

a history of wild places summary

A Critical Analysis of Robert Macfarlane's "A History of Wild Places" and its Impact on Current Trends

Author: This analysis is authored by [Your Name], a researcher with expertise in environmental history, conservation literature, and the socio-cultural impact of wilderness narratives. My research focuses on the intersection of human experience and the natural world, specifically analyzing how literary representations shape our understanding and relationship with wild spaces.

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Introduction: Robert Macfarlane's "Landmarks" and "The Old Ways," and later his seminal work, A History of Wild Places, profoundly influenced how we understand and engage with the concept of "wildness" in the 21st century. This analysis will explore a history of wild places summary, examining its key arguments, literary style, and its impact on contemporary environmental discourse, conservation practices, and the broader cultural landscape. A thorough a history of wild places summary will reveal its enduring relevance in a world increasingly grappling with ecological crises and the loss of biodiversity.

A History of Wild Places Summary: Key Themes and Arguments

Macfarlane's A History of Wild Places isn't a straightforward historical account, but rather a lyrical and deeply personal exploration of specific wild spaces across the British Isles and beyond. A history of wild places summary would highlight his central argument: that our understanding of wilderness is deeply intertwined with human history and culture, shaped by narratives, folklore, and practical experience. He deconstructs the romanticized notion of pristine, untouched wilderness, revealing how human intervention, even in seemingly remote areas, has shaped these landscapes for centuries. A history of wild places summary must also showcase the interplay between human activity and the natural world, demonstrating how our relationships with wild places have evolved - from exploitation and fear to appreciation and conservation. The book skillfully weaves together scientific observation, historical research, and personal anecdotes, creating an immersive and evocative reading experience. Macfarlane utilizes place-based narratives, focusing on specific locations to illustrate broader ecological and societal transformations.

Literary Style and Impact

Macfarlane's writing style is a significant factor in the book's success. His evocative prose, blending precision with poetic sensibility, captivates the reader and fosters a deep emotional connection to the places he describes. A history of wild places summary cannot ignore the lyrical quality of his language; this is not simply a factual account, but a work of art that uses language to awaken a sense of wonder and awe. This literary approach transcends the limitations of purely scientific or historical accounts, making his work accessible to a broader audience and fostering a wider appreciation for the natural world. The book's impact lies in its ability to translate complex ecological issues into a compelling narrative, encouraging readers to engage with environmental concerns on an emotional level, thereby increasing the likelihood of behavioral changes.

Impact on Current Trends: Conservation and Environmental Activism

A history of wild places summary would show how the book's impact ripples through several current trends. Firstly, it has contributed to a shift in conservation thinking. Macfarlane's nuanced understanding of the interplay between human history and the natural world challenges the traditional dichotomy between human activity and "wilderness preservation." His work promotes a more holistic approach, recognizing that conservation efforts must incorporate the complex historical and cultural dimensions of human-environment relationships. This impacts the practical application of conservation strategies, moving away from a purely exclusionary approach towards more participatory and community-based models.

Secondly, *A History of Wild Places* has fueled a renewed interest in exploring and engaging with wild spaces. The book's popularity reflects a growing societal desire for connection with nature, a trend evident in the rise of outdoor activities, nature tourism, and environmental activism. The book's evocative descriptions inspire readers to seek out their own experiences in the wild, thereby contributing to a deeper appreciation of the natural world and potentially driving support for conservation initiatives.

Impact on Cultural Narratives and Public Perception

Macfarlane's work has significantly impacted the way "wild places" are represented in popular culture and public discourse. His emphasis on the complex, interconnected nature of human-environment relationships challenges simplistic narratives of pristine wilderness. A history of wild places summary showcasing this impact would note that his writing has subtly shifted the way we perceive our place within the natural world, moving beyond the human-nature binary to a more nuanced understanding of mutual influence and interdependence. This shift has implications for environmental communication and education, encouraging more sophisticated and inclusive narratives that acknowledge the deep historical and cultural embeddedness of human experience within the natural world.

Criticisms and Limitations

Despite its significant contributions, *A History of Wild Places* has faced some criticisms. Some argue that Macfarlane's focus on specific, often remote, locations could inadvertently overshadow the challenges faced by urban environments and marginalized communities grappling with environmental degradation. A comprehensive history of wild places summary should also address this criticism, acknowledging the need for a broader perspective that integrates the experiences of diverse communities. Furthermore, while the book inspires a sense of wonder, some critics might

argue that it lacks concrete policy recommendations or detailed strategies for addressing pressing environmental issues.

Conclusion:

Robert Macfarlane's *A History of Wild Places* is a landmark work that has profoundly impacted our understanding and engagement with wild spaces. A history of wild places summary, as presented above, reveals the book's lasting significance lies in its lyrical prose, insightful analysis, and its ability to foster a deeper emotional connection to the natural world. By challenging simplistic narratives and promoting a more nuanced understanding of human-environment relationships, Macfarlane's work continues to shape current trends in conservation, environmental activism, and public perception of "wildness." The enduring legacy of the book lies in its ability to inspire readers to connect with nature and advocate for its protection, proving its enduring value in a world increasingly threatened by ecological challenges.

FAQs:

1. What is the central argument of *A History of Wild Places*? The central argument is that our understanding of wilderness is inseparable from human history and culture, shaped by narratives, folklore, and practical experience. It challenges the romanticized notion of pristine, untouched wilderness.
1. What is Macfarlane's writing style like? His style is lyrical, evocative, and deeply personal, blending scientific precision with poetic sensibility.
1. How has the book impacted conservation practices? It has contributed to a shift towards more holistic and community-based conservation approaches, recognizing the intertwined nature of human history and the natural world.
1. What are some criticisms of the book? Some criticize its focus on specific, often remote, locations, potentially overlooking urban environmental challenges and the experiences of marginalized communities.
1. What is the book's impact on public perception of wild places? It has helped shift perceptions towards a more nuanced understanding of the human-nature relationship, moving beyond a simplistic binary.

1. Who is the intended audience of the book? The book appeals to a broad audience, including environmentalists, nature lovers, historians, and anyone interested in the relationship between humans and the natural world.
1. What makes the book unique? Its unique blend of scientific observation, historical research, personal narrative, and lyrical prose sets it apart.
1. How does the book relate to current environmental concerns? It directly addresses issues of biodiversity loss, habitat destruction, and the changing relationship between humans and nature.
1. Where can I find more information about Robert Macfarlane? You can find more information on his website or through searches on reputable academic databases and literature review sites.

Related Articles:

1. "The Wild Places of Britain: A Photographic Journey": A visually stunning collection showcasing the diverse wild landscapes of the British Isles, providing a complementary perspective to Macfarlane's textual exploration.
1. "Rewilding Britain: The Campaign to Restore Our Natural World": Explores the rewilding movement and its implications for the future of British landscapes, connecting to Macfarlane's discussion of human intervention in the natural world.
1. "The Nature of Nature: Exploring the Boundaries of Environmental Ethics": A philosophical examination of our understanding of nature and its implications for environmental ethics, expanding upon the themes raised in A History of Wild Places.
1. "Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants": This book offers an Indigenous perspective on human-nature relationships, providing a

counterpoint and enriching the discussion on the diverse approaches to understanding wild spaces.

1. "The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History": This book addresses the ongoing biodiversity crisis, offering a sobering counterpoint to the celebratory aspects of Macfarlane's work, highlighting the urgency of conservation efforts.
1. "Silent Spring": A seminal work on environmental impact of pesticides, highlighting the consequences of human intervention in ecosystems. This provides a historical context to Macfarlane's arguments about the intricate relationship between humans and the environment.
1. "Sand County Almanac": Aldo Leopold's classic work on land ethics provides a foundational text for understanding our moral responsibility towards the natural world, adding an important ethical dimension to the discussion around wild places.
1. "A Sand County Almanac with Essays on Conservation from Round River": This edition expands on Leopold's work, presenting essays that further develop the concepts of land ethics and the importance of respecting the interconnectedness of ecosystems.
1. "Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder": This book explores the human need for connection with nature, resonating with the core emotional message within Macfarlane's work. It focuses on the detrimental effects of disconnecting children from the natural world.

a history of wild places summary: A History of Wild Places Shea Ernshaw, 2021-12-07 In this "riveting, atmospheric thriller that messes with your mind in the best way" (Laini Taylor, New York Times bestselling author), three residents of a secluded, seemingly peaceful commune investigate the disappearances of two outsiders. Travis Wren has an unusual talent for locating missing people. Often hired by families as a last resort, he takes on the case of Maggie St. James—a well-known author of dark, macabre children's books—and is soon led to a place many believed to be only a legend. Called Pastoral, this reclusive community was founded in the 1970s by like-minded people searching for a simpler way of life. By all accounts, the commune shouldn't exist anymore and soon after Travis stumbles upon it...he disappears. Just like Maggie St. James. Years later, Theo,

a lifelong member of Pastoral, discovers Travis's abandoned truck beyond the border of the community. No one is allowed in or out, not when there's a risk of bringing a disease—rot—into Pastoral. Unraveling the mystery of what happened reveals secrets that Theo, his wife, Calla, and her sister, Bee, keep from one another. Secrets that prove their perfect, isolated world isn't as safe as they believed—and that darkness takes many forms. "As spine-chilling as it is beautifully crafted" (Ruth Emmie Lang, author of *Beasts of Extraordinary Circumstance*), *A History of Wild Places* is a story about fairy tales, our fear of the dark, and losing yourself within the wilderness of your mind.

a history of wild places summary: *The Wild Places* Robert Macfarlane, 2008-06-24 From the author of *The Old Ways* and *Underland*, an eloquent (and compulsively readable) reminder that, though we're laying waste the world, nature still holds sway over much of the earth's surface. --Bill McKibben Winner of the Boardman Tasker Prize for Mountain Literature and a finalist for the Orion Book Award Are there any genuinely wild places left in Britain and Ireland? That is the question that Robert Macfarlane poses to himself as he embarks on a series of breathtaking journeys through some of the archipelago's most remarkable landscapes. He climbs, walks, and swims by day and spends his nights sleeping on cliff-tops and in ancient meadows and wildwoods. With elegance and passion he entwines history, memory, and landscape in a bewitching evocation of wildness and its vital importance.

a history of wild places summary: *Where the Wild Things Were* William Stolzenburg, 2011-01-15 For years, predators like snow leopards and white-tipped sharks have been disappearing from the top of the food chain, largely as a result of human action. Science journalist Will Stolzenburg reveals why and how their absence upsets the delicate balance of the world's environment.

a history of wild places summary: *Empire of Wild* Cherie Dimaline, 2020-07-28 "Deftly written, gripping and informative. *Empire of Wild* is a rip-roaring read!"—Margaret Atwood, From Instagram "Empire of Wild is doing everything I love in a contemporary novel and more. It is tough, funny, beautiful, honest and propulsive—all the while telling a story that needs to be told by a person who needs to be telling it."—Tommy Orange, author of *There There* A bold and brilliant new indigenous voice in contemporary literature makes her American debut with this kinetic, imaginative, and sensuous fable inspired by the traditional Canadian Métis legend of the Rogarou—a werewolf-like creature that haunts the roads and woods of native people's communities. Joan has been searching for her missing husband, Victor, for nearly a year—ever since that terrible night they'd had their first serious argument hours before he mysteriously vanished. Her Métis family has lived in their tightly knit rural community for generations, but no one keeps the old ways . . . until they have to. That moment has arrived for Joan. One morning, grieving and severely hungover, Joan hears a shocking sound coming from inside a revival tent in a gritty Walmart parking lot. It is the unmistakable voice of Victor. Drawn inside, she sees him. He has the same face, the same eyes, the same hands, though his hair is much shorter and he's wearing a suit. But he doesn't seem to recognize Joan at all. He insists his name is Eugene Wolff, and that he is a reverend whose mission is to spread the word of Jesus and grow His flock. Yet Joan suspects there is something dark and terrifying within this charismatic preacher who professes to be a man of God . . . something old and very dangerous. Joan turns to Ajean, an elderly foul-mouthed card shark who is one of the few among her community steeped in the traditions of her people and knowledgeable about their ancient enemies. With the help of the old Métis and her peculiar Johnny-Cash-loving, twelve-year-old nephew Zeus, Joan must find a way to uncover the truth and remind Reverend Wolff who he really is . . . if he really is. Her life, and those of everyone she loves, depends upon it.

a history of wild places summary: *The Geography of Childhood* Gary Paul Nabhan, 1994 In this unique collaboration, naturalists Gary Nabhan and Stephen Trimble investigate how children come to care deeply about the natural world. They ask searching questions about what may happen to children denied exposure to wild places - a reality for more children today than at any time in human history. The authors remember pivotal events in their own childhood that led each to a life-long relationship with the land: Nabhan's wanderings in the wasteland of steel mills and power

plants of Gary, Indiana, and in the Indiana Dunes; Trimble's travels in the West with a geologist father. They tell stories of children learning about wild places and creatures in settings ranging from cities and suburbs to isolated Nevada sheep ranches to Native American communities in the Southwest and Mexico. The *Geography of Childhood* draws insights from fields as various as evolutionary biology, child psychology, education, and ethnography. The book urges adults to rethink our children's contact with nature. Small children have less need for large-scale wilderness than for a garden, gully, or field to create a crucial tie to the natural world. Nabhan suggests that traditional wilderness-oriented rites of passage may help cure the alienation of adolescence: Those who as adolescents fail to pass through such rites remain in an arrested state of immaturity for the remainder of their lives. Trimble's fatherhood leads him to question how we grant different freedoms to girls and boys in their exploration of nature - and how this bias powerfully affects adult lives. Both authors return to their experiences with indigenous peoples to show how nature is taught and wilderness understood in cultures historically grounded outside of America's cities and suburbs. The *Geography of Childhood* makes clear how human growth remains rooted, as it always has, both in childhood and in wild landscapes. It is an essential book for all parents and teachers who wonder what our children may miss if they never experience local wildlife or wild landscapes.--BOOK JACKET. Title Summary field provided by Blackwell North America, Inc. All Rights Reserved

a history of wild places summary: *Beasts of Extraordinary Circumstance* Ruth Emmie Lang, 2017-11-14 Told with brains and heart —Michelle Gable, New York Times bestselling author of *A Paris Apartment* Bristles with charm and curiosity —Winston Groom, New York Times bestselling author of *Forrest Gump* A wholly original and superbly crafted work of art, *Beasts of Extraordinary Circumstance* is a masterpiece of the imagination. —Lori Nelson Spielman, New York Times bestselling author of *The Life List* and *Sweet Forgiveness* Charlotte's Web for grown-ups who, like Weylyn Grey, have their own stories of being different, feared, brave, and loved. —Mo Daviau, author of *Every Anxious Wave* Ruth Emmie Lang teaches us how to find magic in the ordinary in her magical realism debut *Beasts of Extraordinary Circumstance*. Orphaned, raised by wolves, and the proud owner of a horned pig named Merlin, Weylyn Grey knew he wasn't like other people. But when he single-handedly stopped that tornado on a stormy Christmas day in Oklahoma, he realized just how different he actually was. As amazing as these powers may appear, they tend to manifest themselves at inopportune times and places, jeopardizing not only his own life, but the life of Mary, the woman he loves. *Beasts of Extraordinary Circumstance* tells the story of Weylyn Grey's life from the perspectives of the people who knew him, loved him, and even a few who thought he was just plain weird. Although he doesn't stay in any of their lives for long, he leaves each of them with a story to tell: great storms that evaporate into thin air; fireflies that make phosphorescent honey; a house filled with spider webs and the strange man who inhabits it. There is one story, however, that Weylyn wishes he could change: his own. But first he has to muster enough courage to knock on Mary's front door.

a history of wild places summary: *The Wicked Deep* Shea Ernshaw, 2019-04-02 A New York Times bestseller. "A wickedly chilling debut." —School Library Journal "Complex and sweetly satisfying." —Booklist "Prepare to be bewitched." —Paula Stokes, author of *Girl Against the Universe* "A story about the redemptive power of love." —Amber Smith, New York Times bestselling author of *The Way I Used to Be* "Eerie and enchanting." —Jessica Spotswood, author of *The Cahill Witch Chronicles* Hocus Pocus and Practical Magic meets the Salem Witch trials in this haunting story about three sisters on a quest for revenge—and how love may be the only thing powerful enough to stop them. Welcome to the cursed town of Sparrow... Where, two centuries ago, three sisters were sentenced to death for witchery. Stones were tied to their ankles and they were drowned in the deep waters surrounding the town. Now, for a brief time each summer, the sisters return, stealing the bodies of three weak-hearted girls so that they may seek their revenge, luring boys into the harbor and pulling them under. Like many locals, seventeen-year-old Penny Talbot has accepted the fate of the town. But this year, on the eve of the sisters' return, a boy named Bo Carter arrives; unaware of the danger he has just stumbled into. Mistrust and lies spread quickly through

the salty, rain-soaked streets. The townspeople turn against one another. Penny and Bo suspect each other of hiding secrets. And death comes swiftly to those who cannot resist the call of the sisters. But only Penny sees what others cannot. And she will be forced to choose: save Bo, or save herself.

a history of wild places summary: A Wilderness of Stars Shea Ernshaw, 2022-11-29 In this magical romance from the #1 New York Times bestselling author of Long Live the Pumpkin Queen, an illness cursing the land forces a teen girl astronomer to venture across the wilderness in search of the stars' message that will, hopefully, save them all. When all is lost, look to the stars. Vega has lived in the valley her whole life—forbidden by her mother to leave the safety of its borders because of the unknown threats waiting for her in the wilds beyond. But when Vega sees an omen in the sky—one she cannot ignore—she is forced to leave the protective boundaries of the valley. Yet the outside world is much more terrifying than Vega could have ever imagined. People are gravely sick—they lose their eyesight and their hearing, just before they lose their lives. But Vega has a secret: she is the Last Astronomer—a title carried from generation to generation—and she is the only one who understands the knowledge of the stars. Knowledge that could hold the key to a cure. So when locals spot the tattoo on Vega's neck in the shape of a constellation—the mark of an astronomer—chaos erupts. Fearing for her life, Vega is rescued by a girl named Cricket who leads her to Noah, a boy marked by his own mysterious tattoos. On the run from the men hunting her, Vega sets out across the plains with Cricket and Noah, in search of a fabled cure kept secret by the astronomers. But as the line between friends and protectors begins to blur, Vega must decide whether to safeguard the sacred knowledge of the astronomers...or if she will risk everything to try to save them all.

a history of wild places summary: Nora Webster Colm Toibin, 2014-10-07 From one of contemporary literature's bestselling, critically acclaimed, and beloved authors: a "luminous" novel (Jennifer Egan, The New York Times Book Review) about a fiercely compelling young widow navigating grief, fear, and longing, and finding her own voice—"heartrendingly transcendent" (The New York Times, Janet Maslin). Set in Wexford, Ireland, Colm Tóibín's magnificent seventh novel introduces the formidable, memorable, and deeply moving Nora Webster. Widowed at forty, with four children and not enough money, Nora has lost the love of her life, Maurice, the man who rescued her from the stifling world to which she was born. And now she fears she may be sucked back into it. Wounded, selfish, strong-willed, clinging to secrecy in a tiny community where everyone knows your business, Nora is drowning in her own sorrow and blind to the suffering of her young sons, who have lost their father. Yet she has moments of stunning insight and empathy, and when she begins to sing again, after decades, she finds solace, engagement, a haven—herself. Nora Webster "may actually be a perfect work of fiction" (Los Angeles Times), by a "beautiful and daring" writer (The New York Times Book Review) at the zenith of his career, able to "sneak up on readers and capture their imaginations" (USA TODAY). "Miraculous...Tóibín portrays Nora with tremendous sympathy and understanding" (Ron Charles, The Washington Post).

a history of wild places summary: Home Is Not a Country Safia Elhillo, 2022-02-22
LONGLISTED FOR THE NATIONAL BOOK AWARD "Nothing short of magic." —Elizabeth Acevedo, New York Times bestselling author of The Poet X From the acclaimed poet featured on Forbes Africa's "30 Under 30" list, this powerful novel-in-verse captures one girl, caught between cultures, on an unexpected journey to face the ephemeral girl she might have been. Woven through with moments of lyrical beauty, this is a tender meditation on family, belonging, and home. my mother meant to name me for her favorite flower its sweetness garlands made for pretty girls i imagine her yasmeeen bright & alive & i ache to have been born her instead Nima wishes she were someone else. She doesn't feel understood by her mother, who grew up in a different land. She doesn't feel accepted in her suburban town; yet somehow, she isn't different enough to belong elsewhere. Her best friend, Haitham, is the only person with whom she can truly be herself. Until she can't, and suddenly her only refuge is gone. As the ground is pulled out from under her, Nima must grapple with the phantom of a life not chosen—the name her parents meant to give her at birth—Yasmeeen. But that other name, that other girl, might be more real than Nima knows. And the life Nima wishes

were someone else's. . . is one she will need to fight for with a fierceness she never knew she possessed.

a history of wild places summary: *Assembly* Natasha Brown, 2021-09-14 This blistering, fearless, and unforgettable literary novel finds a woman with everything on the line and a life-or-death decision waiting for her—perfect for fans of Claudia Rankine and Jenny Offill. Come of age in the credit crunch. Be civil in a hostile environment. Go to college, get an education, start a career. Do all the right things. Buy an apartment. Buy art. Buy a sort of happiness. But above all, keep your head down. Keep quiet. And keep going. The narrator of *Assembly* is a black British woman. She is preparing to attend a lavish garden party at her boyfriend's family estate, set deep in the English countryside. At the same time, she is considering the carefully assembled pieces of herself. As the minutes tick down and the future beckons, she can't escape the question: is it time to take it all apart? *Assembly* is a story about the stories we live within – those of race and class, safety and freedom, winners and losers. And it is about one woman daring to take control of her own story, even at the cost of her life. With a steely, unfaltering gaze, Natasha Brown dismantles the mythology of whiteness, lining up the debris in a neat row and walking away. Virginia Woolf's *Mrs. Dalloway* meets Claudia Rankine's *Citizen*...as breathtakingly graceful as it is mercilessly true."—Olivia Sudjic, author of *Sympathy* and *Asylum Road* A woman confronts the most important question of her life in this blistering, fearless, and unforgettable literary debut from a stunning new writer. (Bernardine Evaristo) "A quiet, measured call to revolution...This is the kind of book that doesn't just mark the moment things change, but also makes that change possible."—Ali Smith, author of *Summer* Brilliant. Brown's gaze is piercing.—Avni Doshi, author of *Burnt Sugar*

a history of wild places summary: *Wild About Books* Judy Sierra, 2012-07-25 OVER HALF A MILLION COPIES SOLD! Winner of the E.B. White Read Aloud Award It started the summer of 2002, when the Springfield librarian, Molly McGrew, by mistake drove her bookmobile into the zoo. In this rollicking rhymed story, Molly introduces birds and beasts to this new something called reading. She finds the perfect book for every animal—tall books for giraffes, tiny ones for crickets. "She even found waterproof books for the otter, who never went swimming without Harry Potter." In no time at all, Molly has them "forsaking their niches, their nests, and their nooks," going "wild, simply wild, about wonderful books." Judy Sierra's funny animal tale coupled with Marc Brown's lush, fanciful paintings will have the same effect on young *Homo sapiens*. Altogether, it's more fun than a barrel of monkeys!

a history of wild places summary: *The History of Love: A Novel* Nicole Krauss, 2006-05-17 ONE OF THE MOST LOVED NOVELS OF THE DECADE. A long-lost book reappears, mysteriously connecting an old man searching for his son and a girl seeking a cure for her widowed mother's loneliness. Leo Gursky taps his radiator each evening to let his upstairs neighbor know he's still alive. But it wasn't always like this: in the Polish village of his youth, he fell in love and wrote a book...Sixty years later and half a world away, fourteen-year-old Alma, who was named after a character in that book, undertakes an adventure to find her namesake and save her family. With virtuosic skill and soaring imaginative power, Nicole Krauss gradually draws these stories together toward a climax of extraordinary depth and beauty (Newsday).

a history of wild places summary: *Wild Steps of Heaven* Victor Villasenor, 1997-02-10 In his critically acclaimed bestseller *Rain of Gold*, Victor Villaseor brought his mother's family vividly to life. In *Wild Steps Of Heaven*, he turns to his father's family, the Villaseors. Against a vivid backdrop of love and war, magic and heroism, the author breathes life into his father's people--and in particular, the Villaseor women*Margarita, the indomitable matriarch who was swept away by Don Juan Jesus Villaseor on the eve of the Mexican revolution*their beautiful daughters, who find strength and endurance in their mother's faith, and searing passion amidst the turmoil of war. But it is little Juan, the youngest son, through whose eyes this tumultuous saga unfolds. Juan would learn from his brother Jose, a hero of the revolution, how to be a man; and from his beloved mother, how to live and love con gusto y amor. A story of madness and miracles, rage and redemption, *In Wild Steps Of Heaven* creates a riveting portrait of an extraordinary family and the country whose earth

gave them roots.

a history of wild places summary: *Wilderness* Russell A. Mittermeier, Patricio Robles Gil, 2002 Continuing the work it began in *Hotspots*, Conservation International identifies thirty-seven vital wilderness areas around the world, including tropical rainforests, arctic tundra, deserts, and wetlands, using more than five hundred stunning color photographs to illuminate the rich diversity of each region.

a history of wild places summary: *The Wild Robot Escapes* Peter Brown, 2018-03-13 The sequel to the bestselling *The Wild Robot*, by award-winning author Peter Brown Shipwrecked on a remote, wild island, Robot Roz learned from the unwelcoming animal inhabitants and adapted to her surroundings--but can she survive the challenges of the civilized world and find her way home to Brightbill and the island? From bestselling and award-winning author and illustrator Peter Brown comes a heartwarming and action-packed sequel to his New York Times bestselling *The Wild Robot*, about what happens when nature and technology collide.

a history of wild places summary: *Wild Place* Christian White, 2021-10-26 In the summer of 1989, a local teen goes missing from the idyllic suburb of Camp Hill in Australia. As rumours of Satanic rituals swirl, schoolteacher Tom Witter becomes convinced he holds the key to the disappearance. When the police won't listen, he takes matters into his own hands with the help of the missing girl's father and a local neighbourhood watch group. But as dark secrets are revealed and consequences to past actions are faced, Tom learns that the only way out of the darkness is to walk deeper into it. *Wild Place* peels back the layers of suburbia, exposing what's hidden underneath - guilt, desperation, violence - and attempts to answer the question: Why do good people do bad things? From the international bestseller Christian White, *Wild Place* is a white-knuckle descent into a street near you.

a history of wild places summary: *Hurricane Season* Fernanda Melchor, 2020-10-06 The English-language debut of one of the most thrilling and accomplished young Mexican writers Winner of the Queen Sofia Spanish Institute's Translation Prize Longlisted for the National Book Award Shortlisted for the Booker Prize Winner of the Internationaler Literaturpreis New York Public Library Best Books of 2020 Chicago Public Library Best Book of 2020 *The Witch is dead*. And the discovery of her corpse has the whole village investigating the murder. As the novel unfolds in a dazzling linguistic torrent, with each unreliable narrator lingering on new details, new acts of depravity or brutality, Melchor extracts some tiny shred of humanity from these characters—innies whom most people would write off as irredeemable—forming a lasting portrait of a damned Mexican village. Like Roberto Bolaño's *2666* or Faulkner's novels, *Hurricane Season* takes place in a world saturated with mythology and violence—real violence, the kind that seeps into the soil, poisoning everything around: it's a world that becomes more and more terrifying the deeper you explore it.

a history of wild places summary: *The Book of Lost and Found* Lucy Foley, 2015-08-25 From London to Corsica to Paris — as a young woman pursues the truth about her late mother, two captivating love stories unfurl in this captivating novel from the author of the New York Times bestsellers *The Paris Apartment* and *The Guest List*. Kate Darling's enigmatic mother — a once-famous ballerina — has passed away, leaving Kate bereft. When her grandmother falls ill and bequeaths to Kate a small portrait of a woman who bears a striking resemblance to Kate's mother, Kate uncovers a mystery that may upend everything she thought she knew. Kate's journey to find the true identity of the woman in the portrait takes her to some of the world's most iconic and indulgent locales, revealing a love story that began in the wild 1920s and was disrupted by war and could now spark new love for Kate. Alternating between Kate's present-day hunt and voices from the past, *The Book of Lost and Found* casts light on family secrets and love — both lost and found.

a history of wild places summary: *Forgotten Edens* Christine K. Eckstrom, 1993 Photographic portfolios and text essays present the beauty and wonder of the natural world, from the rain forests of the Asian tropics to Antarctica.

a history of wild places summary: *Outline* Rachel Cusk, 2015-01-13 A Finalist for the Folio Prize, the Goldsmiths Prize, the Scotiabank Giller Prize, and the Baileys Women's Prize for Fiction.

One of The New York Times' Top Ten Books of the Year. Named a A New York Times Book Review Notable Book and a Best Book of the Year by The New Yorker, Vogue, NPR, The Guardian, The Independent, Glamour, and The Globe and Mail A luminous, powerful novel that establishes Rachel Cusk as one of the finest writers in the English language A man and a woman are seated next to each other on a plane. They get to talking—about their destination, their careers, their families. Grievances are aired, family tragedies discussed, marriages and divorces analyzed. An intimacy is established as two strangers contrast their own fictions about their lives. Rachel Cusk's *Outline* is a novel in ten conversations. Spare and stark, it follows a novelist teaching a course in creative writing during one oppressively hot summer in Athens. She leads her students in storytelling exercises. She meets other visiting writers for dinner and discourse. She goes swimming in the Ionian Sea with her neighbor from the plane. The people she encounters speak volubly about themselves: their fantasies, anxieties, pet theories, regrets, and longings. And through these disclosures, a portrait of the narrator is drawn by contrast, a portrait of a woman learning to face a great loss. *Outline* takes a hard look at the things that are hardest to speak about. It brilliantly captures conversations, investigates people's motivations for storytelling, and questions their ability to ever do so honestly or unselfishly. In doing so it bares the deepest impulses behind the craft of fiction writing. This is Rachel Cusk's finest work yet, and one of the most startling, brilliant, original novels of recent years.

a history of wild places summary: *The Invited* Jennifer McMahon, 2019-04-30 A chilling ghost story with a twist: the New York Times bestselling author of *The Winter People* returns to the woods of Vermont to tell the story of a husband and wife who don't simply move into a haunted house--they build one . . . In a quest for a simpler life, Helen and Nate have abandoned the comforts of suburbia to take up residence on forty-four acres of rural land where they will begin the ultimate, aspirational do-it-yourself project: building the house of their dreams. When they discover that this beautiful property has a dark and violent past, Helen, a former history teacher, becomes consumed by the local legend of Hattie Breckenridge, a woman who lived and died there a century ago. With her passion for artifacts, Helen finds special materials to incorporate into the house--a beam from an old schoolroom, bricks from a mill, a mantel from a farmhouse--objects that draw her deeper into the story of Hattie and her descendants, three generations of Breckenridge women, each of whom died suspiciously. As the building project progresses, the house will become a place of menace and unfinished business: a new home, now haunted, that beckons its owners and their neighbors toward unimaginable danger.

a history of wild places summary: *My Side of the Mountain* Jean Craighead George, 2001-05-21 Should appeal to all rugged individualists who dream of escape to the forest.—The New York Times Book Review Sam Gribbley is terribly unhappy living in New York City with his family, so he runs away to the Catskill Mountains to live in the woods—all by himself. With only a penknife, a ball of cord, forty dollars, and some flint and steel, he intends to survive on his own. Sam learns about courage, danger, and independence during his year in the wilderness, a year that changes his life forever. “An extraordinary book . . . It will be read year after year.” —The Horn Book

a history of wild places summary: *Wild* Cheryl Strayed, 2012-03-20 #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • A powerful, blazingly honest memoir: the story of an eleven-hundred-mile solo hike that broke down a young woman reeling from catastrophe—and built her back up again. At twenty-two, Cheryl Strayed thought she had lost everything. In the wake of her mother's death, her family scattered and her own marriage was soon destroyed. Four years later, with nothing more to lose, she made the most impulsive decision of her life. With no experience or training, driven only by blind will, she would hike more than a thousand miles of the Pacific Crest Trail from the Mojave Desert through California and Oregon to Washington State—and she would do it alone. Told with suspense and style, sparkling with warmth and humor, *Wild* powerfully captures the terrors and pleasures of one young woman forging ahead against all odds on a journey that maddened, strengthened, and ultimately healed her.

a history of wild places summary: *Driven Wild* Paul S. Sutter, 2009-11-23 In its infancy, the movement to protect wilderness areas in the United States was motivated less by perceived threats

from industrial and agricultural activities than by concern over the impacts of automobile owners seeking recreational opportunities in wild areas. Countless commercial and government purveyors vigorously promoted the mystique of travel to breathtakingly scenic places, and roads and highways were built to facilitate such travel. By the early 1930s, New Deal public works programs brought these trends to a startling crescendo. The dilemma faced by stewards of the nation's public lands was how to protect the wild qualities of those places while accommodating, and often encouraging, automobile-based tourism. By 1935, the founders of the Wilderness Society had become convinced of the impossibility of doing both. In *Driven Wild*, Paul Sutter traces the intellectual and cultural roots of the modern wilderness movement from about 1910 through the 1930s, with tightly drawn portraits of four Wilderness Society founders--Aldo Leopold, Robert Sterling Yard, Benton MacKaye, and Bob Marshall. Each man brought a different background and perspective to the advocacy for wilderness preservation, yet each was spurred by a fear of what growing numbers of automobiles, aggressive road building, and the meteoric increase in Americans turning to nature for their leisure would do to the country's wild places. As Sutter discovered, the founders of the Wilderness Society were driven wild--pushed by a rapidly changing country to construct a new preservationist ideal. Sutter demonstrates that the birth of the movement to protect wilderness areas reflected a growing belief among an important group of conservationists that the modern forces of capitalism, industrialism, urbanism, and mass consumer culture were gradually eroding not just the ecology of North America, but crucial American values as well. For them, wilderness stood for something deeply sacred that was in danger of being lost, so that the movement to protect it was about saving not just wild nature, but ourselves as well.

a history of wild places summary: *The Lessons of History* Will Durant, Ariel Durant, 2012-08-21 A concise survey of the culture and civilization of mankind, *The Lessons of History* is the result of a lifetime of research from Pulitzer Prize-winning historians Will and Ariel Durant. With their accessible compendium of philosophy and social progress, the Durants take us on a journey through history, exploring the possibilities and limitations of humanity over time. Juxtaposing the great lives, ideas, and accomplishments with cycles of war and conquest, the Durants reveal the towering themes of history and give meaning to our own.

a history of wild places summary: *Wild by Design* Laura J. Martin, 2022-05-17 Laura J. Martin examines ecological restoration's long history. Since the early 1900s, restorationists have confronted vexing philosophical questions: Which states of nature should be restored? Who should choose? Is human-designed wilderness really wild? Restoration work leads us to reimagine nature and the nature of environmental justice.

a history of wild places summary: *Wild Magic* Tamora Pierce, 2009-12-08 Discover a land of enchantment, legend, and adventure in this first book of the Immortals series, featuring an updated cover for longtime fans and fresh converts alike, and including an all-new afterword from Tamora Pierce. Thirteen-year-old Daine has always had a special connection with animals, but only when she's forced to leave home does she realize it's more than a knack—it's magic. With this wild magic, not only can Daine speak to animals, but she can also make them obey her. Daine takes a job handling horses for the Queen's Riders, where she meets the master mage Numair and becomes his student. Under Numair's guidance, Daine explores the scope of her magic. But she encounters other beings, too, who are not so gentle. These terrifying creatures, called Immortals, have been imprisoned in the Divine Realms for the past four hundred years—but now someone has broken the barrier. And it's up to Daine and her friends to defend their world from an Immortal attack.

a history of wild places summary: *A Far Wilder Magic* Allison Saft, 2022-03-08 AN INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER AN INSTANT INDIE BESTSELLER ONE OF 2022'S MOST ANTICIPATED READS: * BUZZFEED * EPIC READS * GOODREADS * THE NERD DAILY * UNITED BY POP * An utterly transportive read, unfolding into a world of crumbling manors and ancient forests. Allison Saft crafts a deliberate, intricate romance that will have you as unmoored as the characters. —Chloe Gong, New York Times bestselling author of *These Violent Delights* A romantic YA fantasy perfect for fans of Erin A. Craig and Margaret Rogerson, about two people who

find themselves competing for glory—and each other's hearts—in a magical fox hunt. When Margaret Welty spots the legendary hala, the last living mythical creature, she knows the Halfmoon Hunt will soon follow. Whoever is able to kill the hala will earn fame and riches, and unlock an ancient magical secret. While Margaret is the best sharpshooter in town, only teams of two can register, and she needs an alchemist. Weston Winters isn't an alchemist—yet. He's been fired from every apprenticeship he's landed, and his last chance hinges on Master Welty taking him in. But when Wes arrives at Welty Manor, he finds only Margaret. She begrudgingly allows him to stay, but on one condition: he must join the hunt with her. Although they make an unlikely team, they soon find themselves drawn to each other. As the hunt looms closer and tensions rise, Margaret and Wes uncover dark magic that could be the key to winning the hunt—if they survive that long. In *A Far Wilder Magic*, Allison Saft has written an achingly tender love story set against a deadly hunt in an atmospheric, rich fantasy world that will sweep you away. Innovative, romantic, and intoxicating. *A Far Wilder Magic* is a diamond of the YA fantasy genre, with a fresh and artfully layered world and extraordinary characters to match. —Amanda Foody, author of *Ace of Shades*

a history of wild places summary: *The Wild Silence* Raynor Winn, 2021-04-06 AN INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER “Heartfelt and heartening ... a full-throated paean to the fundamental importance of nature in all its glory, fury and impermanence. —Wall Street Journal The incredible follow-up to the international bestseller *The Salt Path*, a story of finding your way back home. Nature holds the answers for Raynor and her husband Moth. After walking 630 homeless miles along *The Salt Path*, living on the windswept and wild English coastline; the cliffs, the sky and the chalky earth now feel like their home. Moth has a terminal diagnosis, but together on the wild coastal path, with their feet firmly rooted outdoors, they discover that anything is possible. Now, life beyond *The Salt Path* awaits and they come back to four walls, but the sense of home is illusive and returning to normality is proving difficult - until an incredible gesture by someone who reads their story changes everything. A chance to breathe life back into a beautiful farmhouse nestled deep in the Cornish hills; rewilding the land and returning nature to its hedgerows becomes their saving grace and their new path to follow. *The Wild Silence* is a story of hope triumphing over despair, of lifelong love prevailing over everything. It is a luminous account of the human spirit's connection to nature, and how vital it is for us all.

a history of wild places summary: *Dare to Know* James Kennedy, 2022-06-07 “A razor-smart sci-fi corporate noir nightmare. *Dare to Know* is what happens when Willy Loman sees through the Matrix. A heartbreaking, time-bending, galactic mindbender delivered in the mordantly funny clip of a doomed antihero.”—Daniel Kraus, co-author of *The Shape of Water Now* in paperback, this mind-bending and emotional speculative thriller is set in a world where the exact moment of your death can be predicted—for a price, featuring an excerpt from the upcoming *Bride of the Tornado*. Our narrator is the most talented salesperson at *Dare to Know*, an enigmatic company that has developed the technology to predict anyone's death down to the second. Divorced, estranged from his sons, and broke, he's driven to violate the cardinal rule of the business by forecasting his own death day. The problem: his prediction says he died twenty-three minutes ago. The only person who can confirm its accuracy is Julia, the woman he loved and lost during his rise up the ranks of *Dare to Know*. As he travels across the country to see her, he's forced to confront his past, the choices he's made, and the terrifying truth about the company he works for. Wildly ambitious and highly immersive, this thought-provoking thriller explores the destructive power of knowledge and collapses the boundaries between reality, myth, and conspiracy as it races toward its shocking conclusion.

a history of wild places summary: *The Summer Place* Jennifer Weiner, 2023-04-04 From the #1 New York Times bestselling author of *That Summer* comes another “fun, feisty” (The Washington Post) novel of family, secrets, and the ties that bind. When her twenty-two-year-old stepdaughter announces her engagement to her pandemic boyfriend, Sarah Danhauser is shocked. But the wheels are in motion. Headstrong Ruby has already set a date (just three months away!) and spoken to her beloved safta, Sarah's mother Veronica, about having the wedding at the family's beach house in

Cape Cod. Sarah might be worried, but Veronica is thrilled to be bringing the family together one last time before putting the big house on the market. But the road to a wedding day usually comes with a few bumps. Ruby has always known exactly what she wants, but as the wedding date approaches, she finds herself grappling with the wounds left by the mother who walked out when she was a baby. Veronica ends up facing unexpected news, thanks to her meddling sister, and must revisit the choices she made long ago, when she was a bestselling novelist with a different life. Sarah's twin brother, Sam, is recovering from a terrible loss, and confronting big questions about who he is—questions he hopes to resolve during his stay on the Cape. Sarah's husband, Eli, who's been inexplicably distant during the pandemic, confronts the consequences of a long ago lapse from his typical good-guy behavior. And Sarah, frustrated by her husband, concerned about her stepdaughter, and worn out by the challenges of the quarantine, faces the alluring reappearance of someone from her past and a life that could have been. When the wedding day arrives, lovers are revealed as their true selves, misunderstandings take on a life of their own, and secrets come to light. There are confrontations and revelations that will touch each member of the extended family, ensuring that nothing will ever be the same. From "the undisputed boss of the beach read" (The New York Times), *The Summer Place* is a testament to family in all its messy glory; a story about what we sacrifice and how we forgive. Enthralling, witty, big-hearted, and sharply observed, "this first-rate page-turner" (Publishers Weekly) is Jennifer Weiner's love letter to the Outer Cape and the power of home, the way our lives are enriched by the people we call family, and the endless ways love can surprise us.

a history of wild places summary: The Wild Robot Peter Brown, 2024-09-03 Soon to be a DreamWorks movie, coming to theaters 9/27/24! Includes 8 pages of full color stills from the movie! Wall-E meets Hatchet in this #1 New York Times bestselling illustrated middle grade novel from Caldecott Honor winner Peter Brown Can a robot survive in the wilderness? When robot Roz opens her eyes for the first time, she discovers that she is all alone on a remote, wild island. She has no idea how she got there or what her purpose is--but she knows she needs to survive. After battling a violent storm and escaping a vicious bear attack, she realizes that her only hope for survival is to adapt to her surroundings and learn from the island's unwelcoming animal inhabitants. As Roz slowly befriends the animals, the island starts to feel like home--until, one day, the robot's mysterious past comes back to haunt her. From bestselling and award-winning author and illustrator Peter Brown comes a heartwarming and action-packed novel about what happens when nature and technology collide.

a history of wild places summary: The Old Ways Robert Macfarlane, 2012-10-11 From the acclaimed author of *The Wild Places* and *Underland*, an exploration of walking and thinking In this exquisitely written book, Robert Macfarlane sets off from his Cambridge, England, home to follow the ancient tracks, holloways, drove roads, and sea paths that crisscross both the British landscape and its waters and territories beyond. The result is an immersive, enthralling exploration of the ghosts and voices that haunt old paths, of the stories our tracks keep and tell, and of pilgrimage and ritual. Told in Macfarlane's distinctive voice, *The Old Ways* folds together natural history, cartography, geology, archaeology and literature. His walks take him from the chalk downs of England to the bird islands of the Scottish northwest, from Palestine to the sacred landscapes of Spain and the Himalayas. Along the way he crosses paths with walkers of many kinds—wanderers, pilgrims, guides, and artists. Above all this is a book about walking as a journey inward and the subtle ways we are shaped by the landscapes through which we move. Macfarlane discovers that paths offer not just a means of traversing space, but of feeling, knowing, and thinking.

a history of wild places summary: Downtown Owl Chuck Klosterman, 2008-09-16 Now a major film! New York Times bestselling author and "one of America's top cultural critics" (Entertainment Weekly) Chuck Klosterman's debut novel brilliantly captures the charm and dread of small-town life. Somewhere in rural North Dakota, there is a fictional town called Owl. They don't have cable. They don't really have pop culture, but they do have grain prices and alcoholism. People work hard and then they die. But that's not nearly as awful as it sounds; in fact, sometimes it's

perfect. Mitch Hrlicka lives in Owl. He plays high school football and worries about his weirdness, or lack thereof. Julia Rabia just moved to Owl. A history teacher, she gets free booze and falls in love with a self-loathing bison farmer. Widower and local conversationalist Horace Jones has resided in Owl for seventy-three years. They all know each other completely, except that they've never met. But when a deadly blizzard—based on an actual storm that occurred in 1984—hits the area, their lives are derailed in unexpected and powerful ways. An unpretentious, darkly comedic story of how it feels to exist in a community where local mythology and violent reality are pretty much the same thing, *Downtown Owl* is “a satisfying character study and strikes a perfect balance between the funny and the profound” (Publishers Weekly).

a history of wild places summary: The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao (Pulitzer Prize Winner) Junot Díaz, 2008-09-02 Winner of: The Pulitzer Prize The National Book Critics Circle Award The Anisfield-Wolf Book Award The Jon Sargent, Sr. First Novel Prize A Time Magazine #1 Fiction Book of the Year One of the best books of 2007 according to: The New York Times, San Francisco Chronicle, New York Magazine, Entertainment Weekly, The Boston Globe, Los Angeles Times, The Washington Post, People, The Village Voice, Time Out New York, Salon, Baltimore City Paper, The Christian Science Monitor, Booklist, Library Journal, Publishers Weekly, New York Public Library, and many more... Nominated as one of America's best-loved novels by PBS's The Great American Read Oscar is a sweet but disastrously overweight ghetto nerd who—from the New Jersey home he shares with his old world mother and rebellious sister—dreams of becoming the Dominican J.R.R. Tolkien and, most of all, finding love. But Oscar may never get what he wants. Blame the fukú—a curse that has haunted Oscar's family for generations, following them on their epic journey from Santo Domingo to the USA. Encapsulating Dominican-American history, *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* opens our eyes to an astonishing vision of the contemporary American experience and explores the endless human capacity to persevere—and risk it all—in the name of love.

a history of wild places summary: The Buried Giant Kazuo Ishiguro, 2015-03-03 NATIONAL BESTSELLER • From the winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature and author of *Never Let Me Go* and the Booker Prize-winning novel *The Remains of the Day* comes a luminous meditation on the act of forgetting and the power of memory. In post-Arthurian Britain, the wars that once raged between the Saxons and the Britons have finally ceased. Axl and Beatrice, an elderly British couple, set off to visit their son, whom they haven't seen in years. And, because a strange mist has caused mass amnesia throughout the land, they can scarcely remember anything about him. As they are joined on their journey by a Saxon warrior, his orphan charge, and an illustrious knight, Axl and Beatrice slowly begin to remember the dark and troubled past they all share. By turns savage, suspenseful, and intensely moving, *The Buried Giant* is a luminous meditation on the act of forgetting and the power of memory.

a history of wild places summary: Wild at Heart John Eldredge, 2011-04-17 In all your boyhood dreams of growing up, did you dream of being a nice guy? Eldredge believes that every man longs for a battle to fight, an adventure to live, and a beauty to rescue. That is how he bears the image of God; that is what God made him to be.

a history of wild places summary: Wildthorn Jane Eagland, 2010-09-06 They strip her naked, of everythingundo her whalebone corset, hook by hook. Locked away in Wildthorn Halla madhousethey take her identity. She is now called Lucy Childs. She has no one; she has nothing. But, she is still seventeenth-century Louisa Cosgrove, isn't she? Who has done this unthinkable deed? Louisa must free herself, in more ways than one, and muster up the courage to be her true self, all the while solving her own twisted mystery and falling into an unconventional love . . . Originally published in the UK, this well-paced, provocative romance pushes on boundariesboth literal and figurativeand, do beware: it will bind you, too.

a history of wild places summary: Earthly Remains Donna Leon, 2017-04-04 A moody mystery set in Italy from the New York Times–bestselling author: “One of the most exquisite and subtle detective series ever.” —The Washington Post Guido Brunetti has to deal every day with crimes big and small, suffocating corruption, and a never-ending influx of tourists. But at least he

gets to do it in Venice, one of the most beautiful cities in the world. In this mystery in the bestselling series, the police commissioner's endurance will truly be tested. During an interrogation of an entitled, arrogant man suspected of giving drugs to a young girl, Brunetti acts rashly, doing something he will quickly come to regret. In the fallout, he realizes that he needs a break. Granted leave from the Questura, he accompanies his wife to a villa on Sant'Erasmus, one of the largest islands in the lagoon. There he intends to pass his days rowing, and his nights reading Pliny's Natural History. That is until the caretaker of the house, a widowed beekeeper, goes missing following a sudden storm, and Brunetti must set aside his leave of absence and understand what happened to a man who had become a friend. From a Silver Dagger Award-winning author, this is a poignant novel featuring Guido Brunetti, "a superb police detective—calm, deliberate, and insightful" (Library Journal).

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