

Award-winning journalist Brian Barth introduces us to the misfits, activists, and iconoclasts of Silicon Valley's homeless encampments. Blending memoir, investigative reporting, history, and cultural criticism to paint a portrait of a community searching for dignity and connection in the midst of crisis, *Front Street* is a conversation-changing story about the struggle for housing.

In research on nineteenth- and twentieth-century homelessness and philosophical contemplations of communal anarchy, and through honest conversations with residents, Barth shows how the solution to homelessness isn't as straightforward as one might think.

Front Street considers the root causes and possible solutions to chronic homelessness, contemplating political, economic, social, and spiritual approaches alike. With empathy and poise, Barth follows this cast of characters, describing their personal stories, quotidian experiences, private philosophies, and political activism. In doing so, *Front Street* explains why the country's current approach to homelessness has become at once cruel and ineffective and makes the radical argument that encampments, when treated generously and fairly, have something important to teach the rest of us about autonomy, dignity, connection, and care.

Brian Barth is an award-winning independent journalist with bylines in *The New Yorker*, *National Geographic*, *The Washington Post*, *The New Republic*, and *Mother Jones*, among other publications. He lives between the Bay Area and California's remote Lost Coast region, where he is developing a spiritual refuge—open to seekers, broken souls, and all of humankind—amid a foggy, fern-filled forest.

Marc Viotor, an AudioFile Earphones Award-winning narrator, is an actor working with the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, Royal Shakespeare Company, the Old Globe, and many others. His film and television credits include *Asylum Seekers* and *Law & Order*. He is a graduate of Yale University and the Juilliard School.

Read by Marc Viotor

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AUDIO

<Front Street>

Brian Barth

Adult



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