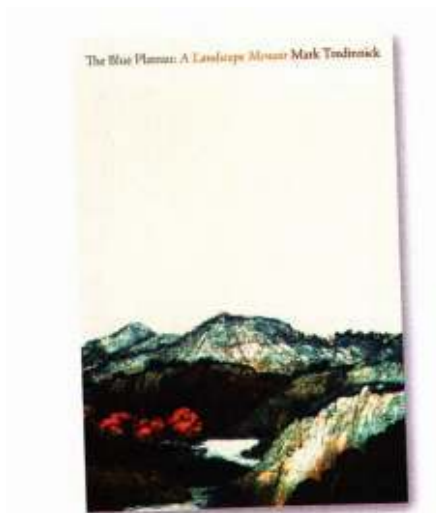




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The Blue Plateau: A landscape memoir
 Mark Tredinnick

The Blue Mountains were officially called the Blue Plateau until the 1930s. Reading this book it is clear that this recent change is less than a speck in the long history of the region. Mark Tredinnick offers many lessons in the geology and geography of the place and always in the most loving and sincerely affecting way. Despite the many hardships endured in this region, this is a strangely life-affirming 'landscape memoir'. All the characters are historically factual but are written in the language of myth and legend.

This book is like a hymn of praise to a place and its people. Everything and everybody is connected and integrated with one another and the landscape. The inhabitants live heartbreaking, hardworking existences profoundly connected to the valleys in the Blue Plateau. They share their lives intimately with the Kedumba and Kanimbla landscape and the animals. Even the rocks, plants and bushfires and drought seem to be characters in themselves.

Most libraries will shelve this fable at 919.994 – Description and Travel. It really belongs with prose poems, tragedies or maybe love songs. I do hope the readers find it.

★★★★★ **RG UQP \$26.95**
Reviewed by Frances Love