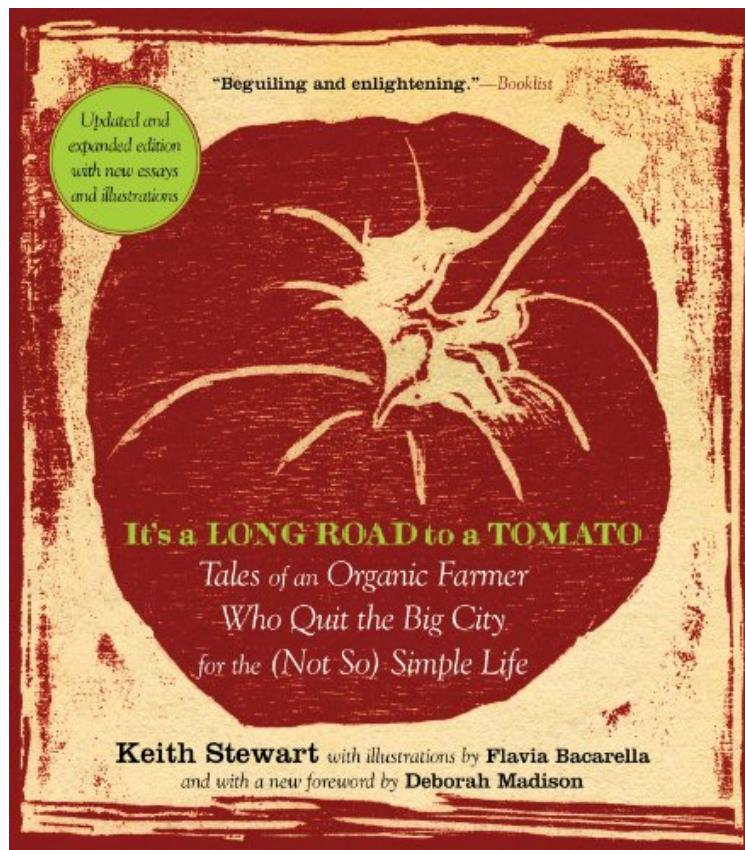


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It's a Long Road to a Tomato: Tales of an Organic Farmer Who Quit the Big City for the (Not So) Simple Life

Keith Stewart

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Keith Stewart : It's a Long Road to a Tomato: Tales of an Organic Farmer Who Quit the Big City for the (Not So) Simple Life before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised It's a Long Road to a Tomato: Tales of an Organic Farmer Who Quit the Big City for the (Not So) Simple Life:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. "Tomato" offers an inside view of the daily life of Organic Farming...By Dan GibsonIf you want to understand a good bit about the daily life, the challenges of growing healthy vegetables, and the business and politics of organic farming this book is for you! Concise prose, infected with wisdom and humor this series of short essays is insightful and truly a pleasure to read.Beyond all that, what makes "A Long Road to a Tomato" worth reading is the unvarnished sharing of what this farmer thinks, feels and does as he grows his business and carves his niche in New York City's competitive Union Square Greenmarket. If we had such an honest telling of how our agribusiness-supermarket food came to be, we'd all be in line at greenmarkets growing throughout this country. A fascinating story, well worth your time and attention!If you are interested in "Growing Organic Vegetables and Herbs" get Keith's book by this name, a very readable encyclopedia of facts, procedures and wisdom

on how to produce food without poisons, also sold by . Dan0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Amazing farmerBy Ellen KirouacRecently I read IT'S A LONG ROAD TO A TOMATO: TALES OF AN ORGANIC FARMER WHO QUIT THE BIG CITY FOR THE (NOT SO) SIMPLE LIFE by Keith Stewart and so was engrossed that I neglected of my work. As a vendor at my local farmers market in St. Augustine, Florida where I sell herbs I have an inkling of the work that a farmer does, or at least I thought I did. This marvelous book tells it as it REALLY is. Keith writes with passion and truth about the trials and tribulations, joys and rewards that he and his interns face while farming organically in upstate New York. He's been a passionate, sustainable farmer who has been farming for more than 20 years. His beautiful words, his descriptions of his farm, the informative portrayal of what he does from writing about barn swallows that he welcomes into his barn in the spring to the business of how he feels about the environment create a moving book. One needs to thank Keith for writing this amazing book. I for one didn't want the book to end. I for one wanted to bite into more words and some of the glorious produce Keith raises on his farm.IT'S A LONG ROAD TO A TOMATO is touching and filled with Keith's love of life, of farming, of the earth. I intend to pass it on to my like minded friends as I know they will enjoy it as much as myself.You will miss out if you don't read this book!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. InspiringBy James LynchI'm not a farmer. But have romanticized the idea of living in the woods and growing my own food for a long time. I found Keith's writing style and stories inspiring and fascinating. After reading this book I am even stronger in my resolve to do whatever it takes to get out of city life and return to a more natural and rural setting.

A new edition of longtime farmer Keith Stewart's deeply personal and highly acclaimed book on the hows and whys of running a small organic farm in 21st century America—updated with five new essays, a foreword by Deborah Madison, and gorgeous new woodcuts by Flavia BacarellaKeith Stewart, already in his early forties and discontent with New York's corporate grind, moved upstate and started a one-man organic farm in 1986. Today, having surmounted the seemingly endless challenges to succeeding as an organic farmer, Keith employs seven to eight seasonal interns and provides 100 varieties of fresh produce to the shoppers and chefs who flock twice weekly, May to December, to his stand at Union Square Greenmarket in Manhattan—the only place where his produce is sold. It's a Long Road to a Tomato opens a window into the world of Keith's Farm, with essays on Keith's development as a farmer, the nuts and bolts of organic farming for an urban market, farm animals domestic and wild, and the political, social, and environmental issues relevant to agriculture today—and their impact on all of us.

From BooklistIf one is fortunate enough to live near one of the more than 3,700 towns or cities that support a regular farmer's market, then one has undoubtedly met the likes of Stewart, an upstate New York farmer who transports his harvest of organically grown exotic vegetables and herbs to New York City's venerable Union Square Greenmarket, where he has won loyal fans and attracted the attention of both the Food Channel and PBS. But to visit a farmer's market is to see only the tangible result of a ceaseless cycle of planning, planting, weeding, and harvesting. Stewart's beguiling and enlightening collection of essays recalls both the triumphs and tragedies, the demanding reality and the rewards of pursuing a way of life that 20 years ago Stewart decided would be infinitely more satisfying than the corporate ladder he was climbing in Manhattan. Carol HaggasCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved Praise for It's a Long Road to a Tomato "[A] heartfelt chronicle, sobering and amusing by turn. Although focused on the particular, it transcends Keith's Farm and illuminates exactly what it is that we are putting on our plates, whether we shop at Keith Stewart's stand in the Union Square Greenmarket or at a farmers' market elsewhere. It's a delicious read—but what makes it an important one is that it has so enriched the ongoing conversation about food."—from the new foreword by Deborah Madison "Beguiling and enlightening"—Booklist "Keith Stewart's essays afford a fine way 'in' to the compelling realities of life on a small organic farm in the twenty-first century. His writing is precise and evocative: immediacy bound with a strong meditative underpinning that is an enduring pleasure to read. Like all really good writing, it illuminates a great deal more than the subject at hand."—Sally Schneider, syndicated columnist and author of A New Way to Cook "Keith's writing reads with the force and love of nature's elements—strong, refreshing, beautiful, and true. It's as fresh as his delicious carrots, and as poignant as his incomparable garlic!"—Leslie McEachern, owner of the Angelica Kitchen, New York City "Keith Stewart has been providing New Yorkers with magnificent vegetables for two decades. Now, as if to prove he can do anything, he provides all Americans with a compelling story about his own approach to farming. And at precisely the right moment, just as millions of people across the country are rediscovering the pleasure, and the importance, of eating close to home."—Bill McKibben, author of Wandering Home and The End of Nature "Ever dreamed of living on a farm or growing your own food? Here's the clearest picture of what farm life really looks like. The romance of pastoral life isn't shattered by Stewart's depiction of the gritty reality of farm life. They coexist, side by side, mirroring Stewart's organic and integrated approach to farming. Stewart's book is a gift to cooks. Now, each time I cook with food from a farmer I know, I have a deeper and clearer idea of what really goes into growing healthy and delicious food and why our farmers are heroes."—Peter Hoffman, chef/owner of Savoy Restaurant, New York City "To combat urban crowding, copies of It's a Long Road to a Tomato should be airlifted into major cities. The captivating charm of

organic farming, so deliciously described in Keith Stewart's essays, would surely have hordes of city dwellers packing their bags. Stewart's stories transport me into the precious and full life of an organic farmer. I more than appreciate it; I now feel part of it."—Jeffrey M. Smith, author of *Seeds of Deception*"Keith Stewart opens this engaging book by transforming himself abruptly from midlife executive into novice organic farmer. The twenty years that follow on an upstate New York farm are sampled here in true-life tales that—without denying the sometimes harsh realities of the small producer's life—leave the reader in no doubt of the joys that keep this small farmer on the land."—Joan Dye Gussow, author of *This Organic Life*Praise for Keith Stewart and His Produce"Keith's farm grows garlic from another planet compared with the stuff in supermarkets."—*New York Times*"The most soulful garlic on earth."—*Time Out New York*