# WE ATE THE ROAD LIKE VULTURES

**BY LYNNETTE LOUNSBURY**

i ate this book up in a few days, like a beat-culture-lover-vulture! so good. like so many other kids, 'on the road' changed my life—and the course of it—when I read it. i became mad for sal & dean, kerouac & cassady became my heroes, bookish and real. i devoured everything i could on them, especially neal, & decided i wanted to write like them, neal in particular, which wannabe-writer-beatnik-boy or kitty-kat doesn't?! but it came off like juvenile imitation, like it does, when you fall in love with writing that wakes something up inside you and it's like you can speak for the first time. but your own voice takes a bit more time, so instead of trying to write like them, i decided to write about them, and spent a year travelling with them, living with them, writing my thesis on jack, 'on the road', the beats, and neal. to see them both alive on the page again, to live and travel with them for a few days, well, can't beat that.

the decision to write about your heroes can be like meeting them, it can go either way. lynnette has brought these beat brothers back to life with such love. jack & neal love aside, its such a great story, staring such a wonderful cast of characters—especially lulu—loved that this story was told through the eyes of a sixteen-year-old chick—so beautifully written, brimming with joy and fun and sadness, and above all, tenderness… and oh, man, the scene with jack & lulu in the bar, and the closing departing pages, made me cry… love when a book does that.

lynnette, thank you for bringing these two back to life, and back into my life for a brief time, was so good to spend time with them again—think I had as much fun meeting lulu and adolf as they did.

'we ate the road like vultures' is sitting happily alongside kerouac & cassady on my bookshelf, i highly recommend reading it and reckon it will find pride of place on your bookshelf, in between the beats, or just as happily with any of your best books. dig it. **—Brendan Fredericks, BFPR**