



The Man Who Lives with Wolves

By Shaun Ellis, Penny Junor

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What would compel a man to place himself in constant danger in order to become a member of a wolf pack? To eat with them, putting his head into a carcass alongside the wolves' gnashing teeth? To play, hunt, and spar with them, suffering bruises and bites? To learn their language so his howl is indistinguishable from theirs? To give up a normal life of relationships and family so that he can devote himself completely to the protection of these wild animals?

In *The Man Who Lives with Wolves*, Shaun Ellis reveals how his life irrevocably changed the first time he set eyes on a wolf. In exhilarating prose, he takes us from his upbringing in the wilds of Norfolk, England, to his survival training with British Army Special Forces to the Nez Percé Indian lands in Idaho, where he first ran with a wolf pack for nearly two years.

Offering an extraordinary look into the lives of these threatened, misunderstood creatures, Ellis shares how he ate raw kill—and little else; washed rarely, and only in plain water; learned to bury his face into the carcasses of prey—and, when necessary, to defend his share of the kill; communicated with the pack by his howls and body language, which over time became seemingly identical to theirs; and observed from this unique vantage point how wolves give birth to and raise their young, and enforce order among the pack.

After years of living in the wild, Shaun Ellis was barely able to recognize the feral face that stared back at him from the mirror. And in *The Man Who Lives with Wolves*, we discover the life of a rare and fascinating man who abandoned civilization but never lost touch with his humanity.

From the Hardcover edition.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Ellis, the self-trained wolf behaviorist featured on TV's *Living with the Wolfman*, has spent years living, literally, with wolves in the U.S. and England: eating what they do (raw meat), fitting into their pack, meeting challenges from other pack-members, and more. Ellis describes in detail (some repetitive) the astonishing rigors of living with wolves; readers might ask why one would stick with the pack after sustaining bites, knockout blows, and other injuries, but Ellis maintains that fulfilling his "overwhelming need to find out the truth and do whatever I could to help and stand up for these creatures" is reward enough. Ellis's prose is informal and conversational, and his experiences are highly illuminating regarding animals classically met with fear and hatred (an ancient reaction, Ellis notes, rooted in humankind's shift from a hunter-gatherer society to a farming society). Ellis also shares his goals, how they've evolved over years of study, and the challenges of scientists who disapprove of his methods; among well-earned observations of the natural world, Ellis also includes stories from his own life and family, as well useful information for dog owners.

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About the Author

SHAUN ELLIS is the founder of the Shaun Ellis Wolf Pack Foundation, a nonprofit organization based at Combe Martin Wildlife Park in North Devon, England, dedicated to helping wolves worldwide. He works with three captive packs at the park, where he gives regular talks and demonstrations to the public. He is the star of the Animal Planet show *Living with the Wolfman* and the National Geographic documentary *A Man Among Wolves*.

From the Hardcover edition.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

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