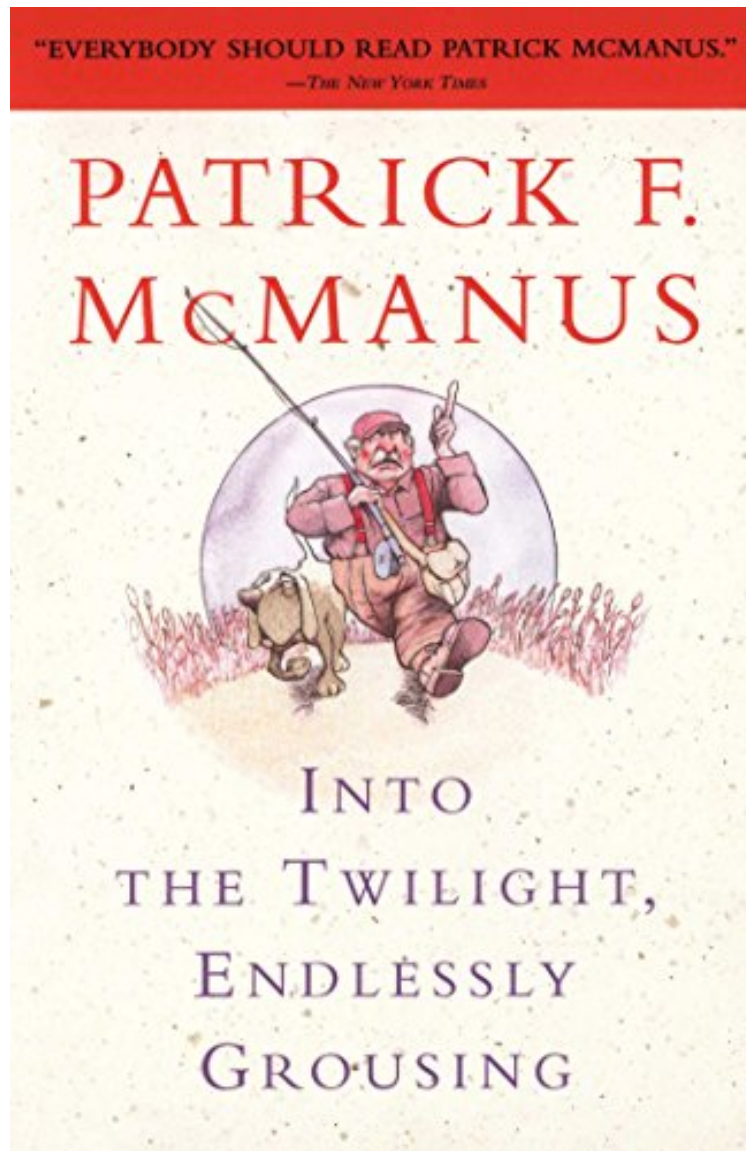


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Into the Twilight, Endlessly Grouching

Patrick F. McManus

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Patrick F. McManus : Into the Twilight, Endlessly Grouching before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Into the Twilight, Endlessly Grouching:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Love PatrickBy EamesI've always loved Patrick McManus' writings, all my life. (We are about the same age). From the first time I read one of his stories in Field and Stream I was hooked. This book has some new stories, some reruns, and a few new ones that left me laughing on the floor. I couldn't read it at night after my husband went to sleep as my laughter would rouse him. I wish they would edit more carefully. There

were many pagination errors, spelling errors, etc.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Super fun to read over and overBy Leona VanLeeuwenEven as a female, I have been around similar people he writes about and some of the camping experiences are familiar. Patrick F. McManus' books are so much fun to read over and over and over. His writing style makes you think along one line and he surprises you with a twist of meaning or application--I love it. I really like that any bad language his characters use is not written out but uses dashes etc. I have most of his books.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Rolling on the floor laughing.By Catlady126My kids grew up listening to me read Patrick McManus books. We would be rolling on the floor with laughter at some of the predicaments he would get into on his camping/hunting trips. In this book I especially like the letter written to the NY journalist who went on a guided trip with McManus. The scary thing is growing up I was on trips like these with my family! Great book for a laugh fest.

Patrick McManus offers wry observations about small-town life and curmudgeonly insists on bigger and bigger fish stories in this hilarious collection from one of the greatest contemporary humorists.Patrick McManus believes that life's eternal truths exist solely for the purpose of being overturned and proved incorrect. In McManus's world, nothing is what it should be. All steaks should be chicken-fried, strong coffee is drunk by the light of a campfire, and fishing trips consist of men acting like boys and boys behaving like the small animals we've always assumed they were.

.com Outdoor Life magazine columnist Patrick McManus has been compared to Mark Twain. Into the Twilight, Endlessly Grousing demonstrates that he isn't, but McManus will suffice until the next Twain comes along. In this book, the outdoorsman extraordinaire is doing what he does best--telling fish stories, getting into scrapes with buddies, occasionally waxing philosophical, but grousing just as often. Sometimes he even ventures out of the wilderness and into mainstream humor. McManus is easily the equal of Dave Barry or any other contemporary humorist, for that matter: When I think of all the times a Stupidity Alarm could have saved me from committing a Stupidity ... Here's one instance that comes to mind. My children: "Daddy, please buy us a horse! Please, please, please, please!" Me: "Well, kids, I guess a horse wouldn't be all that much trouble." Stupidity Alarm: WHOOOOP! WHOOOOP! WHOOOOP! The cowboy who sold me the horse said it loved children. That was true. But as I belatedly discovered, it hated adults. He covers well-worn territory, sure. But McManus is a pro who tells stories well, so Into the Twilight, Endlessly Grousing is always diverting. And when he tells stories about his boyhood, a note of wistfulness and pathos creeps in that is definitely agreeable. This volume is a fine effort by an experienced woodsman/wordsman.From Library JournalIn this collection of tales, McManus, one of America's most prominent humorists, frequently returns both in place (the backcountry Northwest) and time (his childhood) to some of his most fertile ground. There are echoes of Mark Twain as he tells of a boy's pursuit of the dream fish, the perils of growing a beard, and the allure of hunting the wily avid (as in, "He is an avid hunter"). Populated by characters such as Retch Sweeney and Rancid Crabtree, this is hardly New Yorker stuff, but to McManus fans the less so the better. Recommended for libraries whose patrons like their humor country fried and well done.-?Jim G. Burns, Ottumwa P.L., IowaCopyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc.From Kirkus sThere are, we know, regular woodland verities: the cry of a loon across a lake, the bellow of an elk on a starlit mountain, and various other calls of nature. Add to the list of recurrent natural events the humorous essays of McManus (How I Got This Way, 1994, etc.), the resident clown/scholar of Outdoor Life. McManus is ably supported in his less-than-credible buffoonery and outdoor adventures by a long-running stock company of rubes, including Rancid Crabtree, Eddie Muldoon, and Retch Sweeney. His droll essays remain generally entertaining and slick, though there are some signs of immoderate literary heavy-lifting in his 13th collection. Mountain man Crabtree's hillbilly dialect seems to be thickening sufficiently to double for the vaudeville patois of Dogpatch. There are times when McManus's comic descriptions of hunting and fishing pratfalls seem forced. Readers may be surprised by the more wistful tone of some of the recent tales by our hayseed Hemingway. There is, for example, a sweet elegy on angling for the dream fish. The elegiac tone is most evident in McManus's reveries of his idyllic (if disaster-prone) childhood during the Depression. Judging by the recollections included here, one may reasonably surmise that his childhood resembled that of the "Little Rascals," including a scrappy gang of friends and a nubile teacher with dimpled knees. Only rarely does Pat let a fact get in the way of his musings. One occasion: He was once hired as a university English instructor. That, he hastens to reassure us before we begin to take him too seriously, was "solely on the basis that I smoked a pipe." It may be that after another dozen or so books like this, old Pat's cow won't milk any more. Meanwhile, more huntin' and fishin' country humor for old fans and new urban owners of utility vehicles. (Author tour) -- Copyright ©1997, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.