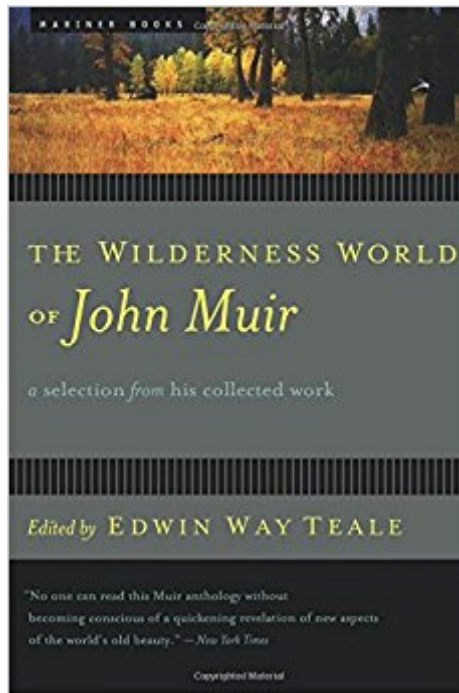




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The Wilderness World Of John Muir



Synopsis

John Muir's extraordinary vision of America comes to life in these fascinating selections from his personal journals. As a conservationist, John Muir traveled through most of the American wilderness alone and on foot, without a gun or a sleeping bag. In 1903, while on a three-day camping trip with President Theodore Roosevelt, he convinced the president of the importance of a national conservation program, and he is widely recognized for saving the Grand Canyon and Arizona's Petrified Forest. Muir's writing, based on journals he kept throughout his life, gives our generation a picture of an America still wild and unsettled only one hundred years ago. In *The Wilderness World of John Muir* Edwin Way Teale has selected the best of Muir's writing from all of his major works—including *My First Summer in the Sierra* and *Travels in Alaska*—to provide a singular collection that provides to be "magnificent, thrilling, exciting, breathtaking, and awe-inspiring" (Kirkus Reviews).

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Customer Reviews

Muir's writing, based on journals he kept throughout his life, gives our generation a picture of America only 100 years ago, still wild and unsettled. Edwin Way Teale has preserved the best of Muir's work in selections that show both the age and the man.

John Muir (1838-1914) was one of the most influential conservationists and nature writers in American history. He was instrumental in the creation and passage of the National Parks Act,

and founder of the Sierra Club, acting as its president until his death. Muir was a spirit so free that all he did to prepare for an expedition was to "throw some tea and bread into an old sack and jump the back fence."

This collection of essays is representative of John Muir's various writings. The selection begins with his childhood and how his stern upbringing toughened him physically but also made him more sensitive to his natural surroundings. Other writings recount his travels, interaction with nature, philosophies, and his harrowing adventures on mountain, glacier, and tree tops. The story of the dog Stricken and Muir's escape off a crevasse-filled glacier is worth the reading alone. However, I missed the story of Nob the horse, another story from Muir's childhood, which well-represented his father's cruelty. And, while the drawings of Henry B. Kane are fine, the book would have been better with some of Muir's own sketches, which Muir himself mentions in some of the selections. A map or two of some of the mentioned place names would have been a nice addition as well.

What a great John Muir was

John Muir is amazing and this book is a must read.

I wanted to learn more about John Muir and this was a great primer on his life. It is a compilation of short stories taken from his other books about his childhood, coming to America and eventually developing a love for the untrammeled mountains in the 1800's before too much development took place. It is not a comprehensive book, but as I said a wonderful start to understanding the things that shaped John Muir's perception and philosophy towards the land. I would highly recommend this book.

The Wilderness World of John Muir Edwin Teale's collection of the wilderness writings of John Muir is a magnificent work that ranks as a seminal important piece of American nature writing. No one was more important than Muir in initiating American conservation and inspiring others to contribute to the protection of treasures of American wilderness. Muir's writing is also a national treasure because he is not only a brilliant student of nature but also supremely gifted writer. After reading Teale's collection, I consider Muir the most brilliant writer in the tradition of American nature writing, surpassing even Thoreau in the lucidity of his writing. He was a true visionary and prophet who will

continue to inspire and guide people for generations to come.

The poetic beauty of his words expresses his appreciation of life and all the joy it can offer ; even if you had a unfavorable upbringing ;like he and I . It is your attitude and appreciation in life that matters . And John Muir expresses it in a way few have ever been able to describe ;altho perhaps , they felt the same ,as John Muir did.I recommend this book to everyone . The world would be a better place; if all felt as passionate and grateful for what they do have ;and a willing attitude to protect and not destroy !

Classic, I love it. This guy is one of my heroes on life. He's someone who sees things as they are, not at we're led to believe. Great read.

I started this book only planning to read a few stories here and there. Since then, I've read it cover to cover. The selections are outstanding and represent a wide range of material from throughout John Muir's life. From story to story it is almost impossible not to be impressed by the sheer ambition, humility, and ingenuity of this man. Muir is certainly a person anyone can learn from and this collection is definitely a great place to start.

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