struggles and different organizations as an activist. He tells stories about his experiences in Appalachia and talks about the victories and losses with him.

When foodies concentrated on their own plates, they lost sight of the malign impacts of the larger food system. There is just one big food system. People in the United States are eating foods grown by farmers who are squeezing out and rural towns. Dwellers who doubt they are part of larger systems need only open their wind and smell the nearest CAFO.

When he was younger, inspired by Thoreau, Thompson took to the woods in an unused cabin on part of his grandfather's land. There he found invisible old people and learned the difference between voluntary simplicity and deprivation enforced by age and poverty. As he has grown older, the distinction between real life in America and America observed just "...how irrelevant self-reliant, pull yourself-up-by-your-bootstraps dreams were...". Trying to go back to the land revealed to him how all aspects of American rural life were interrelated in a political context and was controlled elsewhere. He went to college to learn why farms were failing and what people could do about it.

His journey took him in both directions: organizing to be a catalyst for change among some of the weakest in our land and continuing his learning to grasp the prin-

ples of sustainability. As he traveled the disparities he was experiencing. His efforts, no matter how well intentioned, did not change the lives of families of inequality and hunger. In the South, he learned that his white skin bestowed privilege in a racist America and he had not experienced at home.

His agricultural romanticism survives in the distant memory of his own family's farm and the experience of the racial caste system of the South, but it was his organizing work in the dark and desolate coal country of Appalachia.

Grassroots Rising: A Call to Action on Climate, Farming, Food, and a Green New Deal
By Rennie Cummings

This book is no unabashed manifesto for action to reverse climate change and create a livable planet for us all. It is a call to action instead of an apologetic and renewable energy. The book is full of lists of things you can do and ideas about how to do them. I would suggest you start by reading the book. Then write your name on the front page and give it to someone else. The book is that simple. And so on until the book is so worn out no one can read it again. Then use it for compost. Print it with plant-based inks on recycled paper, so that will work.

Australia, governed by fossil fuel proxies, is proving to bring a massive propaganda campaign denies climate change. The military has been de-

ployed to protect the power, profits, and climate of the planet. America America seems to be following that example, as anyone who has been exposed to the climate debate in the past 20 years can attest.

The book begins with a simple story of how the world is changing for the better. We burn flood, burn, desiccate, and poison our environment while agricultural and energy companies make their profits.

In the wake of the radical right's campaign to displace the government, the US government has been called to order by the people. The book is full of stories about the experience of those who are fighting to save their land and the environment. While we can emerge and survive as a more perfect union, everything America stands for is riding on the question of whether, "...our government is made of white people who care about the future of our planet, not corporations."

Agricultural practices that are tied to the land and people of America -- a land that gives richness to Earth and carries us to the end of the world.

The solution? Something like the Green New Deal, a program of replac-

ing fossil fuel with renewable energy sources and supportive infrastructure that will sequester carbon in the soil. That requires a massive transformation of the American food system, not just about cleaning up our air, water, and soils. It's also about enabling an equitable economic system in which all have some kind of stake besides profit.

Corporations can't change a system from which they profit. In the end, we can't afford to lose our jobs. That's the bottom line. "I'll never let it go," said Dr. Seuss, "...I'll never let it go...".