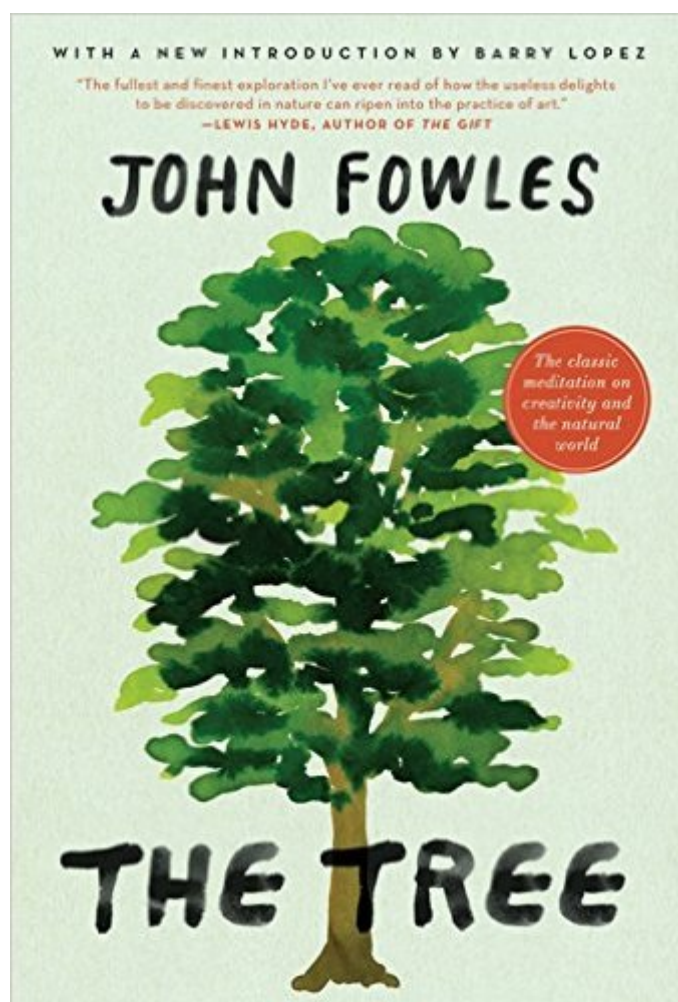


The book was found

The Tree



Synopsis

“For years I have carried this book...with me on travels to reread, ponder, envy. In prose of classic gravity, precision, and delicacy, Fowles addresses matters of final importance.” —Los Angeles Times Book Review

“The Tree is the fullest and finest exploration I’ve ever read of how the useless delights to be discovered in nature can ripen into the practice of art.” —Lewis Hyde, author of *The Gift*

“The most original argument for wilderness preservation I have encountered.” —Washington Post

Finally back in print, here is the 30th anniversary edition of *The Tree* —the renowned English novelist John Fowles’s (*The Magus*, *The French Lieutenant’s Woman*) moving meditation on the connection between the natural world and human creativity. An inspiring modern ecological classic, *The Tree* is both a powerful argument against taming the wild and a major author’s inspiring and beautifully written defense of the joys of getting lost, and of spontaneity in life and art.

Book Information

Paperback: 112 pages

Publisher: Ecco (September 28, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0061997773

ISBN-13: 978-0061997778

Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 0.2 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.7 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars — See all reviews (19 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #226,624 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #140 in Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Plants > Trees #299 in Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Nature Writing & Essays #568 in Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Ecology

Customer Reviews

When I received this fantastic book I was absolutely blown away by the life-changing words. This is the thirtieth anniversary of this wonderful nonfiction look at how the natural, "wild" world affects our human lives. Mr. Fowles passed away in 2006, but his legacy of classic stories including *The Gift* and, my favorite, *The French Lieutenant’s Woman*, will remain part of our culture for the rest of time. But this small yet, intricate, look at how this fantastic author "saw" life, and the relationships that made up his own existence, should truly be a permanent fixture on every human’s bookshelf. Talk about taking me home to my upbringing in the "hills" of Connecticut; this author first speaks about

the trees. Throughout history, trees have provided many different things to different people; they've been the sanctuary for some, as well as the hiding place for the "justly and unjustly persecuted and hunted." This is a powerful statement. Whether living in a city or wild country, if the trees could speak, we can only imagine what stories they could tell. Mr. Fowles grew up in London - the huge city where activity was a constant. His father was a man who had a small garden in the back of their flat, and worked very hard at keeping his bushes, flowers, and trees alive. Here was the place where John's father would go and be one with nature. John, unlike his father, wanted the "openness" of the countryside. He wanted to go on "woodland walks" where a path would lead him into the unknown. He even goes into a garden in the old Swedish university town of Uppsala, where a beautiful garden resides that is equaled only by the one spoken of in the Book of Genesis. But the one "chord" that kept driving home with me was his father.

This is the 30th anniversary edition of John Fowles legendary essay about trees. Or rather, what trees mean in a greater sense than just the biological. At first, I expected this to be similar to Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring*-both were written decades ago. However, this slim text is more of a set of questions rather than answers. In fact, despite the title, it could be said that trees are just the smallest portion of his purpose. "Do we feel that unless we create evidence-photographs, journal entries, picked and pressed flowers, tape recordings, pocketed stones-we haven't actually been intimate with nature?" Fowles was known for writing *The French Lieutenant's Woman* as well as other fiction titles. Here, in this book, he discusses via anecdotes the relationship between humans and nature, and the juxtaposition between nature on its own and our experience of nature. First, the introduction by Barry Lopez comfortably sets the scene, and hints that this is no simple environmental manifesto. And never does Fowles lecture about how people should view nature; rather, he talks about what nature may or may not mean in a larger sense. For example, he talks about his childhood home where his father cultivated small garden and fruit trees. Nothing was out of place, and while it was in the city, his father managed to tame anything unruly from the garden. Clearly it was his goal to conquer the plot of land. He was the victor over it. Yet his son, Fowles, purchases property that is larger, but by no means tame. Fowles neither cultivates or cuts back, he sees no point in amending the soil, pruning the trees, and to the horror of his father, the parcel of land is wild. Is it a moral battle over who conquers the natural world?

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Magic Tricks from the Tree House: A Fun Companion to Magic Tree House #50: Hurry Up, Houdini! (Magic Tree House (R)) Games and Puzzles from the Tree House (Magic Tree House) Sharks and

Other Predators: A Nonfiction Companion to Magic Tree House #53: Shadow of the Shark (Magic Tree House (R) Fact Tracker) Dolphins and Sharks: A Nonfiction Companion to Magic Tree House #9: Dolphins at Daybreak (Magic Tree House (R) Fact Tracker) The Music Tree: A Handbook for Teachers, Music Tree Part 2A and 2B Soccer: A Nonfiction Companion to Magic Tree House #52: Soccer on Sunday (Magic Tree House (R) Fact Tracker) Magic Tree House Fact Tracker: Abraham Lincoln: A Nonfiction Companion to Magic Tree House #47: Abe Lincoln at Last! China: Land of the Emperor's Great Wall: A Nonfiction Companion to Magic Tree House #14: Day of the Dragon King (Magic Tree House (R) Fact Tracker) Mummies and Pyramids: A Nonfiction Companion to Magic Tree House #3: Mummies in the Morning (Magic Tree House (R) Fact Tracker) Vikings: A Nonfiction Companion to Magic Tree House #15: Viking Ships at Sunrise (Magic Tree House (R) Fact Tracker) Ninjas and Samurai: A Nonfiction Companion to Magic Tree House #5: Night of the Ninjas (Magic Tree House (R) Fact Tracker) Ancient Greece and the Olympics: A Nonfiction Companion to Magic Tree House (Magic Tree House Fact Tracker) Polar Bears and the Arctic: A Nonfiction Companion to Magic Tree House (Magic Tree House Fact Tracker) The Tree Lady: The True Story of How One Tree-Loving Woman Changed a City Forever Tree of Life: The World of the African Baobab (Tree Tales) Hour of the Olympics (Magic Tree House #16) (Magic Tree House (R)) The Tree Climber's Companion: A Reference And Training Manual For Professional Tree Climbers The Music Tree Student's Book: Time to Begin (The Music Tree Series) World War II: A Nonfiction Companion to Magic Tree House Super Edition #1: World at War, 1944 (Magic Tree House (R) Fact Tracker) Magic Tree House Collection: Books 37-40: Dragon of the Red Dawn; Monday with a Mad Genius; Dark Day in the Deep Sea; Eve of the Emperor Penguin (Magic Tree House (R))

[Dmca](#)