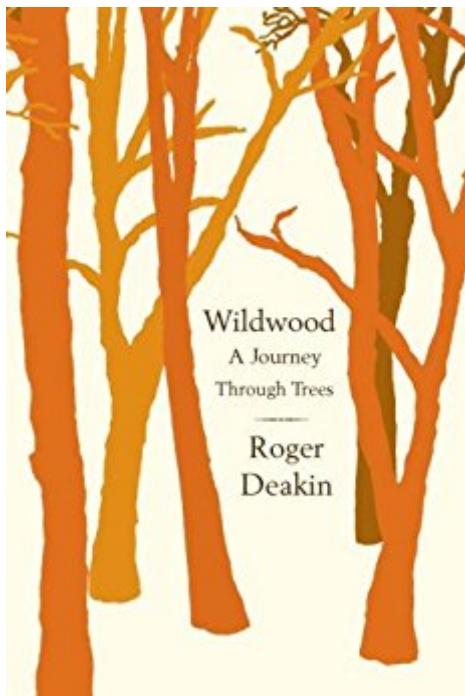


The book was found

Wildwood: A Journey Through Trees



Synopsis

Here, published for the first time in the United States, is the last book by Roger Deakin, famed British nature writer and icon of the environmentalist movement. In Deakin's glorious meditation on wood, the "fifth element" -- as it exists in nature, in our culture, and in our souls -- the reader accompanies Deakin through the woods of Britain, Europe, Kazakhstan, and Australia in search of what lies behind man's profound and enduring connection with trees. Deakin lives in forest shacks, goes "coppicing" in Suffolk, swims beneath the walnut trees of the Haut-Languedoc, and hunts bushplums with Aboriginal women in the outback. Along the way, he ferrets out the mysteries of woods, detailing the life stories of the timber beams composing his Elizabethan house and searching for the origin of the apple. As the world's forests are whittled away, Deakin's sparkling prose evokes woodlands anarchic with life, rendering each tree as an individual, living being. At once a traveler's tale and a splendid work of natural history, *Wildwood* reveals, amid the world's marvelous diversity, that which is universal in human experience.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Won't someone please, perhaps his friend Robert MacFarlane, go through Deakins papers so this book won't have to be his last? Another excellent book going undeservedly unnoticed and unsung. Believe it or not one of the best chapters is "Among Jaguars"-a chapter on automobiles in a book about trees; I squeal with delight! Find out a great deal about cricket bats and eel traps, and the Green Man, among other fascinating things. Squeezing himself inside a hollow thousand year old holly, full of holes and decay: "Yet the tree was in full foliage and blackbirds were sampling the first of its ripe pink berries." A book to be savored...

I think the books and writing of the late Roger Deakin are all marvellous. Loved Wildwood, loved Notes from Walnut Tree Farm, loved Waterlog: so sad that he has died at a relatively early age. Sadly, for readers who care about the natural environment, he will write no more.

My husband said, "Read this book, you will love it." He could not have been more right. I do not know when I have read a book I loved more than this journey around the world of trees. Having grown up in the Midwest, in a little Iowa town full of maple trees and river bottoms, I was so at home in this book I cried when I read the last page. I travel in Britain, particularly Wales, when I can, and have been in some of the ancient groves. I once walked a footpath through the woods near Stackpole, and got so thoroughly lost that when I emerged on a road hours later, it was a terrible shock. I had been in the world of trees. Deakin took me back to that place so thoroughly, that one night at about 3:00 I stopped reading and was surprised to find myself on my couch in front of the fire, I had been so immersed in the walnut trees of Kyrgyzstan. Roger Deakin is no longer on this earth, but these works of his will endure in the genre of nature writing forever.

Deakin does a wonderful job to change our perspective on an essential part of the natural world. Full of heart (and craft), highly intelligent, sometimes slow going but ultimately unforgettable.

These essays are delightful and span this man's life experience in woods around the world, but mostly in his homeland of England. A book you pick up and put down easily since most of the essays are short.

This is a book I will reread, probably more than once. I particularly liked the part about England, life in the country, and visiting artists. If I were visiting central Asia, I would be more interested in the

journey to the wild apple forest.

The book was great. It covers a mix of art, poetry, history and the husbandry of trees. Add to this a dose of wonder and the spirituality of places and this touches on this engaging read.

Shipped promptly, as described!

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