

BLACK FLAGS AND WINDMILLS

Hope, Anarchy and the Common Ground Collective

scott crow

When both levees and governments failed in New Orleans in the Fall of 2005, scott crow headed into the political storm, co-founding a relief effort called the Common Ground Collective. In the absence of local government, FEMA, and the Red Cross, this unusual volunteer organization, based on 'solidarity not charity,' built medical clinics, set up food and water distribution, and created community gardens. They also resisted home demolitions, white militias, police brutality and FEMA incompetence side by side with the people of New Orleans.

crow's vivid memoir maps the intertwining of his radical experience and ideas with Katrina's reality, and community efforts to translate ideals into action. It is a story of resisting indifference, rebuilding hope amidst collapse, and struggling against the grain. *Black Flags and Windmills* invites and challenges all of us to learn from our histories, and dream of better worlds. And gives us some of the tools to do so.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

scott crow is an Austin, TX based anarchist community organizer, writer, and trainer who began working on anti-apartheid, international political prisoner and animal rights issues in the mid 1980s. He is the co-founder and co-organizer of several social justice groups and education projects throughout Texas and the South including Common Ground Collective (with Malik Rahim), Radical Encuentro Camp, UPROAR (United People Resisting Oppression and Racism), Dirty South Earth First!, and North Texas Coalition for a Just Peace. He has trained and organized for Greenpeace, Ruckus Society, Rainforest Action Network, A.C.O.R.N., Forest Ethics, and Ralph Nader, and many smaller grassroots groups. He is currently collaborating on long-term sustainable democratic economic mutual aid projects within Austin.

ACCOLADES

"(scott crow is a)...prominent anarchist community organizer behind a host of organizations including Radical Encuentro Camp, and Treasure City Thrift..."

—Austin Chronicle

"...a living legend amongst anarchist circles..."

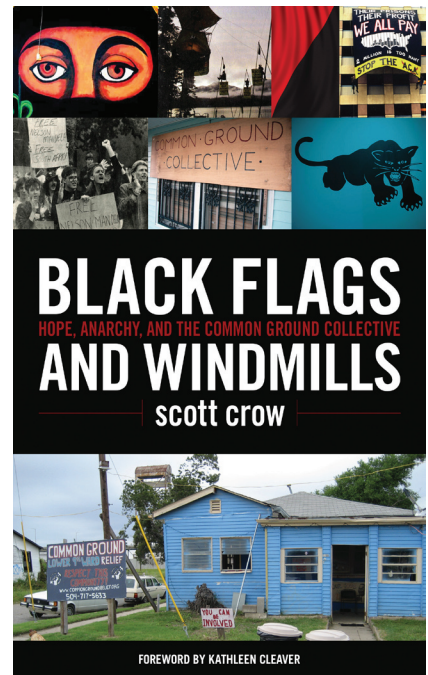
—This American Life

"..depending on your sense of humor or your sense of irony...(crow and common ground)...are the good anarchists.."

—CNN

" ... crow is a puppetmaster..."

—Federal Bureau of Investigation



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