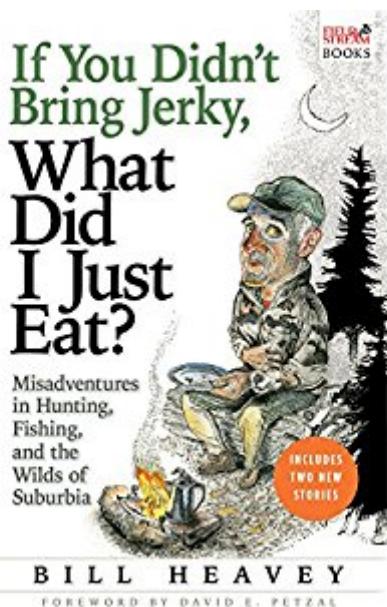


The book was found

If You Didn't Bring Jerky, What Did I Just Eat?: Misadventures In Hunting, Fishing, And The Wilds Of Suburbia



Synopsis

Whether he is accidentally cooking his brain with hand warmers or yanking his lure away from a trophy fish just before it takes the bait, Bill Heavey can do no right. For almost a decade, he has chronicled his incompetence on the back page of Field & Stream, where his hilarious dispatches about life as a hapless outdoorsman who lives in suburbia have earned him legions of fans. But Heavey is more than a humorist. The stories in this book range from amusing tales of a modern dad struggling to navigate the finer points of parenting and married life to longer and more serious narratives that involve travel, adventure, and tragedy. No matter what he's writing about, Heavey is a master of blending humor and pathos - and wide-ranging outdoor enthusiasms - into a poignant and potent stew.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I was a longtime reader of Patrick F. McManus books, and considered him the ultimate writer of hunting and fishing humor. When I discovered Bill Heavey's works I went in thinking that at best his work would be a lesser version of McManus. MAN WAS I WRONG!!! Bill is at least on even footing with Patrick, both struggling over who should be at the top of the mountain. While Patrick's writings are more Western US based, Bill on the other hand brings something special that I can relate to with his stories of people, places, and adventures on and around the Potomac River. I HIGHLY RECOMMEND both of these authors anytime you're looking for some humorous reading that doesn't require deep analysis to understand the stories being delivered as if the reader were sitting around a campfire listening to someone with tremendous life experiences. I should just mention that

having lead a "sheltered life", meaning I didn't discover the entertainment value of reading until later in life, I had never been introduced to either of these authors through their multitude of magazine article in "FIELD and STREAM", and other monthly publication for the fishing and hunting public. Too Bad - My Loss!

This was a really entertaining book. I thought it would be mostly witty one page throw-away columns pulled directly from magazines that Mr. Heavey writes for. But the book was well edited and laid out. There were definitely some Field & Stream last page short and sweet one liners in here but they are sprinkled throughout the book with more well written articles on hunting and life in general. The book was surprisingly thoughtful and at moments, touching, while still being light-hearted and entertaining. I'm always looking for literature more on the "why" of hunting than the "how-to" and I found Mr. Heavey articulated the "why" so well with some of the stories in this book. I found I could relate a lot to Mr. Heavey - I can 100% be classified as a hunter (and almost everything else in life) as having more passion than skill. So I saw a lot of myself in the stories and was able to laugh along with Mr. Heavey's antics. This is a great book for anyone who enjoys the outdoors without taking themselves too seriously.

I thoroughly enjoyed this book. As an avid subscriber to field and stream I love this mans column. I enjoy his humor and his life lessons. His connections with his father, his Ex-wife, children, and the healing he found nature after one of the worst experiences a human being are all experiences that create a bigger picture of Bill Heavey as more then a humorist. yes Bill has a humorous way to looking at things most of the time. He writes of experiences that create a full picture of his life, allowing us into intimate parts of his life that complete his outdoor experiences. sometimes as a fellow outdoors man and specifically in one case a parent. He yanks on my heart strings combining my love of the outdoors and my love for my children in way i hope to never understand and brings a reader to their knees. When I'm out in nature, either hunting, hiking, or fishing I enjoy the solitude of being by myself and more importantly i enjoy the interactions with my own mind. The chance i get to puzzle through events, talk to myself, and process information and experiences some of them years old. I appreciate the way this guys mind works and will definitely buy any more books he writes.

A great book for the majority of hunter, fisherpeople who don't always shoot, catch, find record breaking game, or any at all. He has a humor style that I really enjoy. He also writes from the heart about some gut wrenching personal experiences. Most of the material is taken from his Field and

Stream writings but is well compiled. Written from the viewpoint of a middle aged man living in suburbia who is learning to hunt and fish and knows that it isn't always easy. I would recommend this book for husbands, dads and every other average outdoors man or Woman who enjoy the chase.

Good read, short stories with some subtle humor, but not in the class with Patrick McMannis.

Very nicely done. This is an easy and fun book to read. I enjoyed the nice balance of short, humorous snap shots of the outdoor sporting life mixed with longer and more fleshed out stories. Being a professional writer with long years of experience behind him, you just know Heavey labored over these stories, choosing just the right words or phrases or imagery to convey concise and vivid vignettes. Yet his yarns come across so natural and spontaneous sounding that you can easily imagine sitting in on a bull session by the fire while they are being spun out. And in my view, that's why you get caught so off guard when Heavey blind sides you with one of his well-timed, hilarious punch lines. Time your sips of that good Scotch carefully so you don't spray a mouthful over dog and furniture. What made the book even better for me was the sprinkling in of a handful of melancholy stories. Heavey reminds us that he lives in the same world as we do, with all its ups and downs and fair share of sad times. He deals with these verklemped-inducing interludes with the seriousness they deserve. Then he gets down to the business of putting the rest of life in perspective by essentially saying, "don't sweat the small stuff." With plenty enough things to get you down, take every opportunity to laugh at yourself (and sometimes at others) and realize that life can often be a fun ride.

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