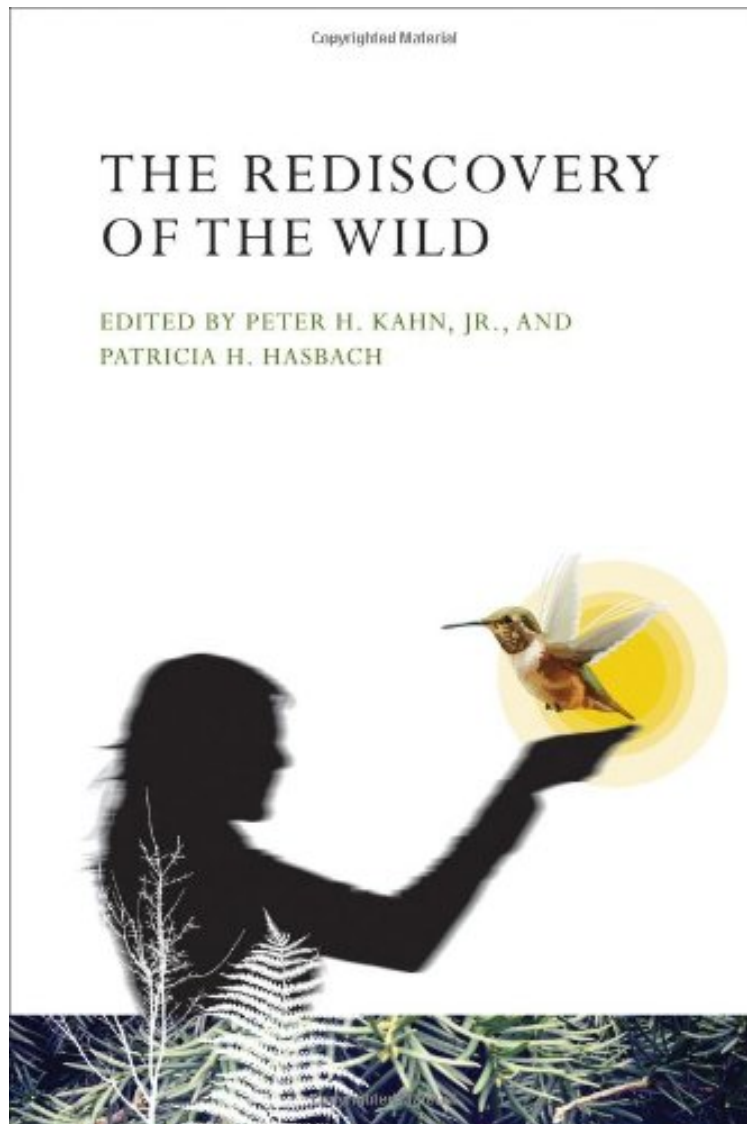


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The Rediscovery of the Wild (MIT Press)

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From Brand: The MIT Press : The Rediscovery of the Wild (MIT Press) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Rediscovery of the Wild (MIT Press):

2 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Too many rambling and unfocused chapters By L. Byrne This was a very disappointing edited volume. Two or three of the chapters were engaging and thought-provoking because they included stories of people's interactions with wild animals and places. The rest were rambling, too abstractly academic and not well focused on helping explore what it means to "rediscover the wild". (Even the editors' final overview

chapter was oddly written with a focus on larger social issues rather than human-nature interactions.) If you're looking for a text on how humans can come to better understand and appreciate "wild nature" and what that even means, this volume is not likely to help you discover anything of great use or insight. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Insightful from many perspectives By David Johns Rediscovering the Wild brings together a widely different group of people who write with great insight about the wild (that which is "self-willed") from very different perspectives. No book can hope to be comprehensive--there is simply too much to say--but this book combines a wide range of experiences from scientists who study the human relationship with wild places, with the deeper aspects of own psychology, and the psychology of other species many of whom remind us of what we ignore with great determination--that there are no sharp breaks in evolution, but continuity: we are all made of the same stuff and have the same fate, including the trauma of violence. We are reminded that the mirroring of other species, not just other humans, is essential to maturation. The negative consequences of hubris are explored in a variety of contexts from politics and policy to our (im)personal relationships with places and other creatures. The great strength of this book is that it introduces readers to many questions and not just answers; it entices us to explore more and to act. It reminds readers that caring for the world that produced us--a world that can be dangerous at times as well as providing all that we need--is not about sacrifice. It's about reconnecting with a world we have cut ourselves off from--an injurious sacrifice that has become invisible because it is the norm. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A great place to begin understanding wildness By Ehor Boyanowsky Peter Kahn's The Rediscovery of the Wild is a book like no other I have come across. It works not only on the level of individual experience with creatures as exotic as African Bushmen but moves on to examine the effects of different degrees of experience with the ambient natural world on individual healing and insight into personal existential meaning. Not many books can achieve the examination of such different levels of interaction with the world of wild wherever it can be found but by using authors who are experts on their own level, he moves us from one to another almost seamlessly. Almost, because those are different chapters with different voices, but if readers wants all of them in one book, this is the one volume I recommend they read. A difficult task well executed in a readable academic book: not something one comes across very often. I recommend it to my students - who too often have little experience with the wild - in a senior course I teach on crimes against the environment - so they can appreciate what might be lost if, as a society, we stay the present course.

A compelling case for connecting with the wild, for our psychological and physical well-being and to flourish as a species We often enjoy the benefits of connecting with nearby, domesticated nature -- a city park, a backyard garden. But this book makes the provocative case for the necessity of connecting with wild nature -- untamed, unmanaged, not encompassed, self-organizing, and unencumbered and unmediated by technological artifice. We can love the wild. We can fear it. We are strengthened and nurtured by it. As a species, we came of age in a natural world far wilder than today's, and much of the need for wildness still exists within us, body and mind. The Rediscovery of the Wild considers ways to engage with the wild, protect it, and recover it -- for our psychological and physical well-being and to flourish as a species. The contributors offer a range of perspectives on the wild, discussing such topics as the evolutionary underpinnings of our need for the wild; the wild within, including the primal passions of sexuality and aggression; birding as a portal to wildness; children's fascination with wild animals; wildness and psychological healing; the shifting baseline of what we consider wild; and the true work of conservation.

No other wild-writing has drawn on such a robust set of commentators, of such stature, coming from so many divergent fields. This collection speaks very well to our present ambiguity about wilderness and wildness, and what we might do about it. (Robert Michael Pyle, author of *The Thunder Tree* and *The Tangled Bank*) The Rediscovery of the Wild is an important and courageous book. It takes a convincing stand against the many forces that diminish both wilderness and the idea of wilderness and, in doing so, strip-mine the imagination and isolate the human spirit from the sources of its strengths and values. There is a difference, these essays tell us, between the call of the outdoors and the call of the wild -- the redemptive howls of wind and wolves. May we humans listen with our soft ears and lonely hearts. (Kathleen Dean Moore, author of *Wild Comfort*) The intrepid authors of *The Rediscovery of the Wild* fight a well-coordinated rear-guard skirmish against what one author perceptively characterizes as a postmodern tendency 'of seeing wildness as a doddering concept on the brink of extinction.' This book is an unapologetic old-school defense of what another author calls 'The Old Rules.' As we enter the brave new 'Anthropocene,' what are we getting in trade for the concept of wild Nature? These essays are a cautionary tale indeed. (J. Baird Callicott, University Distinguished Research Professor, Department of Philosophy and Religion Studies, University of North Texas) That which is wild is not out of control, it is just out of our control, beyond our ability to fully fathom with our thoughts. Yet we are made of this magic. Bereft of contact with wildness, the human mind loses its coherence, and the human heart ceases to beat. This fine volume opens an array of fresh and ferocious insights into this most vital dimension of the real. (David Abram, author of *Becoming Animal: An Earthly Cosmology* and *The Spell of the Sensuous: Perception and Language in a More-Than-Human World*) This authoritative text has the potential to support diverse and interdisciplinary paths of academic inquiry, particularly in the fields of psychology and environmental studies. The accessible language and

elements of storytelling throughout make it both engaging and informative for the casual reader. This collection lays a solid foundation for its subject matter while maintaining the potential to invigorate future research, exploration, and conversation on the topic of humans and the wild. (Electronic Green Journal)

About the Author Peter H. Kahn, Jr., is Professor in the Department of Psychology and Director of the Human Interaction with Nature and Technological Systems Laboratory at the University of Washington. Kahn and Hasbach are coeditors of *Ecopsychology: Science, Totems, and the Technological Species* (MIT Press, 2012). Patricia H. Hasbach is a licensed clinical psychotherapist in private practice in Eugene, Oregon, and an adjunct faculty member at Lewis and Clark College and Antioch University Seattle. Kahn and Hasbach are coeditors of *Ecopsychology: Science, Totems, and the Technological Species* (MIT Press, 2012).