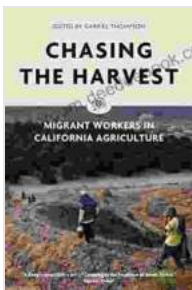


Migrant Workers in California Agriculture: A Voice of Witness

Migrant workers play a vital role in California's agriculture industry, but they often face a range of challenges, including low wages, poor working conditions, and limited access to healthcare and other basic needs. This article gives a voice to these workers, sharing their stories and experiences in their own words.



Chasing the Harvest: Migrant Workers in California Agriculture (Voice of Witness) by Gabriel Thompson

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 2120 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
X-Ray : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 321 pages



Low Wages

One of the biggest challenges migrant workers face is low wages. Many earn less than minimum wage, and they often work long hours in difficult conditions. This makes it difficult for them to support themselves and their families.

"I work 12 hours a day, six days a week, and I only make \$8 an hour," said one worker. "It's not enough to support my family. I have to send money back to Mexico to help my parents and my children."



Poor Working Conditions

In addition to low wages, migrant workers often face poor working conditions. They may work in fields that are hot, dusty, and dangerous. They may also be exposed to pesticides and other chemicals. These conditions can lead to a range of health problems, including heat exhaustion, respiratory problems, and skin irritation.

"I've been working in the fields for over 20 years," said one worker. "I've seen people get sick from the heat, from the pesticides, and from the hard work. It's a tough life."



Limited Access to Healthcare

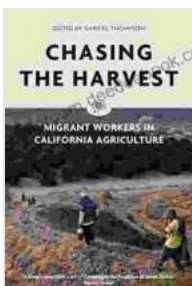
Migrant workers often have limited access to healthcare. They may not be able to afford health insurance, and they may not be able to get to a doctor or clinic. This can make it difficult for them to get the care they need, even for basic illnesses and injuries.

"I got sick last year, and I couldn't afford to go to the doctor," said one worker. "I had to wait until I got so sick that I couldn't work anymore. By then, I was really sick, and I had to go to the hospital. I was lucky that I didn't die."



Migrant workers in California agriculture face a range of challenges, but they are essential to the state's economy. They deserve to be treated with dignity and respect, and they should have access to fair wages, safe working conditions, and quality healthcare.

We must all work together to create a more just and equitable food system for all.



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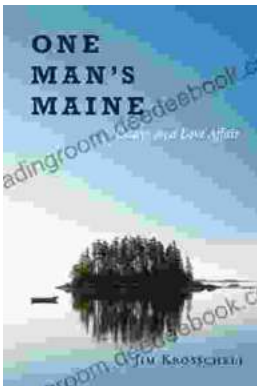
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