

Recommended Readings:

Borden, Courtney. Forward by Mary Zeiss Stang. Adventures in a Man's World: Sisters of the Hunt. Stackpole Books, 2005.

From the Publisher: How does it happen that a nice, upper-class city girl, born at the turn of the twentieth century and raised to expect a life of pampered luxury, finds herself shivering in a frigid Saskatchewan duck-blind? Courtney Borden's husband, John Borden of Borden Dairy fame, was an avid sportsman, and she accepted his invitation to join in the action. So, the early-twentieth-century woman takes up upland bird shooting, waterfowling, fly fishing, and other outdoor sports.

Buckley, Bill. Misery Loves Company: Waterfowling and the Relentless Pursuit of Self-Abuse. Ducks Unlimited, Inc., 2002.

Synopsis: This book takes a fun-filled look at the foibles, follies, pratfalls, and unpredictable world of the duck hunter, from the time his alarm rings at 3:00 a.m. until he stumbles into freezing marsh water two hours later, swamping his waders but not dampening his enthusiasm for the sport.

Faulkner, William. Big Woods: The Hunting Stories. Knopf Publishing Group, 1994.

From the Publisher: Big Woods is a collection of Faulkner's best hunting stories. An avid hunter as well as one of America's greatest writers, Faulkner spent many days hunting in the big woods near Oxford Mississippi. Included here is his most famous hunting story, "The Bear," as well as "The Old People," "A Bear Hunt," and "Race at Morning." Together these four stories are considered to be the finest hunting stories every written.

Gassett, Jose Ortega. Meditations on Hunting. Wilderness Adventures Press, 1995.

From the Publisher: *Meditations on Hunting* is the most quoted book in sporting literature. It is the finest work on the essence and ethics of hunting. Today when both hunting and fishing are often condemned, *Meditations* takes on an even greater significance. Ortega points out that life is a dynamic interchange between man and his surroundings. He explains that hunting is part of man's very nature, that "hunting is a universal and impassioned sport... it is the purest form of human happiness." The essence of hunting or fishing involves a complete code of ethics of the most distinguished design. The sportsman who accepts the sporting code of ethics keeps his commandments in the greatest solitude with no witness or audience other than the sharp peaks of the mountain, the stern oak, and the passing animal.

Herman, Daniel J.. Hunting and the American Imagination. Smithsonian Books, 2001.

Book Description: The historic image of the American hunter, clad in buckskin and carrying a rifle, is a cultural icon. But as Daniel Herman finds in *Hunting and the American Imagination*, America's hunting tradition did not spring solely from the colonial or frontier experience. By

tracing American hunters' ideas about who they were and what they represented, Herman shows how Americans claimed a continent and forged enduring ideas about manliness, race, and nation.

Jones, Robert F.. On Killing: Meditations on the Chase. Lyons Press, 2005.

From Library Journal: Many notable writers have articulated sentiments about killing in first-person essays or via characters in their stories. This diverse collection of short pieces and excerpts from longer works covers a wide range of attitudes, but they're mostly restricted to ethical shadings pertaining to hunting game or fishing. Over a dozen pieces by contemporary writers, including Le Anne Schreiber, Jim Harrison, and editor/novelist Jones are juxtaposed with snippets by literary icons such as Tolstoy, Remarque, and Hemingway.

Kerasote, Ted. Bloodties: Nature, Culture, and the Hunt. Kodansha America, 1994.

Amazon.com: The last 20 years have brought many changes in American culture, among them a widespread belief that animals should be granted moral rights: protection from cruelty, from laboratory testing, from the destruction of their habitats. Some advocates argue that protection from hunting should be added to the list. Ted Kerasote provides a lively rebuttal in the pages of *Bloodties*, a book that takes us into the homes of hunting cultures in Greenland as well as into the mausoleum-like palaces of wealthy trophy hunters in America. Killing for food, Kerasote argues, constitutes an honorable activity, while collecting heads to mount on a living-room wall is indefensible. People on either side of the hunting debate will find much to think about in this well-written book.

Louv, Richard. Last Child in the Woods: Saving out Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder. Algonquin Books, 2005.

Book Description: "I like to play indoors better 'cause that's where all the electrical outlets are," reports a fourth grader. But it's not only computers, television, and video games that are keeping kids inside. It's also their parents' fear of traffic, strangers, Lyme disease, and West Nile Virus; their schools' emphasis on more and more homework; their structured schedules; and their lack of access to natural areas. Local governments, neighborhood associations, and even organizations devoted to the outdoors are placing legal and regulatory constraints on many wild spaces, sometimes making natural play a crime. As children's connections to nature diminish and the social, psychological, and spiritual implications become apparent, new research shows that nature can offer powerful therapy for such maladies as depression, obesity, and attention deficit disorder.

McManus, Patrick F.. Various books listed below

Amazon.com: There's a smile or guffaw to be had on almost every page of McManus' collection of essays, some of which are original, others reprinted from *Outdoor Life*. In McManus' world, all steaks should be chicken-fried, strong coffee is drunk by the light of a campfire, and fishing trips consist of men acting like boys and boys behaving like the small animals we've always assumed they were. And like Twain, Barry, and Keillor, McManus writes extremely funny stories of adventure and its consequences.

The Grasshopper Trap

The Night the Bear Ate Goombaw

Never Sniff a Gift Fish
A Fine and Pleasant Misery
How I Got This Way
The Good Samaritan Strikes Again

Real Ponies Don't Go Oink
Rubber Legs and White Tail-Hairs
They Shoot Canoes, Don't They?
Into the Twilight, Endlessly Grousing

Paulsen, Gary. Father Water, Mother Woods. Delacorte Press, 1994.

From the Publisher: Paulsen begins this collection of compelling memoirs with a forward that reflects on the genesis of his novel *Hatchet*. He concludes by poignantly expressing doubts about the moral correctness of hunting. In between, he pares away the layers of his life, revealing a lost kid who sought sanctuary in friends and the outdoors. In half of the selections, he relates the joys of fishing. There's one essay on camping as comic disaster during high summer; the rest are about hunting.

Peterson, David. Heartsblood: Hunting, Spirituality, and Wildness in America. Shearwater Books, 2000.

Amazon.com: Natural-history writer David Petersen's *Heartsblood* is not so much about hunting, although that controversial subject is an important part of the book, as a lively, deeply intelligent discussion of what it means to be a human animal, aware of what lies outside. Petersen suggests that a true engagement with the natural world requires a keen knowledge of its workings – of how animal populations wax and wane- and a recognition of the realities of life and death.

Peterson David Ed.. A Hunter's Heart: Honest Essays on Blood Sport. Owl Books, 1997.

Book Description: These 41 essays, some written especially for this collection, are all by people who hunt or have hunted, and each considers the ethics involved “in a spirit more of soul-searching explication than defensive rebuttal.” The editor's intent is to encourage understanding among non-hunters and to raise the consciousness of hunters as well.

Posewitz, Jim. Inherit the Hunt. Falcon Publishing, 1999.

Book Description: A sequel to the best-selling *Beyond Fair Chase*, this book examines the unique heritage of hunting in North America and the challenges facing hunters at the close of the 20th Century. In a simple but powerful style that draws on his personal experiences and his scholarly research, Jim Posewitz makes the case that hunting in North America is a remarkable expression of democracy with its roots in the American struggle for independence.

Posewitz, Jim. Rifle in Hand: How Wild America Was Saved. Riverband Publishing, 2004.

Book Description: The third volume in Mr. Posewitz's series on American Hunting, *Rifle in Hand* examines the critical role of American hunters, especially Theodore Roosevelt, George Bird Grinnell, D'ing Darling, Aldo Leopold, and others, in saving the wild lands and wildlife of North America during the 20th Century and their role in creating the highly successful American model of wildlife conservation.

Reiger, John F.. American Sportsman and the Origins of Conservation. Oregon State University Press, 2000.

From the Publisher: Beginning in the 1870's, sportsmen across America formed hundreds of organizations that not only fostered responsibility for game habitats but also spearheaded the creation of national parks, forests, and wildlife refuges. Reiger tells how these "gentlemen" hunters and anglers, outdoor journals like *Forest and Stream*, and organizations like the Boone and Crockett Club- founded by Theodore Roosevelt, George Bird Grinnell, and other prominent sportsmen- lobbied for laws regulating the taking of wildlife, and helped to arouse public interest in wilderness preservation.

Samuel, David. Know Hunting: Truths, Lies, and Myths. Know Hunting Publications, 1999.

Amazon.com: Samuel effectively combines both facets of his life in this informative, thought provoking volume. In clear, simple prose, he examines who today's hunters are: why they hunt, what their values are, what their impact on the environment is, and the ethics of their sport. At the same time Samuel takes an incisive look at the anti-hunting movement: its motives and its strategies. *Know Hunting* is the best treatise I've read on hunting since Allen Jones' "A Quiet Place of Violence." Both belong on the bookshelves of anyone who has ever had to answer a non-hunter or anti-hunter's questions about hunting.

Stange, Mary Zeiss. Heart Shots: Women Write about Hunting. Stackpole Books, 2003.

From the Publisher: Hunting and writing about it have not commonly been thought of as women's work, but today women are hunting and writing about it in unprecedented numbers. This collection of stories by 46 hunters who happen to be female shows us that in fact some women have always hunted, and some have written dazzling accounts of their experiences. What you'll find in *Heart Shots* is that women hunt for many of the same reasons men generally do. The appeal of the hunt, the drive to get back to nature and basics and to express in narrative, image, and metaphor the complex meaning of being a predator, such impulses are ageless and genderless.

Stange, Mary Zeiss. Women the Hunter. Beacon Press, 1998.

From the Publisher: *Women the Hunter* juxtaposes unsettlingly beautiful accounts of the author's own experiences hunting deer, antelope, and elk with an argument that builds on the work of thinkers from Aldo Leopold to Clarissa Pinkola Estes. Exploring how women and men relate to nature and violence, Mary Zeiss Stange demonstrates how false assumptions about women and about hunting permeate contemporary thinking. Traditionalists and feminists alike view hunting as a symbol for men's activity in the world ignoring the reality of women hunters now and in the past.

Swan, James A.. In Defense of Hunting: Yesterday and Today. Harper, 1995.

From Library Journal: To whom does one defend hunting? Swan says that the hunter is an endangered species, besieged by animal rights supporters and hence declining in number. Drawing on solid credentials- he has a PhD in the natural sciences, background in psychotherapy and native culture research, and a track record in publishing as author of six books plus may environmental articles- Swan argues that understanding why people hunt involves understanding

humankind's fundamental nature. Hunting is a spiritual ritual, he claims, an ancestral tie to our human history.

Thomas, Christine L. **Becoming an Outdoors Woman: My Outdoor Adventure**. Falcon Press, 1997.

Book Description: Founder of the nationally acclaimed Becoming an Outdoors Woman program, the author relates how she became just that: an outdoors woman. It's inspirational for those who already have outdoor experience, and offers encouragement for those getting out for the first time.

Trefethen, James B. **Crusade for Wildlife: Highlights in Conservation Progress** (A Boone and Crockett Club book). Stackpole, 1961.

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