

## Pompeii The Living City

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*Mason Neale Matthews-Northrup Company*

the living city an intelligent analysis sensible undoctrinaire even good humored an appealing mixture of passion and clinical dispassion washington post book world the best antidote i've read to the doom and gloom prophecies concerning the future of urban america bill moyers this is fresh and fascinating material it is essential for understanding not only how to avoid repeating terrible mistakes of the past but also how to recover from them jane jacobs author of the death and life of great american cities from coast to coast across america there are countless urban success stories about rejuvenated neighborhoods and resurgent business districts roberta brandes gratz defines the phenomenon as urban husbandry the care management and preservation of the built environment nurtured by genuine participatory planning efforts of government urban planners and average citizens

first published in 1990 the options and probabilities for the future of cities are issues of outstanding contemporary importance both in the developed and developing worlds the living city draws together both current mainstream ideas on their futures and various alternative views to enliven the debate and put forward an agenda for sustainable urban development emphasizing ideas that question the economic imperatives of that development certain aspects of city life the economy of the city city countryside relationships the city as a cultural centre are selected for study as the book looks at the historical past and current experiences to speculate on the likely condition of cities in the future in addition the book investigates whether the third world experience of city life is a separate experience or whether there are lessons to be learnt relating to all cities the book will appeal to professionals in the surveying planning and architectural fields as well as students and academics in planning geography economics architecture development studies and sociology and anyone interested in issues concerning the city and the environment

a sociologist explores why green cities won't fix everything and urges us to celebrate urban life as it is everywhere you look cities are getting greener the general assumption is clear if something is unhealthy or bad about urban life today then nature holds the cure however argues sociologist des fitzgerald green spaces are not the panacea that people think in the living city fitzgerald tours the international green city movement that has flourished across the world and discovers the deep sometimes troubling roots of our desire to connect cities to nature talking to policy makers planners scientists and architects fitzgerald suggests that underneath the wish to turn future cities green is another wish to make the modern city and perhaps the modern world disappear altogether ultimately he makes an argument for celebrating the contemporary city as it is in all its noisy constructed artificial glory

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