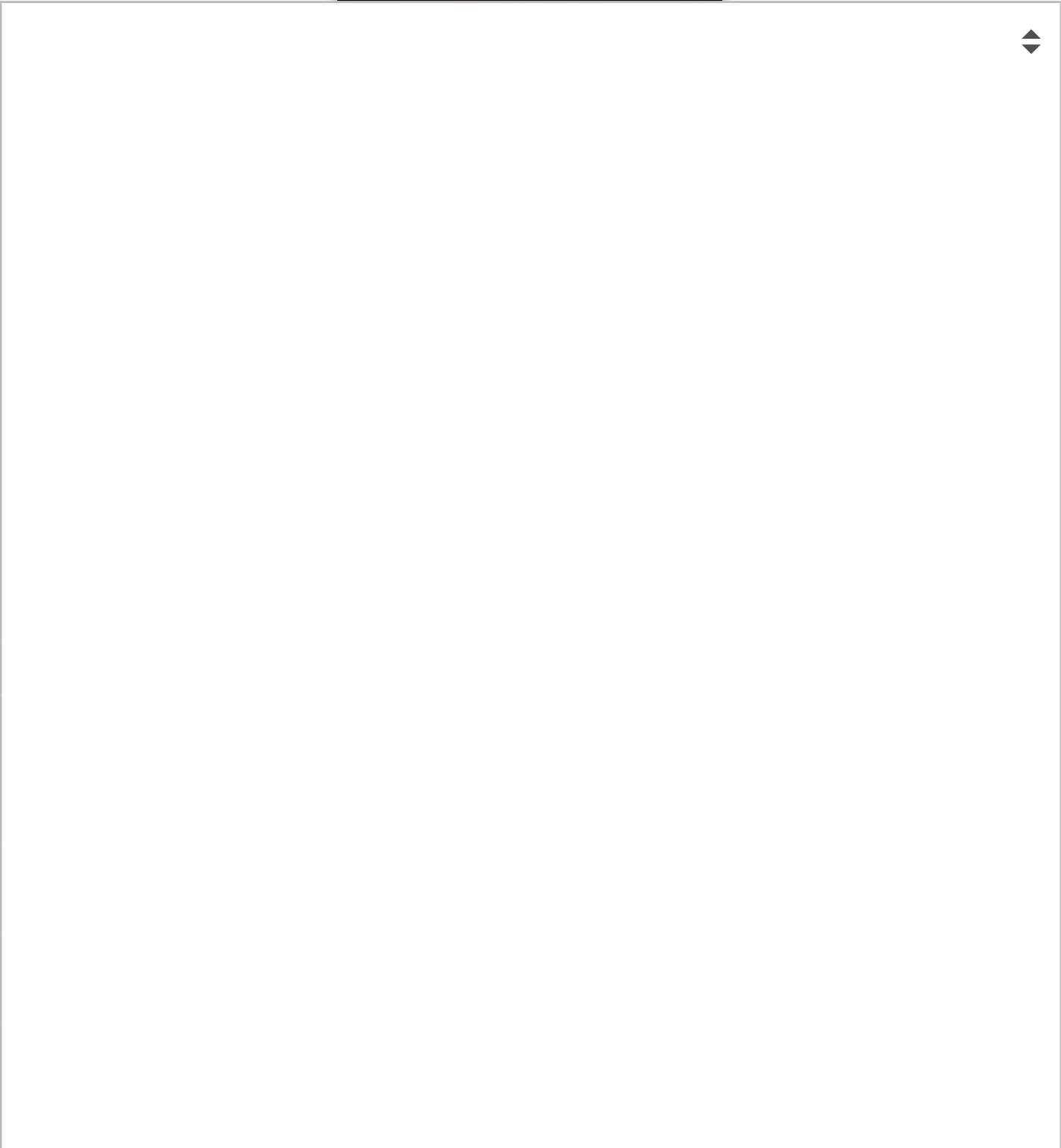
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About the Book

"A beautiful, absorbing, tragic book."—Larry McMurtry

In 1851, a war began in what would become Yosemite National Park, a war against the indigenous inhabitants. A century later—in 1951—and a hundred and fifty miles away, another war began when the U.S. government started setting off nuclear bombs at the Nevada Test Site. It was called a nuclear testing program, but functioned as a war against the land and people of the Great Basin.

In this foundational book of landscape theory and environmental thinking, Rebecca Solnit explores our national Eden and Armageddon and offers a pathbreaking history of the west, focusing on the relationship between culture and its implementation as politics. In a new preface, she considers the continuities and changes of these invisible wars in the context of our current climate change crisis, and reveals how the long arm of these histories continue to

From Our Blog



A Yosemite National Park Reading List

On this day in 1864 President Lincoln signed a law leading to the protection of what we know today as Yosemite National Park. Dive deeper into the history of this iconic landscape ...

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About the Author

Rebecca Solnit is the author of many books, including *Storming the Gates of Paradise*, *Infinite City: A San Francisco Atlas*, and *Unfathomable City: A New Orleans Atlas*, all from UC Press.

Reviews

"A beautiful, absorbing, tragic book. . . . Rebecca Solnit tells this story with the passion and clarity it deserves."—Larry McMurtry

"The product of a stunningly original and expansive imagination. *Savage Dreams* ties together the histories of Yosemite National Park and the Nevada Test Site... to illuminate the political stakes of how we think about, and act upon, the landscape." —*SF Weekly*

"*Savage Dreams* summons us to the campfires of resistance."—Mike Davis, author of *City of Quartz*

"*Savage Dreams* is about many things: despoliation and restoration, finding a voice between contemporary noise and silence, making friends and enemies. Most of all, though, it may be about a journey into history: about how understanding history and making it are not really very different."—Greil Marcus, author of *Lipstick Traces*

"A wonderful and important book, weaving past and present, politics and spirituality, land and history, pleasure and outrage, esthetics and activism, into a map where we as Americans find ourselves today. Intellectually challenging but beautifully written and eminently readable, *Savage Dreams* has both heart and teeth." —Lucy Lippard, author of *Overlay: Contemporary Art and the Art of Prehistory*

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