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On the Spine of Time: An Anglers Love of the Smokies

Harry Middleton

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#3131056 in Books Fireside 1992-03-15Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.31 x .59 x 5.39l, #File Name: 0671755692240 pages | File size: 72.Mb

Harry Middleton : On the Spine of Time: An Anglers Love of the Smokies before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised On the Spine of Time: An Anglers Love of the Smokies:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Difficult to get throughBy CrusherA little too pedantic and maudlin, although it was clearly an act of love. A strange book packed with unusual characters from the Southern Highlands that has a disjointed, nearly stream of consciousness quality to it. He states that the characters are based on real people, but somehow that seemed hard to believe. When he is on, he is really on and the atmospheric writing works-- at other times it is tedious and dense and difficult to read. I had to work at finishing it which is unusual for me reading a book on fly fishing, especially in the Southern Appalachians, which I love. I would recommend it for anyone who enjoys fishing the Smoky Mountains, as I think it is historically important. Heck, I enjoyed fishing some of the streams he describes just knowing that they were favorite waters of HM. Yes, I would recommend it, but don't think it is his best work.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I got over my fear of the movie, "Deliverance."By foreverteachableThe book has been an interesting and heartwarming read. The author has detailed the eccentric personalities and kindness of people we often meet in our travels. The book is filled with thoughtful anecdotes, wit, humor, and lots of moments of fishing and friendship. The setting takes place in a world often forgotten, sometimes feared, but always sought out on those days when we yearn for the woods and waters. I initially had anxiety about fishing alone in the Appalachian woods but now I actually want to take a trip there someday. I look back and have always had fond memories of the people I met while fishing so I don't see why I ever thought I would be bothered if I was fishing near where Deliverance might have been filmed. Either way it is a great book and had me teary-eyed

several times with the kindness and friendship found in our fellow men and women. Thanks a bunch for capturing the personalities of the friends you met in your travels and of the streams and brooks you have fished. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Lovely book
By Kirk Nichols
Does one even need to fish to love these stories and his writing style? It is rare to read such personal stories and not feel the author's ego. What a humble story teller! may he rest in peace.

Creased front cover, unmarked

From Publishers Weekly
Standing atop the Great Smoky Mountains with a creel full of joy and heartbreak, the author of *The Earth Is Enough* casts a Thoreau-like eye at love, flyfishing, geology, the character of mountain folk and trout. Middleton wants readers to experience his Smoky Mountain fishing trips as he does: as metaphors for transcendental faith in nature. A naturalist-romantic, he celebrates the wild mountain trout with a congregation of eccentric highlanders and fishing companions who give colorful witness in clipped Faulknerian speech. Middleton's own style, however, is fluid--his prose occasionally as lithe as Annie Dillard's--carrying forward his tribute while his angst about the future floats overhead like a buzzard on a high thermal. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.
From Library Journal
In witty observations, advice, and anecdotes relative to his favorite streams in Colorado and Montana, angler Gierach provides an entertaining follow-up to his likable *Sex, Death, and Fly Fishing* (LJ 5/15/90). His loose theme is that fishing is better in remote spots where the aquatic ecosystem has been left alone to reach its full potential. He doesn't tell where these backwoods jewels are, however, but readers who like the outdoors will nonetheless find vicarious enjoyment in his experiences. Illustrations--Gyotaku prints made by the author, which comprise a third of this slim volume--were not seen. Recommended for large public libraries. The Great Smokey Mountains are well known to environmentalists and outdoor enthusiasts as a breathtaking natural habitat for precious flora and fauna. Middleton (*The Earth Is Enough: Growing Up in a World of Trout and Old Men*, LJ 7/89), developed an appreciation for fishing and scenic wonders growing up in the Ozarks. He discovered and fell in love with the Smokies almost accidentally a decade ago. This book is his unabashed paeon to the region and the wise and colorful people he has met there. His experiences have provided him with remarkable sensual, spiritual, and intellectual nourishment, and his lyrical prose is well suited to conveying his wonder. Highly recommended.- Will Hepfer, SUNY at Buffalo
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