

A Walk In The Woods Rediscovering America On Appalachian Trail Bill Bryson

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the longest continuous footpath in the world the appalachian trail stretches along the east coast of the united states from georgia to maine through some of the most arresting and celebrated landscapes in america at the age of forty four in the company of his friend stephen katz last seen in the bestselling neither here nor there bill bryson set off to hike through the vast tangled woods which have been frightening sensible people for three hundred years ahead lay almost 2 200 miles of remote mountain wilderness filled with bears moose bobcats rattlesnakes poisonous plants disease bearing ticks the occasional chuckling murderer and

perhaps most alarming of all people whose favourite pastime is discussing the relative merits of the external frame backpack facing savage weather merciless insects unreliable maps and a fickle companion whose profoundest wish was to go to a motel and watch the x files bryson gamely struggled through the wilderness to achieve a lifetime's ambition not to die outdoors

bryson share his experiences hiking the appalachian trail with a childhood friend the two encounter eccentric characters a blizzard getting lost and rude yuppies along the way

about the book there was a time in my life when i wanted to be bill bryson when i thought if this is what a writer does i want to be a writer he has an uncanny knack for unearthing the hilarity in the most mundane and shoving it in your face for meeting the most insufferable strange and fascinating people for doling out the perfect amount of bitter sarcasm and for otherwise educating readers in an incredibly entertaining way he's the guy you want at your dinner party who you'd trust as your precious phone a friend i was in college the first time i stumbled upon the writer i wandered into a small bookshop one sunny afternoon to kill some time a walk in the woods was propped up in the travel writing section with a staff recommendation card that had one of my all time faves scrawled on it in thick black sharpie ink i half wondered how a book with what i considered to be an unimpressive cover could be an all time fave so i flipped to a random page and started reading it's safe to say that within seconds i was smiling one of those broad dopey smiles and within minutes giggling stupidly to myself i'm pretty sure that i actually started to work up a sweat as i stood there in the now deafeningly silent shop reading in my overly warm university hoody suppressing my would be shrieks i've learned since then that bryson should be read in the privacy of one's own home where one can feel free to snort chuckle guffaw and otherwise revel in a cathartic case of the giggles i used to read passages of bryson out loud to a roommate of mine and can recall one particular scene from notes from a small island that left us both short of breath for minutes but it was with bryson's 1998 bestseller that i had my first affair and which has become albeit very unoriginally one of my all time faves meet the author tiffanie wen is a professional writer from the san francisco bay area who's written for newsweek flux hawaii ode magazine and more when she's not working she enjoys exploring new places around the world and spending time with her dogs rocky and benny excerpt from the book after living in the uk for over 20 years famed travel writer bill bryson relocated his family to hanover new hampshire and discovered that the appalachian trail ran through his small town he decided to hike the 2 100 mile long trail and acquired the company of his old friend stephen katz without taking notes on the trail bryson still managed to write the wildly popular travel book published in 1998 that held a seemingly permanent residence on new york times bestseller list a walk in the woods is quintessential bryson hilarious at times and frightening at others he takes the layman out into the woods without ever asking him to ever leave his home in 2008 robert redford confirmed rumors that there are plans to develop a walk in the woods into a feature film starring

redford as bryson today the book is still one of the most popular pieces of work written about the appalachian trail buy a copy to keep reading

a walk in the woods by bill bryson is a humorous insightful and often poignant journey through one of the most iconic hiking trails in the united states the appalachian trail stretching from georgia to maine this trail traverses some of the most awe inspiring landscapes in america from towering mountains to serene lakes through thick forests and rugged terrain bryson with his signature wit and curiosity takes readers along for an adventure that is as much about self discovery as it is about nature he offers a blend of history ecology and personal anecdote reflecting on the trail s past and the people who have walked it both the brave and the foolish as bryson sets out to conquer the 2 100 mile trail he s accompanied by his old friend stephen katz whose own unpreparedness for the hike provides both comic relief and moments of warmth throughout the book bryson paints a vivid picture of the natural beauty of the trail while also introducing us to the sometimes quirky characters he encounters along the way he deals with physical exhaustion unexpected challenges and even a few encounters with wildlife most notably a couple of bears a walk in the woods isn t just a travel memoir it s a reflection on the wilderness human resilience and the sometimes comical difficulties of trying to reconnect with nature in a modern world bryson s storytelling will make you long for the outdoors or at least appreciate a comfortable chair to sit back and read in

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a biography of writer bill bryson that describes his era major works and life

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