

# ‘BEFORE & AFTER’



## US 191 AT ARCHES NATIONAL PARK 1940s & TODAY

Until the 1950s, when the road from Crescent Jct to Moab was finally paved, just covering those 30 miles could be an ordeal. In this image, taken in the late 1940s, view of the “highway” is looking south, just north of Arches National Monument headquarters.

The original sandstone structure, “the Rock House,” as it’s known today, is visible in the distance. It served as residence to the park’s various custodians and rangers, from the 40s until the last 1970s.

US 191 is now a four lane highway. The old road has been converted to be a bicycle trail.

The Rock House still stands.





In **Notes on Paper**, Falke walks us through the landscape of one man's mind, which contains both his past and an awareness of our common future. From within private memories the narrator reaches out to us with 'we' and 'you', and each spare line invokes the hope that we, like him, are worthy of return to our most longed for places. And if to return is not our fate,

and really it never can be, the narrator bids us survey our own memories, taking time in the present for the winds, and the words, that move the world.

## NOTES ON PAPER DAMON FALKE

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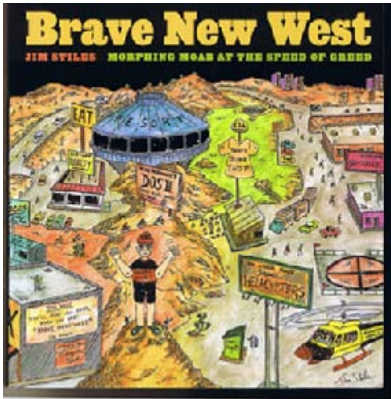


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*"Jim Stiles holds up a mirror to those of us living in the American West, exposing issues we may not want to face. We are all complicit in the shadow side of growth. His words are born not so much out of anger but a broken heart.*

*He says he writes elegies for the landscape he loves, that he is "hopelessly clinging to the past."*

*I would call Stiles a writer from the future.*

*Brave New West is a book of import because of what it chooses to expose."*

Terry  
Tempest Williams



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