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Adventure in the Great Outdoors, Non-Fiction Books

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Give Your Heart to the Hawks a Tribute to the Mountain Men By Winfred Blevins

Read By Jim Zeiger

Reading time 12 hours, 51 minutes

Spur Award-winning writer profiles early-nineteenth-century explorers, trappers, and traders including Kit Carson, Jedediah Smith, and John Colter. Portrays men such as Hugh Glass, who after being mauled by a bear and left for dead, crawled two hundred fifty miles to safety. Some violence and some strong language. 1973.

[Download from BARD: Give Your Heart to the Hawks a Tribute...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB069064

A Walk in the Woods Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail By Bill Bryson

Read by Michael Consoli

Reading time 10 hours, 6 minutes

Bryson relates the adventures and misadventures of two totally unfit hikers as he and longtime friend Stephen Katz traverse the 2,100-mile Appalachian Trail. Returning from more than twenty years in Britain, he set out to rediscover his homeland, but the two men find themselves awed by the terrain and stymied by the unfamiliar local culture. Some strong language. Bestseller.

[Download from BARD: A Walk in the Wood Rediscovering America...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB046519

Also available on cassette RC046519

The Lost City of Z a Tale of Deadly Obsession in the Amazon By David Grann

Read By Ted Stoddard

Reading time 10 hours, 50 minutes

An investigative reporter examines the strange disappearance in 1925 of fifty-seven-year-old explorer Percy Fawcett and his team, who were searching for the ruins of a mysterious lost civilization in the Amazon Basin. Grann's research takes him on his own adventures into the jungle. Bestseller. 2009.

[Download from BARD: The Lost City of Z a Tale of Deadly Obsession...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB068618

God's Middle Finger into the Lawless Heart of the Sierra Madre By Richard Grant

Read By Jim Zeiger

Reading time 11 hours, 46 minutes

Award-winning British travel writer recounts his ill-advised journeys into western Mexico's Sierra Madre--mountains rife with outlaws, drug lords, and assorted outcasts. Describes visiting a folk healer who prescribed rattlesnake pills, attending bizarre religious rituals, and running from cocaine-fueled locals bent on killing him for sport. Strong language. 2008.

[Download from BARD: God's Middle Finger into the Lawless Heart...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB067469

Among Flowers: A Walk in the Himalaya by Jamaica Kincaid

Read by Michele Schaeffer

Reading time 4 hours 15 minutes.

Caribbean-born novelist recounts her journey to eastern Nepal to gather seeds for use in her personal garden in Vermont. Chronicles her month-long trek through remote, mountainous terrain where, while searching for specimens, she and three botanist friends endured daily deprivations, altitude sickness, leeches, and encounters with violent Maoist guerillas.

[Download from BARD: Among Flowers a Walk in the Himalaya](#)

Also available on cassette RC065382

Into Thin Air: a Personal Account of the Mount Everest Disaster By John Krakauer

Read by Roy Avers

Reading Time 8 hours, 57 minutes

A journalist's first-hand report on the ill-fated Mt. Everest expedition of May 1996 in which a freak storm claimed the lives of nine adventurers. Describes the grueling ascent of the climbers, their sense of elation at reaching the peak, and the tragic events that followed. Strong language. Bestseller. 1997.

[Download from BARD: Into Thin Air a Personal Account of the Mount...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB044525

Also available on cassette RC044525

Charles Kuralt's America by Charles Kuralt

Read by Barry Bernson

Reading time 9 hours 15 minutes.

Following his retirement from CBS in 1994, Kuralt set out to spend a month each at favorite places during their best seasons. In his easygoing style, Kuralt describes the places he went and the people he met from Alaska to Key West and Louisiana to Maine. He comments on Charleston in the spring; Ketchikan, Alaska, in June; the lakes of Minnesota in July; and New York City at Christmas.

[Download from BARD: Charles Kuralt's America](#)

Also Available on cassette RC041249

Down the Nile Alone in a Fisherman's Skiff By Rosemary Mahoney

Read By Alice Rosengard

Reading time 11 hours, 21 minutes

Rower and award-winning author recounts her 120-mile solo journey along the Nile between the Egyptian cities of Aswan and Qena. Describes her search for a boat, her excitement in finding ancient ruins, and the obstacles she faced as she confronted searing heat and cultural differences. Strong language. 2007.

[Download from BARD: Down the Nile Alone in a Fisherman's Skiff](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB067048

Into Thick Air: Biking to the Bellybutton of Six Continents by Jim Malusa

Read by Ray Childs

Reading time 15 hours, 15 minutes

Tucson botanist and writer Malusa describes realizing, through writing assignments, his dream to travel by bicycle to the lowest elevation points on six continents. Expands on blog entries that he wrote en route to Lake Eyre, the Dead Sea, the Caspian Sea, Salina Grande, Lac Assal, and Death Valley. 2008.

[Download from BARD: Into Thick Air Biking to the Bellybutton of Six...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB067737

A Pearl in the Storm: How I Found my Heart in the Middle of the Ocean By

Tori Murden McClure

Read by Faith Potts

Reading time 10 hours, 19 minutes

The author recounts her quest to become the first woman to row solo across the Atlantic Ocean. McClure details a harrowing but failed 1998 voyage in a twenty-three-foot boat that forced her to confront her personal demons and a later attempt that brought love, enlightenment, and, finally, success. 2009.

[Download from BARD: A Pearl in the Storm: How I found my Heart in...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB070111

They Shoot Canoes, Don't They? by Patrick F. McManus.

Read by Jim Zeiger.

Reading time 6 hours 43 minutes.

Tongue-in-cheek tales about a sportsman's life. McManus celebrates the hidden pleasures, and the opportunities for disaster, in the recreations of camping, hunting, and fishing. Includes amusing accounts of his dog Strange and an incorrigible old woodsman, Rancid Crabtree.

[Download from BARD: They Shoot Canoes, Don't They?](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB056691

Also available on cassette RC056691

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR15723](#)

Also available in braille BR015723

Crazy for the Storm: a Memoir of Survival By Norman Ollestad

Read by Andy Pyle

Reading time 8 hours, 8 minutes

Author describes being the lone survivor of a small-airplane mountaintop crash in 1979 when he was eleven. Vignettes from his childhood with a father who pushed extreme sports explain his having the stamina necessary to make it down the mountain alone. Strong language and some descriptions of sex. Bestseller. 2009.

[Download from BARD: Crazy for the Storm a Memoir of Survival](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB069509

Marco Polo Didn't Go There: Stories and Revelations From One Decade as a Postmodern Travel Writer : with Special Commentary Track By Rolf Potts

Read by Peter Johnson

Reading time 11 hours, 23 minutes

Backpack traveler recounts his off-the-beaten-track adventures in far-flung places around the globe, including almost crashing the set of a Leonardo DiCaprio movie in Thailand, joining a Tantric sex class in India, and following a celebration of the Virgin Mary in Central America. 2008.

[Download from BARD: Marco Polo Didn't Go There...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB072921

Between a Rock and a Hard Place by Aron Ralston.

Read by Steven Carpenter

Reading time 11 hours 38 minutes.

Spring 2003. Author's account of becoming trapped while hiking in the Utah wilderness. The twenty-eight-year-old recalls the five days he spent alone in a canyon pinned in place by a boulder. Describes his desperate decision to amputate his own arm, rappel down, and seek help. Strong language.

[Download from BARD: Between a Rock and a Hard Place](#)

Also available on cassette RC058934

The Last Frontier, Incredible Tales of Survival, Exploration, and Adventure from Alaska Magazine edited by Jill Shepherd.

Read by Steven Carpenter. Reading time 11 hours 8 minutes.

Fifty-eight of Alaska magazine's most compelling tales of survival, exploration, and adventure published between 1935 and 2002. Articles about diverse topics from wildlife management issues to heroic sled dogs depict the fantastic landscape and its inhabitants as well as record the ever-changing face of America's largest state.

[Download from BARD: The Last Frontier, Incredible Tales of Survival...](#)

Also Available on cassette RC059082

The Log from the Sea of Cortez By John Steinbeck

Read By Robert Sams Reading time 12 hours, 47 minutes

This narrative account of John Steinbeck's 1940 expedition to the Gulf of California with his friend, biologist Ed Ricketts, describes their four-thousand-mile journey--from chartering a sea vessel to collecting specimens--combining adventure, science, and philosophy. Includes a 1951 appendix "About Ed Ricketts." 1941.

[Download from BARD: The Log from the Sea of Cortez](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB068309

One Hundred Years of Hunting: The Ultimate Tribute to Our Hunting Heritage edited by Voyageur Press.

Read by Jack Fox. Reading time 6 hours 58 minutes.

A collection of eighteen hunting tales by notable historical persons and outdoor writers celebrating an American sporting activity over most of the past century. Includes Grover Cleveland's "Quail Shooting" (1906), Ernest Hemingway's "Remembering Shooting-Flying: A Key West Letter" (1935), and Jimmy Carter's "Learning to Hunt"

[Download from BARD: One Hundred Years of Hunting...](#)

Also Available on cassette RC057592

The Wild Places by Robert Macfarlane

Read by Bill Wallace.

Reading time 10 hours 32 minutes.

Macfarlane recounts his journeys in search of the remaining "wild places" in England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. Describes his adventures to remote islands, beaches, marshes, forests, and mountaintops as he simultaneously reflects on the interconnectedness of nature and humanity and his transformed understanding about the notion of "wildness."

[Download from Bard: The Wild Places](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB069068

Lost in Shangri-la a True Story of Survival, Adventure, and the Most Incredible Rescue Mission of World War II By Mitchell Zuckoff

Read by Barry Bernson

Reading time 9 hours, 59 minutes

Recounts the experience of Margaret Hastings, John McCollom, and Kenneth Decker--three burnt and injured survivors of an army transport plane that crashed in the New Guinea jungle on May 13, 1945. Describes their discovery of and stay with a native tribe. 2011.

[Download from BARD: Lost in Shangri-la a True Story of Survival...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB073456