

Reviews of Randall Eaton's *From Boys to Men of Heart: Hunting As Rite of Passage*

“In depth exploration of the Hunter’s world, philosophically, culturally, spiritually. The book talks to the philosopher, psychologist, conservationist, wildlife manager, the clergy and the Hunter. A major contribution to literature,”

Bob Norton, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of Psychology,
U. of Wisconsin, author of *The Hunter: Developmental Stages
And Ethics*

“In his new book...he argues that to understand hunting is to understand a great deal about men that has heretofore remained hidden...I find this argument quite persuasive. *From Boys to Men of Heart* is a penetrating and masterful piece of scholarship that interweaves at least a dozen disciplines into a profound theory of male development. Eaton shows us how embattled our culture has become, and how dangerous. He provides an intriguing formula for recovery, one that harmonizes nature with male spiritual development...his scientific background is uniquely qualified both to expose our culture’s weaknesses and provide clues to our better survival. This book ...will become a major title in the future.”

Michael Gurian, best-selling author of *The Wonder of Boys, A
Fine Young Man* and *The Purpose of Boys*

Randall Eaton offers a compelling account of how the sacred act of hunting can help realign our culture and consciousness with the rhythms, patterns, and laws of nature. In this comprehensive treatise, Eaton chronicles hunting as an ancient and timeless rite of passage; one that can provide boys with an opportunity to participate fully in nature's complex dance of life and death. Randall's keen observations and deep understanding of this process clearly comes from a lifelong practice and passion for the sacred hunt. His message is critical for anyone concerned about the health and well being of the Earth.

Matt Kolan, Lecturer, Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources,
University of Vermont

“In a world where disrespect and violence prevail, it may seem an irony to call for hunting as a way to regain a sense of balance in our world. However, Randy has synthesized the wisdom of the ages in this book in an engaging argument that makes this very point. Whether you are a hunter or are anti-hunting, the material in this book will reveal some ancient truths and ways of knowing that can stop the downward spiral that modern humanity has created on this planet.”

Four Arrows, aka Don Trent Jacobs, Ph.D., Ed.D., author of *Primal Awareness, Unlearning the Language of Conquest, Teaching Virtues,* and *Social Neuroscience and Indigenous Wisdom.*

“Nothing less than brilliant....some of Randy Eaton’s writings in this book are among the most quotable I have read since Aldo Leopold’s. His belief in the importance of hunting and the outdoor experience to mankind is a great but unrecognized truth in our urbanized and cyberized world.”

Larry Marchinton, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of Wildlife Biology, University of Georgia

“Very interesting, provocative and timely....wonderful.”

Valerius Geist, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of Environmental Design, University of Calgary and internationally recognized wildlife authority

“Brilliant!...Dr. Eaton has elevated the subject of hunting to the heights of true philosophical inquiry and (his book) ranks...with Ortega’s *Meditations On Hunting Honor*
Tom Dolph, author of *Book of the Hunt: Initiation to a Life of Honor*

“Dr. Eaton is a fearless writer...where others have...taken a feeble undisciplined stab at description and/or explanation of why man hunts, Eaton’s writing puts a fine point on the relevant questions and attacks them with uncommon scholarship...drawn from numerous discipline...he argues that hunting is a psycho-spiritual necessity in the development of boys and men...His points are well made and his arguments convincing...Eaton’s writings are important, long over due and most welcome....broad reaching implications not only for the hunting community but to society at large...stands to make a positive contribution to rearing children in modern society. His work deserves our attention and support.”

Craig Dougherty, Ph.D., Chairman of the Board, Quality Deer Management Association

“*From Boys to Men of Heart* is a fascinating and comprehensive defense of hunting, looking primarily at how the practice of hunting in cultures all over the world serves to enhance the senses and sensibilities of boys as they develop into young men. Dr. Eaton uses a variety of means to present a compelling argument, ranging from scientific evidence and first-hand interviews to legends, stories and personal experience. This book is sure to open people’s eyes to the significance of hunting as central to the human experience.”

Richard Kyte, Ph.D., Director, Reinhart Institute for Ethics in Leadership, Viterbo University

“I love the way this book has us look more deeply into ‘hunting’, avoiding the usual black-white quick answer that stops fertile consideration. In our

world today most of us can too easily detach ourselves from the truth that we must kill in order to live. Eaton returns us to the sacred nature of this relationship, the 'giveaway' that it is and that was deeply honored by indigenous peoples, and to the natural and sacred ceremony of killing, and of death itself."

Meredith Little, Co-founder of The School of Lost Borders,
co-author, *Book of the Vision Quest*

Randall Eaton, Ph.D., a wildlife biologist, is part Aldo Leopold and part tribal Shaman. His intellectual curiosity allows him to explore the world of science as well as the primitive world of spiritualism. By morphing science and spiritualism together Randall has created an unsurpassed depth of understanding of the world of hunting, land management and ethics. I recommend his work to all who are curious about our natural world.

Rob Arnaud, Wildlife Manager and Big Game Outfitter.

"As an outdoorsman, and a teacher, I spend equal amounts of time surrounded by those who love, and despise, the act of the hunt. If ever there were a book that could foster true understanding and respect between Hunters and non Hunters ...this is it."

Elias Putney, Waldorf Teacher and Screen Writer