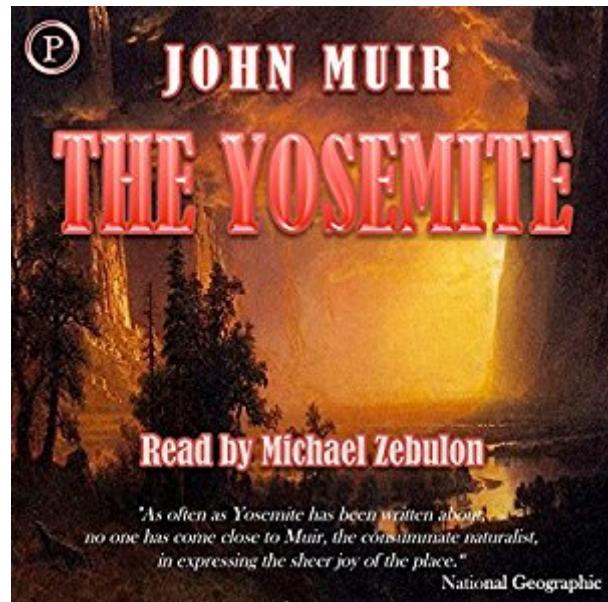


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The Yosemite



Synopsis

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Book Information

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Customer Reviews

To fully experience the magic that is The Yosemite they should give this out in the park.

Understanding the history of what you see will bring the park to life in an entirely new way. I highly recommend reading this, and then joining the Sierra Club.

Have you ever looked at something so beautiful that you simply could not find the words sufficient to describe it? These books are old, but the author's descriptions and his feelings about them are so perfect that you would swear you are standing next to him. "Looking eastward from the summit of Pacheco Pass one shining morning, a landscape was displayed that after all my wanderings still appears as the most beautiful I have ever beheld. At my feet lay the Great Central Valley of California, level and flowery, like a lake of pure sunshine ... And from the eastern boundary of this vast golden flower-bed rose the mighty Sierra, miles in height, and so gloriously colored and so radiant, it seemed not clothed with light but wholly composed of it, like the wall of some celestial

city.... Then it seemed to me that the Sierra should be called, not the Nevada or Snowy Range, but the Range of Light. And after ten years of wandering and wondering in the heart of it, rejoicing in its glorious floods of light, the white beams of the morning streaming through the passes, the noonday radiance on the crystal rocks, the flush of the alpenglow, and the irised spray of countless waterfalls, it still seems above all others the Range of Light." -- from The YosemitePurity of thought, so rare in a writer. I love His books.

I have not had the pleasure of visiting Yosemite, not yet. Muir wrote this book when he was 73 years old and recollects his experiences over may years in the valley. I found the most interesting sections to be descriptions of personal events - riding an avalanche, passing behind Yosemite Falls, the people he knew during those years. I simply wish more of the book had a similar content, I feel we have only been exposed to the tip of the iceberg, and there is so much more he could have offered. I have several of his other books, yet to read, so perhaps they will expand on his personal adventures. There are lengthy sections on the landscape, flowers, trees and other physical characteristics of the valley. It is these latter sections that drop me to a four star rating. I have a version without any pictures, and I believe that photographs would have done many sections of this book more justice than words. Some information on the trees may be unique and interesting, but I found myself skimming over several sections due to a lingering over latin names and taxonomy. This book should simply not be missed by those with a love for the outdoors, but keep in mind there may be some sections lacking the personal touch I was expecting for the whole book.

In preparation for our trip to Yosemite next year I watched Ken Burns "The National Parks" series and learn about the contributions of John Muir to the creations of the National Parks. Until I read Yosemite I did not fully appreciate his contributions. His descriptions of the mountains, waterfalls and valleys it's wildlife and flowers was so vivid that I could almost feel the mist from the waterfalls on my face. I can now understand how his books inspired the creation of the National ParksThank you John Muir.

Although I haven't finished it, I do adore how evident it is that John Muir feels something divine when exploring the Yosemite area, a similar response as I had the first time I saw Yosemite. This man is a one of a kind, and I appreciate all his writings.

Having walked and camped in the sierra mountains you never forget the beauty and the peace you

feel . John Muir captures this with the manner of an artist. if you are a nature lover, bird watcher, botanist ... This a must read

It's Muir as the unstoppable force that he was know to be. Bridled by God, Muir shows that his effort to discover was to be matched only by his drive to preserve Yosemite's existence forever. Muir's determination lead him on walks of over a thousand miles..... most of the time without uttering a word to anyone unless it was absolutely necessary. Truly a soul experienced only once in a millennium. Great read. Very inspiring!!

I've never been to Yosemite, but after reading this book, I feel like I have been. Mr. Muir had a way of describing natural scenery that, in my opinion, is among the best writers of the ages. A very nice read, and I can say that I have become a fan of his writing. I'm looking forward to reading more of his works.

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