

Adult Non-Fiction

“A Sand County Almanac”, *Aldo Leopold*, 1949

A series of astonishing portraits of the natural world, “A Sand County Almanac” explores the breathtaking diversity of the unspoiled American landscape at the peak of its beauty and majesty. Conjuring up one extraordinary vision after another, Aldo Leopold takes readers with him on the road and through the seasons on a fantastic tour of our priceless natural resources – the mountains and the prairies, the deserts and the coastlines – ever mindful of ecology and environmental preservation. A classic collection, “A Sand County Almanac” is a stunning tribute to our land and a bold challenge to protect the world we love.

“The Gift of Good Land,” *Wendell Berry*, 1981

In the twenty-four essays of this collection, Wendell Berry stresses the careful modulated harmonies of indivisibility in culture and agriculture, the interdependence, the wholeness, the oneness of man, animals, the land, the weather, and the family. To touch one, he shows, is to tamper with them all.

“The Long-Shadowed Forest,” *Helen Hoover*, 1963

In 1954, Helen Hoover and her husband Adrian left their careers and the big-city life of Chicago to move to a small cabin in the north woods that border Minnesota and Canada. Living without electricity, telephone, or a car, the Hoovers became part of the environment, peacefully coexisting with their wild neighbors. The Long-Shadowed Forest is the amazing record of the Hoovers' relationship with deer, mice, birds, squirrels, moose, and other creatures of the forest. The Long-Shadowed Forest, illustrated throughout with Adrian's charming line drawings, is a welcome treat for Helen Hoover fans and will be compelling reading for nature lovers everywhere.

“The Sense of Wonder,” *Rachel Carson*, 1956

In this eloquent book, the author of *The Sea Around Us* and *Silent Spring* affirms her belief that those who live with the mysteries of earth, sea and sky are never alone or weary of life. She would endow every child with “a sense of wonder so indestructible that it would last throughout life.”

“If a child is to keep alive his inborn sense of wonder,” Miss Carson writes, “he needs the companionship of at least one adult who can share it, rediscovering with him the joy, excitement and mystery of the world we live in.” Her narrative and the photographs that accompany it chart the paths which adult and child can take together on this journey of discovery.

“Thoreau: Walden and Other Writings,” *Henry David Thoreau compiled by Joseph Wood Krutch, 1962*

A master of American literature, “Walden” is Thoreau’s account of a year spent in a shack beside a pond outside Concord, Massachusetts. Incidents in his daily life and intellectual activities are used as starting points for wide-ranging reflection written in a compelling prose style, seasoned with humor and shrewdness. Thoreau’s famous essay on “Civil Disobedience,” which influenced Ghandi and Tolstoy, states his case for non-conformity. “Life Without Principle” is Thoreau’s unqualified statement of his defiant individualism. In this volume, Joseph Wood Krutch has included these works in their entirety, as well as the most pertinent selections from Thoreau’s other important writings.

“Wild Lands for Wildlife: America’s National Refuges,” *Noel Grove, 1984*

Today there are more than 400 wildlife refuges in the US, where managers carefully maintain habitat, food supplies, and water especially for the animals. Some refuges plant crops for their charges, some build levees to conserve wetlands, still others preserve or try to restore native grasses, food of prairie dogs, buffalo and elf. Read on to learn more.