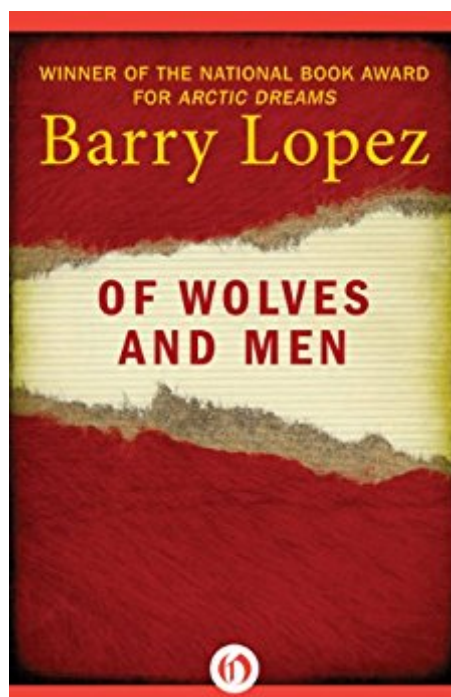


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Of Wolves And Men (Scribner Classics)



Synopsis

In his critically acclaimed, award-winning study, Barry Lopez offers a stunning examination of tolerance and a community that mirrors our own. When John Fowles reviewed *Of Wolves and Men*, he called it "a remarkable book, both biologically absorbing and humanly rich, and one that should be read by every concerned American." In this National Book Award "shortlisted work, literary master Barry Lopez guides us through the world of the wolf and our often-mistaken perceptions of another species' place on our shared planet. Throughout the centuries, the wolf has been a figure of fascination and mystery, and a major motif in literature and myth. Inspiring fear and respect, the creature has long exerted a powerful influence on the human imagination. *Of Wolves and Men* takes the reader into the world of the *Canis lupus* and its relationship to humankind through the ages. Lopez draws on science, history, mythology, and his own field research to present a compelling portrait of wolves both real and imagined, dispelling our fear of them while celebrating their place in our history, legends, and hearts. This ebook features an illustrated biography of Barry Lopez including rare images and never-before-seen documents from the author's personal collection.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The greatest virtue of this book is that it makes you care. Some of the great wolf books presume already that you have an interest in the subject, like Mech's, as fine and as informative and as authoritative as it is, won't necessarily create a sense of awe like Lopez's. But through a judicious use of scientific and mythological materials, fused together with a marvelous literary sense, Lopez creates an epic retelling of the wolf in North America. Since reading this book for the first time, a host of sections have remained vivid to me. For instance, a schoolroom that is to be visited by a wolf and its handler. The children are asked to make a drawing of a wolf beforehand, and most create a beast with huge and menacing teeth. After the visit, they are told once again to draw a wolf, and this time draw a dog-like animal with enormous paws. No other section of the book emphasized to me how dreadfully we misconceive wolves. Lopez meanders over the course of Western civilization harvesting tales and stories--both scientific and mythic--recounting the myriad ways we have thought about wolves. Few of our imaginings do their fine qualities justice, and most often we demonize them. As a result, the wolf as we know it is largely a creation of our fevered imaginations. Lopez tries to break through the fictions about wolves to focus more on their truer qualities and natures. The heartbreaking pages that end the book bring to mind the great tragedy it was for the North American wolf for Europeans to have discovered America. One might have to cut the book a tiny bit of slack because of the graphics.

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