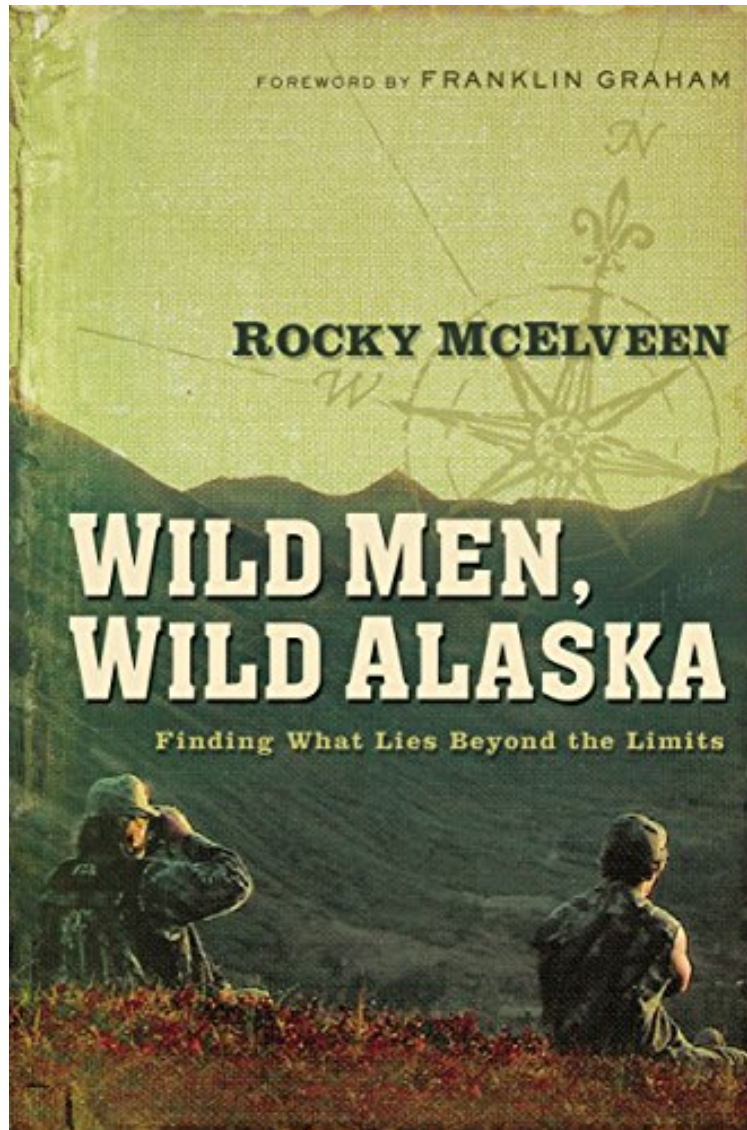


[Read now] Wild Men, Wild Alaska: Finding What Lies Beyond the Limits (Wild Men, Wild Alaska Series)

Wild Men, Wild Alaska: Finding What Lies Beyond the Limits (Wild Men, Wild Alaska Series)

Von Rocky McElveen

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Von Rocky McElveen : Wild Men, Wild Alaska: Finding What Lies Beyond the Limits (Wild Men, Wild Alaska Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Wild Men, Wild Alaska: Finding What Lies Beyond the Limits (Wild Men, Wild Alaska Series):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The Ultimate Armchair Adventure Opportunity . . . and Room for Helpful ReflectionVon Donald MitchellWild Men, Wild

Alaska is the best hunting and fishing book I've ever read. Hemingway's great novels about hunting and fishing fall short of Rocky McElveen's impressive real life experiences. If you've never been to Alaska, this book will call you there. A few years ago, I attended a conference where people told stories about their most amazing vacation adventures. I was riveted by one fellow who recounted tracking wild bears unarmed. The closest he got to a bear was to hear some rustling in the woods. Who knows if this was a bear, or a skunk? But he was following bear spoor. His ancient guide had long before fled in fear. Realizing that he could easily be outrun by a bear, he decided to leave rather than find out what was in the woods. Ever since I've heard that story, I've been wondering what it would be like to be close to a large, angry bear. *Wild Men, Wild Alaska* is jammed with much more harrowing and thoughtful stories than the one that had previously riveted me. Now, I think of that earlier story as being like a walk in the park. If Jack London were alive today, he would envy Rocky his experiences and stories. Rocky McElveen operates Alaskan Adventures with his wife Sharon. Sharon organizes, and Rocky leads the adventures . . . most of which are hunting or fishing trips with an emphasis on capturing trophy animals. His clients have included former president George H. W. Bush (and the book includes a fishing tale involving that gentleman), Chuck Yeager, Dave Dravecky, Pastor Chuck Swindoll and Bob Seiple. There's also a story about Mr. Dravecky hunting after having his arm amputated. Each story takes you deep into the Alaskan wilderness to places, problems and animals you've probably never dreamed of. The middle of the book offers 16 pages of stunning color photographs that help make the stories come alive. As an example, one photograph reveals a hand holding open the mouth of an enormous (and presumably dead) bear. Imagine looking down that view up close! In another memorable photograph, a man's hand is placed next to a bear track that's twice the length of the hand. The book contains fourteen vivid stories about Alaska, beginning with how Rocky ended up in the Alaskan adventure business. The book ends with some final musings about what the lure of wilderness adventure is all about. Several stories focus on the dangers of flying into the bush to land in locations where there is no landing strip and to take off overloaded or into unexpectedly stormy conditions. To me, the most memorable stories are those where Rocky comes into dangerous, up-close contact with wild animals. As these contacts occur, his mind is filled with stories about what can go wrong . . . and many unexpected and thought-provoking events take place. His hunters also take some impressive risks, such as those who use bows and arrows for weapons rather than high powered rifles with scopes and the people who choose to run rivers that have never been run before. What is the most dangerous game? You cannot help but think it's man as you learn how even the largest and best protected trophy animals can fall to gun shots from several hundred yards. Rocky has his own experiences in this regard after building a model camp as a jumping off point for wilderness adventures. What is courage? Rocky responds in an instant to threats from animal, air, river or fellow hunter. But he finds himself sorely tested when tragedy strikes his family. Like many of the best books about hunting in Africa, you'll feel your stomach start to tighten as Rocky tells about tracking wounded animals into dangerous territory. The book is also grittily realistic. Butchering huge elk, caribou or bears is messy business. You are often packing 150-200 pounds of meat and hides long distances with little water and many predators lurking who would like to eat that fresh meat on your back. Those who love to hunt and fish will no doubt be intrigued by the astonishing size of the animals that roam free in Alaska. Can you even imagine a bear that's 10 feet tall . . . or an elk which weighs 2,000 pounds? I was once on a fishing trip near the Arctic Circle in Labrador. While there, I kept thinking about what a good idea it was not to get hurt. Reaching the nearest doctor could take a day, even in good weather. In bad weather, all bets were off. That trip was like a walk in my garden compared to what Rocky does. The book is deeply enlivened by tales of injuries and rescues that you'll never forget. Rocky feels God's hand in all this. Each story ends with a reflection on the spiritual experience that transcends the physical adventure. In the final musings, Rocky points out that following what Jesus wants us to do is an even bigger adventure than one of his Alaskan hunting trips. And you know what, Rocky is right! Whether you want to feel the Alaskan wilderness in your bones . . . or want to come closer to God through experiencing the primitive or testing yourself to the limits, *Wild Men, Wild Alaska* is an ideal book for you.

Kurzbeschreibung In *Wild Men, Wild Alaska* professional hunting and fishing guide and outfitter Rocky McElveen tells the stories of his own adventures as well as those of some of his well-known clients. The book takes readers directly into the Alaskan bush, and shares the intense challenges of a majestic wilderness that pushes a man to his limits. **Kurzbeschreibung** In *Wild Men, Wild Alaska* professional hunting and fishing guide and outfitter Rocky McElveen tells the stories of his own adventures as well as those of some of his well-known clients. The book takes readers directly into the Alaskan bush, and shares the intense challenges of a majestic wilderness that pushes a man to his limits.