Growing up in South Dakota, Josh Garrett-Davis always knew he would leave. But as a young adult, he kept going back in dreams and reality and by way of books. With this beautifully written narrative about a seemingly empty but actually rich and complex place, he has reclaimed his childhood, his unusual family—and the Great Plains. Among the subjects and people who bring his Plains to life are the destruction and resurgence of the American bison; his great-great-grandparents’ twenty-year sojourn in Nebraska as homesteaders; Native American “Ghost Dancers,” who attempted to...