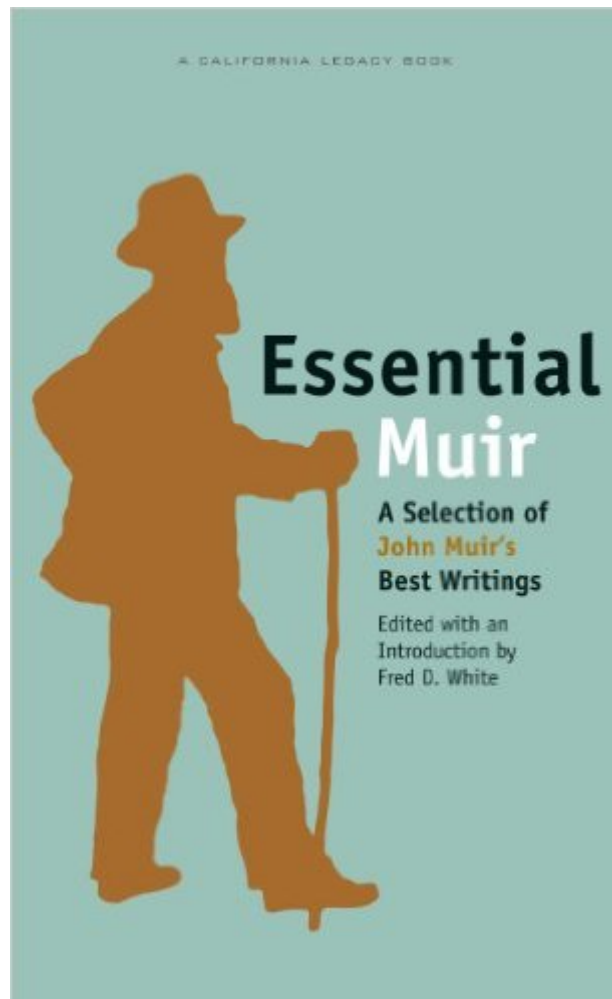


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Essential Muir: A Selection Of John Muir's Best Writings (Essential) (California Legacy Book)



Synopsis

An introduction to the great "poetico-trampo-geologist-botanist and ornithologist-naturalist" Preservationist. Inventor. Lobbyist. John Muir was many things at once, and he is California's best-known icon--so much so that his image was chosen to appear on the new state quarter. But the best way to know the man who founded the Sierra Club and helped create Yosemite National Park is to read his own words. Essential Muir is the second volume in the California Legacy Essentials Collection. Taking the best of John Muir's writings on nature--in which he waxes ecstatic even as he accurately describes the scientific attributes of a flower--as well as his thoughts on religion and society, this book presents a fresh look at one of California's greatest literary figures. His love for nature was so powerful--and his description of it so compelling--it still inspires us a century later.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

John Muir's works are old enough to be in the public domain and are freely available online, so you can judge for yourself whether you appreciate his exuberant writing style before you buy. For my part, I knew within about 5 minutes that he would be one of my favorite authors. This book solidly confirmed that prediction. Before reading this book, I had very little knowledge about Muir. Just the basics: grew up in WI, loved the Sierra Nevada, fought against the Hetch Hetchy dam and founded the Sierra Club, went on a hike with TR. I found Prof. White's eleven-page introduction to be helpful

in understanding Muir and his writings, and it made me eager to learn more. The professor's selection of Muir's works succeeded in illustrating Muir's multiple facets, his rather astounding life trajectory, and the surprising depth to which he has impacted American society even to the present day. My only complaints about the book are physical--it's a little too big to fit in a hiker's pocket and not really sturdy enough to survive more than a few excursions (the book really ought to be read somewhere out in nature for maximum impact). On the other hand, several of selections have reached that highest echelon--writings dear to me that I have already and will continue to read over and over again. Think maybe I'll go do that now...

This book is so well done and so beautiful is its content, that I cannot imagine someone not having this as a resource, if they understand and value Muir's writing and his great works...

Fred D. White has done an excellent job of giving the reader a taste of Muir's extensive writings. Muir has the conscience of an environmentalist, the scientific background of a botanist and geologist, and the soul of a poet, quite an intriguing combination.

I didn't know what to expect from this collection. So sweet and insightful. It's something I can pick up and read a little bit at a time. They chose great selections.

...from a prolific writer. This editor has done a good job sifting through and selecting Muir's most characteristic and intriguing works.

Very interesting stories written by Muir. We have been in most of the parks he was in. His words are on steps at the base of Mt. Rainier at Paradise. A wonderful Christian man who hiked the back woods without any of the 10 Essentials!!

I read some of Muir's works years ago and thoroughly enjoyed them. I purchased this book as a gift to a friend who is just going into the Environmental Sciences as a career. It's a great way to look at the philosophy that drives much of the modern conservation movement. I would also recommend something by Gifford Pinchot as an equally respected early conservationist and writer that offered a different perspective,

Great compilation of John Muir without too much interpretation by the authors. Muir's words stand on

their own! A good read for someone not wanting to devote to the study of John Muir's works.

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