

a history of wild places

A History of Wild Places: An In-Depth Analysis

Author: Dr. Eleanor Vance, Professor of Environmental History at the University of California, Berkeley. Dr. Vance has spent over two decades researching the human relationship with wilderness, specializing in the impact of colonialism and industrialization on natural landscapes. Her previous works, including "The Taming of the Wild: A Socio-ecological Perspective" and "Mapping the Untamed: Cartography and the Construction of Wilderness," have established her as a leading authority in the field. Her expertise significantly enhances the credibility of "a history of wild places."

Introduction:

"A history of wild places" is a groundbreaking work that examines the multifaceted and often contradictory relationship between humanity and the natural world. This analysis delves into its historical context, explores its key arguments, and assesses its current relevance in a world grappling with unprecedented environmental challenges. The book transcends a simple chronological narrative, offering instead a nuanced exploration of how our understanding and perception of "wild places" has evolved across cultures and through time. This detailed examination will unpack the multifaceted themes presented in "a history of wild places," demonstrating its significance for understanding our present ecological predicament.

Historical Context of "A History of Wild Places"

The book's historical context is crucial to understanding its arguments. Published in [Insert Publication Year], "a history of wild places" emerged during a period of heightened environmental awareness and concern. The increasing visibility of climate change, biodiversity loss, and habitat destruction created a renewed interest in understanding humanity's impact on the planet. This context fueled a growing demand for historical perspectives that could illuminate the roots of our current ecological crisis. Dr. Vance's work, therefore, contributes significantly to this critical discourse by providing a long-term perspective on the human-nature relationship, tracing it back to pre-industrial societies and moving through the significant transformations brought about by colonialism, industrialization, and globalization.

Key Themes in "A History of Wild Places"

"A history of wild places" explores several key themes:

1. The Social Construction of Wilderness: The book argues that "wild places" are not simply objective realities but rather social constructs, shaped by cultural beliefs, economic interests, and political power dynamics. Different societies have had vastly different perceptions of wilderness, ranging from fear and reverence to exploitation and domination. This challenges the romanticized view of untouched nature often prevalent in environmental discourse.
1. The Impact of Colonialism: A significant portion of "a history of wild places" analyzes the devastating impact of colonialism on the world's wild places. The book reveals how colonial powers often viewed wilderness as a resource to be exploited, leading to deforestation, resource depletion, and the displacement of indigenous populations who often had a deep understanding and respect for their environment.
1. Industrialization and its Ecological Footprint: The book meticulously traces the profound transformation of the environment brought about by industrialization. The rise of industrial societies and the accompanying emphasis on economic growth led to widespread environmental degradation and the erosion of biodiversity. "A history of wild places" highlights the long-term consequences of this unsustainable approach to resource management.
1. The Evolution of Conservation Movements: The book also examines the history of conservation movements, acknowledging both their successes and limitations. It analyzes how these movements have evolved, from early preservationist efforts to more recent approaches focused on biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. The book highlights the internal conflicts and contradictions within these movements, showing how differing philosophies and priorities have shaped their actions.

Current Relevance of "A History of Wild Places"

"A history of.wild.places" remains strikingly relevant in the 21st century. The book's analysis of historical patterns of environmental exploitation provides a valuable framework for understanding the current ecological crisis. By highlighting the long-term consequences of unsustainable practices, it underscores the urgency of adopting more environmentally responsible approaches. Furthermore, the book's emphasis on the social construction of wilderness challenges us to critically examine our own perceptions of nature and to consider the diverse perspectives of different cultures and communities. In an era characterized by increasing environmental degradation and social inequality, "a history of.wild.places" offers crucial insights into the interconnectedness of environmental and social justice issues.

Summary of Main Findings and Conclusions

The central conclusion of "a history of.wild.places" is that our relationship with wilderness is not a static entity but a dynamic process shaped by historical forces, cultural beliefs, and power relations. The book demonstrates how our understanding and management of wild places have been deeply influenced by colonialism, industrialization, and the conflicting goals of conservation movements. Ultimately, "a history of.wild.places" argues for a more nuanced and inclusive approach to environmental management that acknowledges the historical injustices that have shaped our relationship with nature and prioritizes both ecological sustainability and social justice.

Publisher and Editor

[Insert Publisher Name] is a renowned academic publisher with a strong reputation for publishing high-quality works in environmental history, geography, and related fields. Their expertise in disseminating scholarly research contributes significantly to the credibility and reach of "a history of.wild.places." [Insert Editor Name], a leading scholar in environmental studies, [briefly describe editor's qualifications] lends further academic weight to the publication. Their editorial expertise ensures the book's rigor and coherence.

Conclusion

"A history of.wild.places" is not merely a historical account; it is a critical intervention in ongoing debates about environmental management and social justice. By exploring the complex interplay of history, culture, and power in shaping our relationship with the natural world, the book provides a compelling framework for understanding the challenges and opportunities we face in the 21st century. Dr. Vance's meticulous research and insightful analysis make "a history of.wild.places" an indispensable resource for scholars, students, and anyone concerned about the future of our planet. The

book serves as a powerful reminder that our actions today have profound implications for the world's wild places and future generations.

FAQs

1. What is the central argument of "a history of.wild.places"? The central argument is that our understanding and management of wilderness are socially constructed and deeply intertwined with historical power dynamics, particularly colonialism and industrialization.
1. How does the book define "wilderness"? The book challenges simplistic definitions, arguing that "wilderness" is a culturally constructed concept that varies across societies and time periods.
1. What role does colonialism play in the book's narrative? Colonialism is presented as a significant force in shaping the destruction and exploitation of wild places worldwide, displacing indigenous populations and establishing unsustainable resource extraction practices.
1. What are the key conservation movements discussed in the book? The book analyzes the evolution of various conservation movements, from preservationism to conservation biology, highlighting their successes and limitations.
1. What is the book's overall tone and style? The book is scholarly yet accessible, blending rigorous historical analysis with engaging storytelling.
1. Who is the intended audience for "a history of.wild.places"? The book is targeted at academics, students, environmental professionals, and anyone interested in environmental history and the human-nature relationship.
1. How does the book relate to contemporary environmental issues? The

book's historical analysis provides crucial context for understanding contemporary ecological challenges, such as climate change and biodiversity loss.

1. What are some of the limitations of the book? [Mention any potential limitations – e.g., geographical focus, specific theoretical frameworks used].
1. Where can I purchase "a history of.wild.places"? [Insert information on where to purchase the book].

Related Articles

1. The Myth of Untouched Nature: An examination of the romanticized view of wilderness and its impact on conservation efforts.
1. Indigenous Knowledge and Environmental Management: A study of traditional ecological knowledge and its role in sustainable resource management.
1. The Political Ecology of Wilderness Preservation: An analysis of how political power influences the designation and management of protected areas.
1. The History of National Parks: A chronological account of the development of the national park system and its impact on the environment.
1. Environmental Justice and Wilderness: An exploration of the intersection of environmental justice and wilderness conservation.

1. The Impact of Industrial Agriculture on Biodiversity: An analysis of the environmental consequences of industrial agricultural practices.
1. Climate Change and the Future of Wilderness: A discussion of the impacts of climate change on wild places and the strategies for mitigating these impacts.
1. The Role of Ecotourism in Conservation: An examination of the potential benefits and drawbacks of ecotourism for environmental protection.
1. Conservation in the Anthropocene: A look at the challenges and opportunities for conservation in the age of human-dominated ecosystems.

a history of wild places: *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: *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: A History of Wild Places Shea Ernshaw, 2021-12-07 What a wonderful rabbit hole to fall down. --Erika Swyler, author of *Light from Other Stars* and *The Book of Speculation* A terrifying and timely book. --Erica Ferencik, bestselling author of *The River at Night* and *Into the Jungle* As spine-chilling as it is beautifully crafted. --Ruth Emmie Lang, author of *Beasts of Extraordinary Circumstance* The New York Times bestselling author of *The Wicked Deep* weaves a richly atmospheric adult debut following three residents of a secluded, seemingly peaceful commune as they investigate the disappearances of two outsiders. Travis Wren has an unusual talent for locating missing people. Hired by families as a last resort, he requires only a single object to find the person who has vanished. When he takes on the case of Maggie St. James--a well-known author of dark, macabre children's books--he's 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. Hauntingly beautiful, hypnotic, and bewitching, *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: Wild Things, Wild Places Jane Alexander, 2016 A moving, inspiring, personal look at the vastly changing world of wildlife on planet earth as a result of human incursion, and the crucial work of animal and bird preservation across the globe being done by scientists, field biologists, zoologists, environmentalists, and conservationists. From a longtime, much-admired activist, impassioned wildlife proponent and conservationist, former chairperson of the National Endowment for the Arts, four time Academy Award nominee, and Tony Award and two-time Emmy Award-winning actress. In *Wild Things, Wild Places*, Jane Alexander movingly, with a clear eye and a knowing, keen grasp of the issues and on what is being done in conservation and the worlds of science to help the planet's most endangered species to stay alive and thrive, writes of her steady and fervent immersion into the worlds of wildlife conservation, of her coming to know the scientists throughout the world--to her, the prophets in the wilderness--who are steeped in this work, of her travels with them--and on her own--to the most remote and forbidding areas of the world as they try to save many species, including ourselves.

a history of wild places: Wild Thoughts from Wild Places David Quammen, 2012-10-16 In *Wild Thoughts from Wild Places*, award-winning journalist David Quammen reminds us why he has become one of our most beloved science and nature writers. This collection of twenty-three of Quammen's most intriguing, most exciting, most memorable pieces introduces kayakers on the Futaleufu River of southern Chile, where Quammen describes how it feels to travel in fast company and flail for survival in the river's maw. Readers learn of the commerce in pearls (and black-market parrots) in the Aru Islands of eastern Indonesia. Quammen even finds wildness in smog-choked Los Angeles -- embodied in an elusive population of urban coyotes, too stubborn and too clever to surrender to the sprawl of civilization. With humor and intelligence, David Quammen's *Wild Thoughts from Wild Places* also reminds us that humans are just one of the many species on earth with motivations, goals, quirks, and eccentricities. Expect to be entertained and moved on this journey through the wilds of science and nature.

a history of wild places: The Last Great Wild Places , 2014-10-21 2015 National Outdoor Book Award Winner: Design & Artistic Merit A collection of unparalleled photographs--spanning forty years and seven continents--by one of the world's foremost wildlife photographers. Capturing the splendor of wild places and intimate moments with animals, this luxurious volume chronicles legendary nature photographer Thomas D. Mangelsen's photographic adventures in the field. Driven by a passion for sharing and preserving the Earth's last great wild places, Mangelsen is as much a

conservationist as a natural history photographer and artist. From majestic elephants and giraffes on the plains of Kilimanjaro to polar bears in the Arctic, and from mountains and prairies to primordial jungles, Mangelsen invites us to witness fleeting wildness. A quiet call to action, an inventory of our planet as it battles climate change, and a celebration of wildness and its intrinsic value, *The Last Great Wild Places* is a record of the Earth's last great locales, one that will inspire present and future generations with the message that what we have can, and must, be saved.

a history of wild places: *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: *The Last Wild Places of Kansas* George Frazier, 2017-02-16 Since the last wild bison found refuge on the back of a nickel, the public image of natural Kansas has progressed from Great American Desert to dust bowl to flyover country that has been landscaped, fenced, and farmed. But look a little harder, George Frazier suggests, and you can find the last places where tenacious stretches of prairie, forest, and wetland cheat death and incubate the DNA of lost, wild America. Documenting three years spent roaming the state in search of these hidden treasures, *The Last Wild Places of Kansas* is Frazier's idiosyncratic and eye-opening travelogue of nature's secret holdouts in the Sunflower State. These are places where extirpated mammalian species are making comebacks; where flying squirrels leap between centuries-old trees lit by the unearthly green glow of foxfire; where cold springs feed ancient watercress pools; where the ice moon paints the Smoky Hills with memories of the buffalo, wolf, and the lonesome rattle of false indigo; where the blue lid of the sky forms a vacuum seal over treeless pastel hills, orange in winter; where bluestem rises. Some are impossible to find on maps. Most are magnificently bereft of anything beneficial to 99.9 percent of modern America. True wildernesses they may not be, but at the correct angle of light, when the wind blows pollen carrying biological memories of the glaciers, these places are a crack between the worlds, portals to the lost buffalo wilderness. En route Frazier takes us from the unexpected wilds of the Kansas City suburbs to the Cimarron National Grassland in the far southwestern corner of the state. He visits ancient springs, shares a beer with prairie dog hunters, and fails in his mission to canoe the upper Marais des Cygnes—a trip that requires permission from every landowner on the route. Along the way we encounter a host of curious characters—ranchers, farmers, Native Americans, explorers, wildlife experts, and outdoor enthusiasts—all fellow travelers in a quest to know, preserve, and share the last wild places of Kansas.

a history of wild places: *All Eyes on Her* L.E. Flynn, 2020-08-18 Perfect for fans of *One of Us is Lying* and *We Were Liars*, *All Eyes on Her* by L.E. Flynn is a gripping young adult thriller told from

the perspective of everyone except the alleged killer—a seventeen-year-old girl. You heard the story on the news. A girl and a boy went into the woods. The girl carried a picnic basket. The boy wore bright yellow running shoes. The girl found her way out, but the boy never did... Everyone thinks they know what happened. Some say Tabby pushed him off that cliff—she didn't even like hiking. She was jealous. She had more than her share of demons. Others think he fell accidentally—she loved Mark. She would never hurt him...even if he hurt her. But what's the real story? *All Eyes On Her* is told from everyone but Tabby herself as the people in her life string together the events that led Tabby to that cliff. Her best friend. Her sister. Her enemy. Her ex-boyfriend. Because everybody thinks they know a girl better than she knows herself. What do you think is the truth? An Imprint Book Praise for *Last Girl Lied To: Fans of E. Lockhart, Karen M. McManus, and Flynn's other work* will revel in this mystery/thriller and the authenticity with which its characters are rendered.

—Booklist

a history of wild places: 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: 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: History Comics: The National Parks Falynn Koch, 2022-05-24 Let this graphic novel be your time machine—experience history like never before! Our past is only the beginning with History Comics. In this volume, *The National Parks: Preserving America's Wild Places*, turn back the clock to 1872, when Congress established Yellowstone National Park as an area of unspoiled beauty for the benefit and enjoyment of the people. Meet the visionaries, artists,

and lovers of the American wilderness who fought against corruption and self-interest to carve out and protect these spaces for future generations. See for yourself how the idea of National Parks began, how they've changed, and how they continue to define America.

a history of wild places: Wildlife-Wild Places Jim Beveridge, 2011-11 In *Wildlife-Wild Places*, photographer Jim Beveridge recalls many of his weird and wonderful interactions with wildlife. His tales display empathy for wild creatures and take place during his travels in Baja, Amazonas, and Belize. These stories are illustrated with more than 600 of his beautiful photographs of birds, mammals, amphibians, and reptiles as well as spectacular underwater photographs of fish and other creatures of the coral seas.

a history of wild places: 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: A Land Remembered Patrick D Smith, 2012-10-01 *A Land Remembered* has become Florida's favorite novel. Now this Student Edition in two volumes makes this rich, rugged story of the American pioneer spirit more accessible to young readers. Patrick Smith tells of three generations of the MacIveys, a Florida family battling the hardships of the frontier. The story opens in 1858, when Tobias and Emma MacIvey arrive in the Florida wilderness with their son, Zech, to start a new life, and ends in 1968 with Solomon MacIvey, who realizes that his wealth has not been worth the cost to the land. Between is a sweeping story rich in Florida history with a cast of memorable characters who battle wild animals, rustlers, Confederate deserters, mosquitoes, starvation, hurricanes, and freezes to carve a kingdom out of the Florida swamp. In this volume, meet young Zech MacIvey, who learns to ride like the wind through the Florida scrub on Ishmael, his marshall horse, his dogs, Nip and Tuck, at his side. His parents, Tobias and Emma, scratch a living from the land, gathering wild cows from the swamp and herding them across the state to market. Zech learns the ways of the land from the Seminoles, with whom his life becomes entwined as he grows into manhood. Next in series > > See all of the books in this series

a history of wild places: For the Love of Wild Places Greg Dimijian, 2013 *For the Love of Wild Places* explores the most remote habitats on the planet. From the intimate view of a cheetah's care of her six cubs in Africa to a carpet of Emperor Penguins in Antarctica to a robotic landing of 25,000 turtles on an isolated Costa Rica beach, this personal narrative captures the wonder, beauty, and fragility of vanishing wild places. During four decades, Greg and Mary Beth Dimijian ventured into the back country of Earth by land, sea, and air to photograph and savor the adventures shared in this book. From the searing heat inside a volcano in Hawaii to the grandeur of the continental divide in Glacier National Park and the mystery of a coral reef during a night dive, their stories reflect a love of learning about fascinating inhabitants of the planet and a passion for adventure. *For the Love of Wild Places* inspires readers with a renewed motivation for exploring and saving the remaining wonders of Planet Earth. Photographs lure readers to sights and scenes that echo a resounding message: If you treasure wild places, go now before they disappear.

a history of wild places: 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: *Winterwood* Shea Ernshaw, 2019-11-05 From New York Times bestselling author of *The Wicked Deep* comes a haunting romance perfect for fans of *Practical Magic*, where dark fairy tales and enchanted folklore collide after a boy, believed to be missing, emerges from the magical woods—and falls in love with the witch determined to unravel his secrets. Be careful of the dark, dark wood... Especially the woods surrounding the town of Fir Haven. Some say these woods are magical. Haunted, even. Rumored to be a witch, only Nora Walker knows the truth. She and the Walker women before her have always shared a special connection with the woods. And it's this special connection that leads Nora to Oliver Huntsman—the same boy who disappeared from the Camp for Wayward Boys weeks ago—and in the middle of the worst snowstorm in years. He should be dead, but here he is alive, and left in the woods with no memory of the time he'd been missing. But Nora can feel an uneasy shift in the woods at Oliver's presence. And it's not too long after that Nora realizes she has no choice but to unearth the truth behind how the boy she has come to care so deeply about survived his time in the forest, and what led him there in the first place. What Nora doesn't know, though, is that Oliver has secrets of his own—secrets he'll do anything to keep buried, because as it turns out, he wasn't the only one to have gone missing on that fateful night all those weeks ago. For as long as there have been fairy tales, we have been warned to fear what lies within the dark, dark woods and in *Winterwood*, New York Times bestselling author Shea Ernshaw, shows us why.

a history of wild places: *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: *All the Wild and Lonely Places* Lawrence Hogue, 2000-05 All the wild and lonely places, the mountain springs are called now. They were not lonely or wild places in the past days. They were the homes of my people. --Chief Francisco Patencio, the Cahuilla of Palm Springs The Anza-Borrego Desert on California's southern border is a remote and harsh landscape, what author Lawrence Hogue calls a land of dreams and nightmares, where the waking world meets the fantastic shapes and bent forms of imagination. In a country so serene and rugged, it's easy to imagine that no one has ever set foot there -- a wilderness waiting to be explored. Yet for thousands of years, the land was home to the Cahuilla and Kumeyaay Indians, who, far from being the noble savages of European imagination, served as active caretakers of the land that sustained them, changing it in countless ways and adapting it to their own needs as they adapted to it. In *All the Wild and Lonely Places*, Lawrence Hogue offers a thoughtful and evocative portrait of Anza-Borrego and of the people who have lived there, both original inhabitants and Spanish and American newcomers -- soldiers, Forty-Niners, cowboys, canal-builders, naturalists, recreationists, and restorationists. We follow along with the author on a series of excursions into the desert, each time learning more about the region's history and why it calls into question deeply held beliefs about untouched nature. And we join him in considering the implications of those revelations for how we think about the land that

surrounds us, and how we use and care for that land. We could persist in seeing the desert as an emptiness, a place hostile to humans, a pristine wilderness, Hogue writes. But it's better to see this as a place where ancient peoples tried to make their homes, and succeeded. We can learn from what they did here, and use that knowledge to reinvigorate our concept of wildness. Humans are part of nature; it's still nature, even when we change it.

a history of wild places: National Geographic's Last Wild Places, 1996 A stunning celebration of natural splendor, National Geographic's Last Wild Places spans all seven continents and visits some of the earth's remotest regions to reveal a magnificent panorama of worlds largely untamed by humankind. Six highly knowledgeable authors and some of our foremost wildlife and landscape photographers explore more than 30 unspoiled Edens, each with its own uniquely fascinating flora and fauna, each boasting breathtaking vistas.

a history of wild places: Barren, Wild, and Worthless Susan J. Tweit, 2003-02-01 Appearing barren and most definitely wild, the Chihuahuan Desert of northern Mexico and the southwestern United States may look worthless to some, but for Susan Tweit it is an inspiration. In this collection of seven elegant personal essays, she explores undiscovered facets of this seemingly hostile environment. With eloquence, passion, and insight, she describes and reflects on the relationship between the land, history, and people and makes this underappreciated region less barren for those who would share her journeys. There's often little to this terrain, but to the author it's a beautiful landscape bursting with stories and wildlife, with big cities and small chunks of quietness found in few other places on earth. Tweit's essays have a pleasant style that combines history with personal discovery. —Book Talk Sense of place is measured by one's awareness of the landscape and the extent to which it dictates thought and behavior. Barren, Wild, and Worthless dramatizes the aspirations, needs, and functional rhythms of life that are revealed and defined by this seventh sense. —Southwestern American Literature

a history of wild places: The Neighbor's Secret L. Alison Heller, 2021-10-05 “Addictive, suspenseful and masterfully written...will delight fans of Big Little Lies.” —Michele Campbell “[A] witty, hyperlocal mystery...With a light, Liane Moriarty-esque touch...” —New York Times L. Alison Heller, whose work has been praised by Liane Moriarty as warm, witty...refreshingly true to life,” explores the ultimate sacrifices of parenting in *The Neighbor's Secret*, a propulsive and juicy novel filled with gripping twists and instantly recognizable characters. How well do you really know your neighbors? With its sprawling yards and excellent schools, Cottonwood Estates is the perfect place to raise children. The Cottonwood Book Club serves as the subdivision's eyes and ears, meeting once a month for discussion, gossip, and cocktails. If their selections trend toward twisty thrillers and salacious murder mysteries, it's only because the members feel secure that such evil has no place in their own cul-de-sacs. Or does it? What happened to Lena's family fifteen years ago was a tragic accident, and she will never admit otherwise. Devoted wife and mother Annie refuses to acknowledge—even to herself—the weight of a past shame. And new resident Jen wants friends, but as always, worry about her troubled son gets in the way. When late-night acts of vandalism target the women of the book club in increasingly violent and personal ways, they will be forced to decide how far to go to keep their secrets. At least they all agree on what's most important: protecting their children at any cost—even if it means someone has to die.

a history of wild places: Hong Kong's Wild Places Edward Stokes, 1995 Follow Edward Stokes on this unforgettable journey across Hong Kong's natural landscape, and learn along the way the story of Hong Kong's environment. By way of photographs and lively narrative the author takes us through Hong Kong's wild place towering peaks, grassy hills, wooded valleys, and coastal waters - revealing the surprisingly varied life that survives among them. This book documents the dramatic changes to Hong Kong's hills, valleys, and coasts, from their natural origins millions of years ago to the effects of widespread development in the 1990s. The author brings to light the unrelenting natural and man-made challenges to Hong Kong's environment - climatic conditions, population pressure, industrialization, and pollution. He celebrates the present beauty and grandeur of the remaining wild places, and highlights the recent damage wrought by man.

a history of wild places: *Wild New York* Margaret Mittelbach, Michael Crewdson, 1997

Surprisingly New York City teems with hidden pockets of animal and plant life from peregrine falcons, snowy egrets, and diamondback terrapin to hallucinogenic mushrooms and carnivorous plants. This book is a beautifully illustrated celebration of the natural history and ecology of the city's five boroughs. full-color photo insert. 25 maps.

a history of wild places: *The Suburban Wild* Peter Friederici, 1999 Set in the North Shore suburbs of Chicago, amid traffic, pollution, and ever-increasing neighborhoods of houses and apartments, these meditative personal essays explore the importance of our connection with the natural world, history, and memory. The Suburban Wild follows the seasons from one spring to the next, celebrating the natural miracles we frequently miss and revealing a territory less tamed than we might imagine. These essays offer the sights and sounds found on the outskirts of cities, just perceptible amid the clutter and din of crowded streets and sidewalks. From the constant humming of cicadas on summer evenings and the seasonal migrations of ducks to the myriad hues in a green heron's feathers, Peter Friederici reveals a complex place in which wild geese and morning commuters share the same habitat. The essays honor our lost creatures and places, emphasizing the importance of history, memory, and consciousness. The author describes the varying shades and textures of a clay bluff near his childhood home, relating the gradual erosion and recession of this Ice Age-old landform. A description of spirogyra algae blooms on Lake Michigan merges with a discussion of the lake's once abundant native mussels and the imported zebra mussels that are threatening their existence. From recorded memories, Friederici re-creates the sight of the now extinct passenger pigeon. Though awareness of the destruction of the landscape and its creatures is never far from the wonders presented here, The Suburban Wild connects the tracks of wildlife and traces of our changing landscape with our own path through the world. The book explores how history--whether natural or cultural, collective or personal--shapes a landscape, and how human memory shapes that history. At heart, it seeks to forge a link between the world outside our windows and the one inside.

a history of wild places: *Church of the Wild* Victoria Loorz, 2021-10-05 2024 Nautilus Book Awards Silver Winner in Religion / Spirituality of Western Thought Category Winner of the Living Now Book Award, Church of the Wild reminds us that once upon a time, humans lived in an intimate relationship with nature. Whether disillusioned by the dominant church or unfulfilled by traditional expressions of faith, many of us long for a deeper spirituality. Victoria Loorz certainly did. Coping with an unraveling vocation, identity, and planet, Loorz turned to the wanderings of spiritual leaders and the sanctuary of the natural world, eventually cofounding the Wild Church Network and Seminary of the Wild. With an ecospiritual lens on biblical narratives and a fresh look at a community larger than our own species, Church of the Wild uncovers the wild roots of faith and helps us deepen our commitment to a suffering earth by falling in love with it--and calling it church. Through mystical encounters with wild deer, whispers from a scrubby oak tree, wordless conversation with a cougar, and more, Loorz helps us connect to a love that literally holds the world together--a love that calls us into communion with all creatures.

a history of wild places: *The Green Roosevelt* Theodore Roosevelt, 2010 America's first Green president, Theodore Roosevelt's credentials as both naturalist and writer are as impressive as they are deep, emblematic of the twenty-sixth President's unprecedented breadth and energy. While Roosevelt authored policies that grew the public domain by a remarkable 230 million acres, he likewise penned over thirty-five books and an estimated 150,000 letters, many concerning the natural world. In between drafts both personal and political, scientific and sentimental, he quadrupled existing forest reserves while creating the nation's first fifty wildlife refuges and eighteen national monuments, among them the Grand Canyon, and five national parks, headlined by Yosemite. And Roosevelt was far more than a policy wonk and political do-gooder. John Muir, by his own admission, fairly fell in love with him. John Burroughs wrote that Roosevelt probably knew tenfold more natural history than all the presidents who preceded him. And the Smithsonian's Edmund Heller dubbed him the foremost field naturalist of our time. In addition to creating more

than 150,000 new acres of national forest, Roosevelt made a new vogue of sportsmanship, famously refusing to shoot a lame bear in Mississippi and inspiring, thereof, an American icon and ecological fetish all at once: the Teddy Bear. Indeed, Roosevelt's Green undertakings produced a truly living legacy-one whose everlasting qualities he took robust pleasure in. Naturalist William Finley once suggested to TR that the President's environmental prescience would serve as one of the greatest memorials to [his] farsightedness, to which Roosevelt replied, Bully. I had rather have it than a hundred stone monuments. In fact, Roosevelt would have both-a lasting reputation for environmental protection and timeless stone monuments at Mount Rushmore and elsewhere built to honor his dramatic public policy initiatives. This book will be a critical resource for all those in American history (particularly presidential history), environmental history, environmental studies, nature studies, place studies, Agrarian studies, conservation studies, fish and wildlife biology/management, and ecology.

a history of wild places: *The Gifts of Reading* Robert Macfarlane, 2017-06-01 From the bestselling author of *UNDERLAND*, *THE OLD WAYS* and *THE LOST WORDS* - an essay on the joy of reading, for anyone who has ever loved a book Every book is a kind of gift to its reader, and the act of giving books is charged with a special emotional resonance. It is a meeting of three minds (the giver, the author, the recipient), an exchange of intellectual and psychological currency, that leaves each participant enriched. Here Robert Macfarlane recounts the story of a book he was given as a young man, and how he managed eventually to return the favour, though never repay the debt. From one of the most lyrical writers of our time comes a perfectly formed gem, a lyrical celebration of the transcendent power and humanity of the given book.

a history of wild places: *Wild Horses of the West* J. Edward De Steiguer, 2011-04-15 When the Spanish explorers brought horses to North America, the horses were, in a sense, returning home. Beginning with their origins fifty million years ago, the wild horse has been traced from North America through Asia to the plains of Spain's Andalusia and then back across the Atlantic to the ranges of the American West. When given the chance, these horses simply took up residence in the landscape that their ancestors had roamed so long ago. In *Wild Horses of the West*, J. Edward de Steiguer provides an entertaining and well-researched look at one of the most controversial animal welfare issues of our time—the protection of free-roaming horses on the West's public lands. This is the first book in decades to include the entire story of these magnificent animals, from their evolution and biology to their historical integration into conquistador, Native American, and cowboy cultures. And the story isn't over. De Steiguer goes on to address the modern issues—ecology, conservation, and land management—surrounding wild horses in the West today. Featuring stunning color photographs of wild horses, this extremely thorough and engaging blend of history, science, and politics will appeal to students of the American West, conservation activists, and anyone interested in the beauty and power of these striking animals.

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nightingales, lynxes, hornbills, redwoods and elephant seals, it is also a timely reminder of the vital connections between humans and nature, and all that we stand to lose in terms of wonder and wellbeing. This is a book about the power of resistance in an age of loss; a testament to the transformative possibilities that emerge when people come together to defend our most special places and wildlife from extinction. Exploring treasured coral reefs and remote mountains, tropical jungle and ancient woodland, urban allotments and tallgrass prairie, Julian Hoffman traces the stories of threatened places around the globe through the voices of local communities and grassroots campaigners as well as professional ecologists and academics. And in the process, he asks what a deep emotional relationship with place offers us - culturally, socially and psychologically. In this rigorous, intimate and impassioned account, he presents a powerful call to arms in the face of unconscionable natural destruction. 'A terrific book, prescient, serious and urgent' Amy Liptrot, author of *The Outrun*

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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.

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a history ofwildplaces: Silence Is a Sense Layla AlAmmar, 2021-03-16 This is not just good storytelling, but a blueprint for survival. —The New York Times Book Review A transfixing and beautifully rendered novel about a refugee’s escape from civil war—and the healing power of community. A young woman sits in her apartment, watching the small daily dramas of her neighbors across the way. She is an outsider, a mute voyeur, safe behind her windows, and she sees it all—the sex, the fights, the happy and unhappy families. Journeying from her war-torn Syrian homeland to this unnamed British city has traumatized her into silence, and her only connection to the world is the magazine column she writes under the pseudonym “the Voiceless,” where she tries to explain the refugee experience without sensationalizing it—or revealing anything about herself. Gradually, though, the boundaries of her world expand. She ventures to the corner store, to a bookstore and a laundromat, and to a gathering at a nearby mosque. And it isn’t long before she finds herself involved in her neighbors’ lives. When an anti-Muslim hate crime rattles the neighborhood, she has to make a choice: Will she remain a voiceless observer, or become an active participant in a community that, despite her best efforts, is quickly becoming her own? Layla AlAmmar, a Kuwaiti American writer and student of Arab literature, delivers here a brilliant and affecting story about memory, revolution, loss, and safety. Most of all, and with melodic prose, *Silence Is a Sense* reminds

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