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Never Cry Wolf



Synopsis

This international bestseller that changed the way we look at wolves “opens new horizons in understanding animal nature and intelligence” (Newsday). In 1948, Farley Mowat landed in the far north of Manitoba, Canada, a young biologist sent to investigate the region’s dwindling population of caribou. Many people thought that the caribou’s conspicuous decline had been caused by the tundra’s most notorious predator: the wolf. Alone among the howling canine packs, Mowat expected to find the bloodthirsty beasts of popular conception. Instead, over the course of a summer spent observing the powerful animals, Mowat discovered an animal species with a remarkable capacity for loyalty, virtue, and playfulness. Praised for its humor and engrossing narrative, *Never Cry Wolf* describes a group of wolves whose interactions and behaviors seem strikingly similar to our own. Mowat humanizes these animals that have long been demonized, turning the widespread narrative of the “savage wolf” on its head and inspiring many governments to enact protective legislation for the North’s most mysterious creature.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Never Cry Wolf is a good, funny book that's actually quite endearing. It's also one of those unique novels that changed the way people think in a positive way. Yes, it's pretty clear it's a novel. I didn't know anything about the controversy surrounding the book until I finished reading it but I knew right away that aspects of the book didn't ring true. The notion that the government would simply drop an inexperienced greenhorn in the territory 300 miles north of Churchill, Manitoba to engage in research all by himself sounded improbable. The author's fortuitous discovery of friendly Eskimo's seemed a little too convenient. However, once you accept that this isn't really a true story, you're in for a lot of fun. The scene where the author is cooking for Eskimo visitors who quite understandably think he is insane is priceless. The wolves are charming and that was deliberate and important. Mowat can be accused of self aggrandizement and has been accused of plagiarism (I don't know if that's true). This book was for the wolves and it served them well.

This is always a hot topic in WI where I live...the wolves are decimating the deer population. No mention of the fact people kill upwards of 200k per year mainly for sport. I love this book...great resource, maybe it's not the wolves after all.

If everyone read this book there would be no more killing of this animal. I felt I was there with him, watching and being part of the wolf family. The author wrote with feeling and good humor. I envy his experience with one of my favorite animals. He made me love my dogs even more.

Great book - read it many years ago and decided to get another copy and read again. Enjoyed it very much. An interesting story and a fairly quick read.

Awesome, captivating, informative, interesting, very amusing, amazing... Are but a few of the adjectives I would use to describe this book. A fervent reader of Curwood-type books since a tender age of 11-12 years, I have always loved to read nature books about places and animals and this book by Mr. Mowat is very simply put one of the best; an excellent account of his trip to the Arctic to study and commune with wolves for his government-mandated research. I recommend this book for young and older adults alike. I can hardly wait to read more of his nature books. Being one of those people who has always had admiration and fear about wolves, this book sets me straight about their true nature and social abilities.

If you are an animal lover (as I am) you will enjoy this story. However, this author has a much wider vocabulary than I have so to have a dictionary at hand while reading is not a bad idea as he has a much BIGGER vocabulary than mine. It was a good and enjoyable read.

This is a wonderful, true, unusual story that has an ecological and anthropologic storyline that remains meaningful today. Farley Mowat writes of his early adventure of immersion into living in the wilds of Canada with wolves. His instructive book reveals the wolves behavior and debunks the many common beliefs held by those that would destroy these great creatures. Mowat writes his compelling story with a satirical path and with self-deprecating humor. A real classic!

This book describes a wildlife project in the far north of Canada. It was conducted in the 1950's when the prevailing thoughts on wolves were that they were a predator group that was eradicating the caribou. The author Farley Mowat was sent by the Canadian government to get rid of the problem. After observing them for many months he came to realize how important they are to the ecosystem. He also learned how the wolves function in families and their indifference to him while he observed them. You will definitely understand the wolf better after reading this book.

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