

Desert Solitaire Edward Abbey

Rarely does an author so thoroughly entertain and anger his readers as Edward Abbey does. This book focuses on Abbey's aesthetic and philosophy of paradox as they are reflected in his writings, and explores his literary technique of blurring traditional genres regarding fiction and nonfiction. Until now, no study has sufficiently treated the full complexity of Abbey's writing throughout his career - making this particular work not only original, but important.

When the great environmental writer Edward Abbey died in 1989, four of his friends buried him secretly in a hidden desert spot that no one would ever find. The final resting place of the Thoreau of the American West remains unknown and has become part of American folklore. In this book a young writer who went looking for Abbey's grave combines an account of his quest with a creative biography of Abbey. Sean Prentiss takes readers across the country as he gathers clues from his research, travel, and interviews with some of Abbey's closest friends—including Jack Loeffler, Ken “Seldom Seen” Sleight, David Petersen, and Doug Peacock. Along the way, Prentiss examines his own sense of rootlessness as he attempts to unravel Abbey's complicated legacy, raising larger questions about the meaning of place and home.

Four irate rebels join forces to wage war on the stripminers, clear-cutters, and the highway and dam and bridge builders who are turning their natural habitat into a wasteland. A new Introduction by historian Brinkley puts this enduring cult classic in perspective by placing it at the forefront of an important historical movement.

Poems about love and landscapes by the author of the classic *Desert Solitaire*, an “environmentalist, nature writer, novelist and all-around iconoclast” (The New York Times).

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While better known for his nature writing and his comic classic *The Monkey Wrench Gang*, Edward Abbey was also an enthusiastic creator of verse. The *New York Times* called his memoir *Desert Solitaire* “deeply poetic”—and now *Earth Apples* gives us his actual poetry, in Abbey’s first and only collection. Whether writing about vast desert landscapes, New York City, or a love of bawdy women, Abbey’s verse is eloquent, irreverent, and unapologetically passionate. The poems gathered here, published digitally for the first time, are culled from Abbey’s journals and give an insightful and unique glance into the mind of this literary legend.

A New Mexico man faces off against the government in a battle over his land in this novel by the author of *Desert Solitaire*. After nine months away at school, Billy Vogelin Starr returns home to his beloved New Mexico—only to find his grandfather in a standoff with the US government, which wants to take his land and turn it into an extension of the White Sands Missile Range. Facing the combined powers of the US county sheriff, the Department of the Interior, the Atomic Energy Commission, and the US Air Force, John Vogelin stands his ground—because to Vogelin, his land is his life. When backed into a corner, a tough old man like him will come out fighting . . . *Fire on the Mountain* is a suspenseful page-turner by “one of the very best writers to deal with the American West”—the acclaimed author of such classics as *The Monkey Wrench Gang* and the memoir *Desert Solitaire* (*The Washington Post*). “Abbey is a fresh breath from the farther reaches and canyons of the diminishing frontier.”
—Houston Chronicle

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This volume is the first comprehensive collection of literary criticism devoted to the entire challenging corpus of author Edward Abbey's work.

Presents interviews with the late American author and commentaries on his life and work

Thoughts on nature, politics, love, and much more—from the environmentalist and author of such classics as Desert Solitaire and The Monkey Wrench Gang. Finished just two weeks before his death, A Voice Crying in the Wilderness is a collection of Edward Abbey's observations, both bitingly witty and inspirational, on a wide range of topics—from philosophy and writing to music, money, sex, and sports. Abbey chose each passage himself from his own journals and previous writings—and warns us in his typical humorous style that some of the notes “may be unconscious plagiarisms from the great and dead (never steal from the living and mediocre).”

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Abbey's last wish was to be buried in an unmarked grave somewhere out in the vast desert he loved so much. A Voice Crying in the Wilderness is an enduring signal from that desert, through the words of one of the singular American thinkers of our times.

A pictorial exposition of the natural wonders that fashion the Utah wilderness, supplemented by personal thoughts on the reasons for its conservation.

Thirteen of Abbey's friends and contemporaries offer literary responses to the man and his works, filling a gap made by his untimely death in 1989.

Through Abbey's own writings and personal papers, as well as interviews with friends and acquaintances, Bishop gives us a penetrating, compelling, no-holds-barred view of tile life and accomplishments of this controversial figure.

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The Journey Home ranges from the surreal cityscapes of Hoboken and Manhattan to the solitary splendor of the deserts and mountains of the Southwest. It is alive with ranchers, dam builders, kissing bugs, and mountain lions. In a voice edged with chagrin, Edward Abbey offers a portrait of the American West that we'll not soon forget, offering us the observations of a man who left the urban world behind to think about the natural world and the myths buried therein. Abbey, our foremost "ecological philosopher," has a voice like no other. He can be wildly funny, ferociously acerbic, and unexpectedly moving as he ardently champions our natural wilderness and castigates those who would ravish it for the perverse pleasure of profit.

SuperSummary, a modern alternative to SparkNotes and

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CliffsNotes, offers high-quality study guides for challenging works of literature. This 56-page guide for "Desert Solitaire" by Edward Abbey includes detailed chapter summaries and analysis covering 18 chapters, as well as several more in-depth sections of expert-written literary analysis. Featured content includes commentary on major characters, 25 important quotes, essay topics, and key themes like The Glory of Nature and The Harmony of Nature.

In this wise and lyrical book about landscapes of the desert and the mind, Edward Abbey guides us beyond the wall of the city and asphalt belting of superhighways to special pockets of wilderness that stretch from the interior of Alaska to the dry lands of Mexico.

This collection of the acclaimed essayist and novelist's most evocative prose carries readers to the Australian outback, the Sierra Madre, Appalachia, and elsewhere and reveals the full range of Abbey's concerns and talents

An account of the author's experiences, observations, and reflections as a seasonal park ranger in southeast Utah

A passionate advocate for preserving wilderness and fighting the bureaucratic and business forces that would destroy it,

Edward Abbey (1927–1989) wrote fierce, polemical books such as *Desert Solitaire* and *The Monkey Wrench Gang* that continue to inspire environmental activists.

In this eloquent memoir, his friend and fellow desert rat Charles Bowden

reflects on Abbey the man and the writer, offering up thought-provoking, contrarian views of the writing life, literary

reputations, and the perverse need of critics to sum up "what he really meant and whether any of it was truly up to snuff."

The Red Caddy is the first literary biography of Abbey in a generation. Refusing to turn him into a desert guru, Bowden

instead recalls the wild man in a red Cadillac convertible for whom liberty was life. He describes how *Desert Solitaire*

paradoxically "launched thousands of maniacs into the empty

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ground” that Abbey wanted to protect, while sealing his literary reputation and overshadowing the novels that Abbey considered his best books. Bowden also skewers the cottage industry that has grown up around Abbey’s writing, smoothing off its rougher (racist, sexist) edges while seeking “anecdotes, little intimacies . . . pieces of the True Beer Can or True Old Pickup Truck.” Asserting that the real essence of Abbey will always remain unknown and unknowable, *The Red Caddy* still catches gleams of “the fire that from time to time causes a life to become a conflagration.”

A mix of fiction and essays by the author described as “the Thoreau of the American West” (Larry McMurtry, *The Washington Post*). Edward Abbey himself compiled this volume representing some of his greatest work—including selections from such novels as *The Monkey Wrench Gang*, *The Brave Cowboy*, and *Black Sun*, as well as a number of expressive and acerbic essays. Renowned for inspiring modern environmentalists—though his interests ranged as widely as the landscapes he loved—Abbey offers an entertaining introduction to his writing, including excerpts from the autobiographical *Desert Solitaire*, in addition to his own sketches illustrating the text throughout.

Peu de livres ont autant déchaîné les passions que celui que vous tenez entre les mains. Publié pour la première fois en 1968, *Désert solitaire* est en effet de ces rares livres dont on peut affirmer sans exagérer qu’il “changeait les vies” comme l’écrit Doug Peacock. À la fin des années 1950, Edward Abbey travaille deux saisons comme ranger dans le parc national des Arches, en plein coeur du désert de l’Utah. Lorsqu’il y retourne, une dizaine d’années plus tard, il constate avec effroi que le progrès est aussi passé par là. Cette aventure forme la base d’un récit envoûtant, véritable chant d’amour à la sauvagerie du monde, mais aussi formidable coup de colère du légendaire auteur du *Gang de*

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la clef à molette.

Essays address such diverse topics as New York City, politics, human perfectability, sex, literature, and the environment

An account of the author's existence, observations and reflections, as a seasonal park ranger in southeast Utah

“The natural world, as we call it, has already become remote, out of reach, mysterious, in the minds of urban and suburban Americans. They see the wilderness disappearing, slipping away, receding into an inaccessible past. But they are mistaken. That world can still be rescued... that is my main excuse for this book.”—Edward Abbey You are about to visit some of the most exciting places on earth. Not the sort of excitement that makes morning headlines or the nightly news. Instead it is the excitement that comes from experiencing the natural world as it always has been and should be, and seeing human beings living in tune with its subtlest rhythms. In Australian cattle country and in the primitive outback. On a desert island off Mexico and in the Sierra Madres. On the Rio Grande and in the great Southwest. On Lake Powell in Utah and in the living American desert. It is adventure. It is enlightenment. It is vintage Abbey. “I have been along a few of Mr. Abbey’s roads. He sees much more than I did. Indeed, reading him is often better than being there was.”—John Leonard, author of

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Reading for My Life

Essays about the pleasures of the American wilderness as seen from its rivers, plus essays criticizing the effects of militarism, industrialism, and centralized control.

Gathers selections from seven of the author's novels and essays about the desert, Death Valley, urban life, the lower class, and nature

An assessment of Edward Abbey's works

Jack, an old man in search of his son, and Sam, a Harvard-educated Indian, face the dictator and his nasty band of killers who are taking over the South.

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Desert Solitaire University of Arizona Press

Delves into the private life of twentieth-century American novelist and environmentalist Edward Abbey, or "Cactus Ed," showing the man behind the persona he put forth as a writer and a public speaker.

A rugged forest ranger finds himself being romantically drawn to a young American girl

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