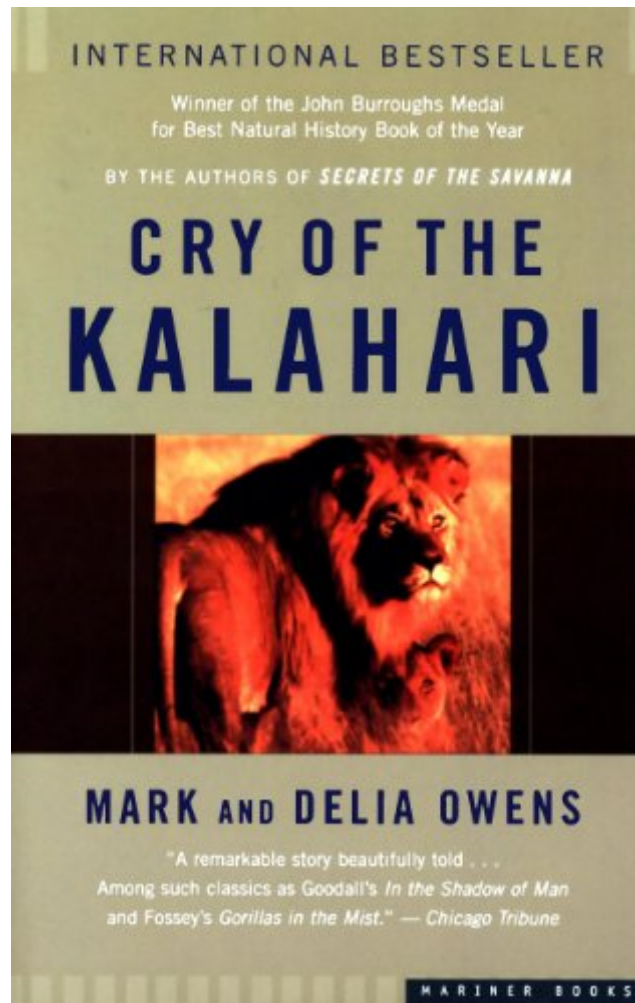




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Cry Of The Kalahari



Synopsis

This is the story of the Owens' travel and life in the Kalahari Desert. Here they met and studied unique animals and were confronted with danger from drought, fire, storms, and the animals they loved. This best-selling book is for both travelers and animal lovers.

Book Information

File Size: 11778 KB

Print Length: 384 pages

Publisher: Mariner Books (April 22, 2014)

Publication Date: April 22, 2014

Language: English

ASIN: B00JTJDB2W

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Not Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #276,589 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #18

in Kindle Store > Books > Travel > Africa > Botswana #56 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Nonfiction > Science > Biological Sciences > Animals > Wildlife #104 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Nonfiction > Science > Biological Sciences > Zoology

Customer Reviews

Mark and Delia Owens wrote this book about life in the Kalahari desert in Botswana. Their writing style is incredible, bringing you right next to lions, jackals, hyenas and the many dangers of life in remote Africa. If you have some interest in a lions-eye view of life in drought stricken Africa, this is the book to read. Filled with emotional relationships.... not only as a couple, but the relationships of lions and all the many animals of Africa. The Owens write from the heart and it comes through, loud and clear. Their love of animals and the natural world is both energizing and heart wrenching as they fill each page with the adventures of love and life in a remote part of our planet. Highly recommend this book.

Bought it to read while on photo safari in South Africa and Botswana, but I was too exhausted each

evening after two game drives per day. Reading it afterwards, I have a much greater appreciation and understanding of the Owens' experiences, joys, and frustrations. It's not a literary masterpiece, but I think it gives a great picture of both animal and human life in the Kalahari - and a reflection of all life on earth. With my personal experience and reading Mark's and Delia's experience, I don't think I can ever enjoy a zoo the same way I once did.

This book was published 32 years ago, and many of the observations, research, and conservation recommendations in this book still obtain today, albeit with some major caveats. Through the emphases in their misadventures in the Kalahari, the authors give rather short shrift to what many of us would have wished to know about predator species. But, through inspiring and sometimes poetic prose, they manage to thoroughly engage the reader from the beginning to end of their dangerous adventure.

It's easy to see why *Cry of the Kalahari* was a bestseller. It reads like an old-fashioned melodrama from the 1930s - as if Mark and Delia Owens were channeling Edgar Rice Burroughs. Delia is trapped in a flimsy little tent by two huge lions! Jeepers! Delia and Mark are deep in the Kalahari desert without any water! Oh no! A raging wildfire is headed straight for their research camp! Good grief! Will our intrepid duo survive these perils? Not to mention black mambas, surly rebels, and a diet of mealie-meal? Tune in next week, or in this case, keep turning the pages for another thrilling chapter! Seriously though, as a retired scientist (who worked in a nice climate-controlled laboratory), I have tremendous admiration for what the Owens did in Botswana. Their dedication, perseverance, and attention to detail epitomize what field work is about. *COTK* is not an account of their research findings, but a personal account of what it was like out there. There is good science here. Their discovery that brown hyenas breed communally was a fascinating achievement. As well, the Owens' comparison of lion behavior in the Kalahari with that observed by Schaller in the Serengeti was very important. To have a comprehensive picture of a keystone predator like lions, we must know how they adapt to very different environments. Well done, Mark and Delia.

An incredible story of dedication and risk for the love of your dreams. Before GPS, cell phones and so much other high tech gadgetry, these two science and animal lovers roughed it to find their destination and task into the wild. Much information was derived from their efforts, as they monitored and recorded the behaviors of these majestic predators and the fragile habitat they

reside. I was astonished to learn of many behaviors that were contrary to one had known at the time. These wildlife biologists are the ilk that had went out to save the wild lands, and hopefully their efforts have.

The story of these researchers in the Kalahari is amazing and true! Incredible, the things they endure, all for their love of the animals, and their research into them is very valuable. Interestingly written; even though this is essentially a scientific work, it is not dry, but a wonderful story of how Man interacts with the Wild Side. I loved the hornbills in Camp, and, when I was just in Botswana, experienced for myself their mischievousness and wit. I learned a lot from this book, which I was constantly telling people about!

I'm really enjoying this book but the scanning came up with errors that nobody fixed. "Mark" becomes "Marie" and there are "scent maries

Even though the Owens' studies in the Kalahari ended in 1980, this book remains a classic of African conservation. Beautifully written, it inspired us to go to Botswana to see and hear and smell for ourselves this truly incredible place. The book is eloquent testimony to the necessity to preserve wild places.

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