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Going Wild: Book 1 By Miles Martin (The Survival Series)



Synopsis

Book 1 of The Wild Series by Miles Martin A 20 year old city slicker is flown into the Alaskan Wilderness with no arrangements to get picked up and walks out 8 months later. Second year: National headlines "Trapper rescued by Chopper. Vows to return to the Bush!" Third year: Locals bet on how many days he will survive as he heads out in a houseboat. That was 30 years ago.

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Customer Reviews

I very much enjoyed the way he wrote the book with out trying to change who he is. His language and personality was represented through the pages. It was a fun adventure.

Did not finish book.

This book is probably one of the most unique books I have read about Alaska and those that live in the wilderness... going off grid. I have read a lot of books on this subject gathering as much information and facts that I can about Alaska and living in remote places. I have read a lot of really

good historic books on famous frontiersmen. I have read about Heimo Korth, Stan Zurray, and the great books done by James Rearden. All five-plus star books. This book takes it a little further, a little deeper, into the personal experience of "going wild". In none of the other books did I get such an intimate encounter with the land, the people, natives, village people, cheechakos, sourdoughs, and frontiersman. Many of the Alaska books are about weather, hunting, subsistence, and dealing with wildlife. Each in their own way is fascinating. But Miles takes it a step further. He has taken the time to record his journey over these years. Keeping a detailed diary over the years is a lot of work, spending hours (upon hours) of sorting through his notes and diaries to form a book. It takes real discipline and tenacity to take the time to write in a diary. Especially when those recordings are more than just jotting notes. On occasion, over the years, he would sit and write at more length and detail by reading his notes and referring to his memory. This book was written and published by Miles himself... it is not as polished as ones that go through a publisher. I truly hope you can get past some of the less polished english and grammar, and the fact that no publisher used a fine tooth comb. This unpolished format is in no way due to Mile's lack of intelligence. As you will find out as you read on... he is a very intelligent person, not just in smarts but in emotional reasoning. I have read so many books about how the Alaska people help out one another. I believe this to be true as it is the theme in all the books I have read. But Mile's shows you it all.... the good, the bad... and the ugly. I appreciate this bare honesty. He begins his book in the late sixties and early seventies and the "hippie" age is evident. A lot of the society we knew was coming loose at the seams and we were treading new philosophies and theories. I was in highschool at this time and although I did not become a wandering hippie I was influenced by these years. Mile's book is the only one that discusses these years and a venture into Alaska. I am currently reading his second book... Gone Wild. Mile's matures and grows as you read further into his years and life. So if you are taken back by an inexperienced "hippie".... stay with him... the journey is worth it.

"Pre-dawn this time of year is about 2:00 am. Half asleep, or maybe fairly awake now, I awaken to the sound of fish poles falling in the smokehouse. I go dashing up the path to the smokehouse in my underwear. I am ready to thrash that pup soundly. The sound of more poles falling enrages me to where I have murder in my heart as I enter the tin building. The light is dim in here, but I hear chewing, so head to that corner. Seeing red, foot drawn back, I'm ready to kick the dog. As I round the corner of the smoke stove I start to yell, "you damn...", but "dog" sticks in my throat as I kick a bear in the butt! We both say "s__t" in surprise at the same time. The bear jumps straight up, and in midair, spins around and lands on all fours facing me. His eyes are wide open in astonishment, as

are mine. Both our mouths hang open in disbelief at what has just happened. It is obvious this bear has never been kicked before, and can not comprehend how such a thing has come to pass. He's waiting for me to either wet my pants, or follow up and smash him to the ground. My feelings of anger at the dog turn to instant apology, but I know if I show this, the bear will jump me. Seeing the question in his eyes shows me what to do. I bluff him by leaning forward and growling. I think the bear is impressed, because he blinks fast. This gives me confidence. I lean forward more, and with as deep a voice as I can muster...."grrrr". The bear 'woofs' and runs off. This is just one of hundreds of stories, too original, too unique to be made up. Many of them force me to laugh-out-loud. Face-to-face encounters with bears, moose, wolves, beavers and even wolverines; in their environment. It is the story, actually many personal stories complete with photos providing a unique opportunity to peer into the life of a simple, unassuming man, who lived a life many of us have only dreamed about. An artist, a hunter, a survivor. At 18, he is dropped off in the wild, interior of Alaska, with little or no food, little tools, little direction and little knowledge of what to expect. But, through trial/error and perseverance, he not only survives, but thrives and for the next 20 years lives in the wilds of Alaska on a custom-built houseboat; seeing and experiencing things few of us ever will. The author is a fantastic story-teller as he re-lives his first years (through diary and journal records he kept) in Alaska. Although not written for pure entertainment, the stories are told with such dry humor and straight-forward candor, that not only are they fantastically-entertaining but educational as well. You can actually feel what it must be like to be alone, hundreds of miles from anyone in the dead of winter and living off of the land. Although I have read many books on Alaska (my favorite subject), This book, and the entire series, have become my treasured favorites. I have read them many times. I am sure you will also enjoy.

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