Acclaimed novelist Brad Kessler lived in New York City but longed for a life on the land where he could grow his own food. After years of searching for a home, he and his wife, photographer Dona Ann McAdams, found a mountain farmhouse on a dead-end road, with seventy-five acres of land. One day, when Dona returned home with fresh goat milk from a neighbors farm, Kessler made a fresh chèvre, and their life changed forever. They decided to raise dairy goats and make cheese. Goat Song tells about what its like to live intimately with animals who directly feed you. As Kessler begins to live the life of a herder -- learning how to care for and breed and birth goats -- he encounters the pastoral roots of so many aspects of Western culture. Kessler reflects on the history and literature of herding, and how our diet, our alphabet, our religions, poetry, and economy all grew out of a pastoralist milieu among hoofed animals. Kessler and his wife
adapt to a life governed by their goats and the rhythm of the seasons. And their goats give back in immeasurable ways, as Kessler proves to be a remarkable cheesemaker, with his first tomme of goat cheese winning lavish praise from Americas premier cheese restaurants. In the tradition of Thoreaus Walden and Annie Dillards Pilgrim at Tinker Creek, Goat Song is both a spiritual quest and a compelling and beautiful chronicle of living by natures rules.

Features:  
* ISBN13: 9781416560999  
* Condition: USED - LIKE NEW  
* Notes:

Personal Review: Goat Song: A Seasonal Life, A Short History of Herding, and the Art of Making Cheese by Brad Kessler
What a fun book! Brad Kessler shares his adventure of learning to live with goats in the total sense of the word "live". It was a joy to become aware of connections to goats throughout our language. Kessler describes the fascinating process of cheese making while sharing his ruminations about life and our place in the web of life.

One of my favorite passages that sums up what he learned in his journey with the goats is a quotation from another writer.

"We need another and a wiser and perhaps more mystical concept of animals," the naturalist Henry Beston wrote. "In a world older and more complete than ours they moved finished and complete, gifted with extensions of the sense we have lost or never attained, living by voices we shall never hear. They are not brethren, they are not underlings; they are other nations, caught with ourselves in the net of life and time."

I hope to become more observant when I have the opportunity to interact with those nations.

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Goat Song: A Seasonal Life, A Short History of Herding, and the Art of Making Cheese by Brad Kessler 5 Star Customer Reviews and Lowest Price!