



DOUGLAS WOOD is an author, artist, musician, educator, wilderness guide, and creator of thirty-nine books for children and adults, including *Deep Woods, Wild Waters*, also published by the University of Minnesota Press. His first book, *Old Turtle*, was hailed an “instant classic.” His other works, including the *New York Times* bestseller *Grandad’s Prayers of the Earth* and his humorous *Can’t Do* series, have received the American Booksellers Book of the Year Award, the Christopher Medal, Parents’ Choice Award, International Reading Association Book of the Year Award, Smithsonian Notable Books for Children Award, Storytelling World Award, and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Minnesota Association for Environmental Education. He lives with his family in a log cabin on the Mississippi River in Minnesota.

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“There’s a world between these covers—a world of truth, grace, and beauty where gravity keeps your feet on the ground and levity lifts your spirit high.”

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“You’ll find yourself laughing, crying, and breathing in the forest air while reading Douglas Wood’s stories. You might even discover yourself in these essays, through his gentle, understanding, and insightful words.”

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“Douglas Wood provides an intimate and revealing portrait of his relationship with nature, and the family and friends who are part of his life’s journey. Wood’s love of wild nature is expressed in every page and essay.”

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“Ever the expert naturalist, guide, and storyteller, Douglas Wood alternates between captivating prose and lyrical poetry in *A Wild Path*. Every essay connects, or reconnects, us with family and friends, flora and fauna, and all the beauties of this vast and vibrant world.”

—BUDDY HUFFAKER, executive director, Aldo Leopold Foundation

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A WILD PATH

A Wild Path

DOUGLAS WOOD

A **WILD PATH** is author Douglas Wood’s highly anticipated followup to the critically acclaimed memoir *Deep Woods, Wild Waters*. He leads readers along a meditative path through a wilderness of many dimensions—from the lakes and islands of his beloved Canoe Country to rugged ocean coasts to a mountain chasm, from camping on the Canadian Shield to listening to the soft strains of Beethoven in the pines, and from the pain of childhood wounds to appreciation for a life rich with nature. As on every good journey, there is plenty of laughter, warmth, and humor on the trail.

With the generosity and compassion of a good wilderness guide, Douglas Wood welcomes readers to accompany him as he navigates his life-path from struggling student and “worst reader in the class” to prolific writer and best-selling author. He offers courage and hope to those who feel different or left behind, and he shares how he found, through the counsel of rocks, trees, and waters, his own way toward joy and wonder and an unshakable sense of belonging.

Exploring the meanings of myriad outdoor experiences, Wood seeks to understand the importance and existence of beauty, the emotional poignancy of a wilderness sunset, and the realization of dreams, while also honoring his outdoor and literary mentors, including Sigurd Olson and Aldo Leopold. Traveling across continents, over oceans, and through the landscape of time, *A Wild Path* ranges from solitary shorelines of introspection to peaks of triumph, finding rest and tranquility in a simple cup of jasmine tea, sipped by a campfire under the stars.

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