



A Good House: Building a Life on the Land, Richard Manning, Penguin Group (USA) Incorporated, 1994, 0140234071, 9780140234077, 256 pages. "It is a measure of the confusion of our times that the simplest words tease out the most complicated questions. Words like 'good' and 'house.' What do we mean by these? A year of my life turned on this question, a year in which I built my own house". These thoughts launch us into Richard Manning's powerful and compelling account of his building an environmentally conscious house on a thirty-eight acre piece of land in the wilds of western Montana. Concerned about our culture's disregard for the environment, and facing his own mid-life crisis, Richard Manning decided to rebuild what he could. First he remarried, and then, determined to adopt fully the values of conservation, he decided to build "a life on the land". We follow as Richard and his wife, Tracy, with the aid of some fascinating characters - Bruce the water dowsing; Banker McKee; Trusty Dave the digger; Skinny Jim and his partner Big Jim of the concrete crew; the lumbermen, the Finlays; the carpenters Bruce and Mike; Karl the mason; Gallacher as gofer; the rockers Larry, Rick, and Steve; and numerous others - conceive, finance, and build their house. Combining lessons from the history of house construction with contemporary technologies, the Mannings immerse themselves, body and soul, into the project: from devising the exact layout of the timber-framed structure and determining the minimum amount of water they will have to draw from the arid region, to calculating the superinsulation needed for successful passive-solar heating and installing a composting toilet, they strive to match beauty with efficiency, integration with practicality. Painfully aware that his earth-sheltered dwelling requires him to cut down trees and dig up the earth, among other destructive acts, Manning compromises when necessary but holds on to an idea that seems antithetical to modern ways: "Less is better". With the first warnings of winter, the months of working around the clock begin to take their toll, and the couple near physical and emotional exhaustion. But it is in these most trying of times that they come to understand the real meaning of their work and the purpose of their house. Combining the best qualities of Edward Abbey and Tracy Kidder, Manning entertains and informs in this affirmative book that not only points toward a new aesthetic in house-building but also shows how we can build a better life and help protect our endangered world..

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Builder's Essentials Framing & Rough Carpentry, Scot Simpson, Mar 1, 2001, , 150 pages. This revised and expanded edition is an illustrated course on residential and light commercial construction framing and rough carpentry. Includes instructions for framing walls

Those Who Love , Denise Robins, Aug 1, 2002, , 266 pages. .

America's Painted Ladies The Ultimate Celebration of Our Victorians, Elizabeth Pomada, Douglas Keister, Michael Larsen, Sep 1, 1994, Architecture, 304 pages. Now, the long-awaited companion to Painted Ladies, Daughters of Painted Ladies, and Painted Ladies Revisited is available in paperback. Presents a dazzling orgy of Victoriana

Jacq's Warlord , Delilah Devlin, Myla Jackson, Apr 26, 2006, Fiction, . Jacq's Warlord Delilah Devlin and Myla Jackson With proportions that would make Xena weep, Jaqueline Frazier despairs of ever

finding a lover she won't squash like a bug

The Desert Smells Like Rain A Naturalist in O'odham Country, Gary Paul Nabhan, Apr 1, 2002, Nature, 148 pages. Longtime residents of the Sonoran Desert, the Tohono O'odham people have spent centuries living off the land—a land that most modern citizens of southern Arizona consider

Make Prayers to the Raven: A Koyukon View of the Northern Forest , Richard K. Nelson, 1983, Nature, 292 pages. Portrayal of the Koyukon people and their natural surroundings based on sixteen months of living in the villages of Huslia and Hughes, Alaska between 1968 to 1972..

Pencil letter , Irina Ratushinskai, 1988, History, 83 pages. The author, who was sent to a labor camp for seven years for writing poetry, shares the poetry she wrote there about hope freedom, memories, and nature.

The Very Small Home Japanese Ideas for Living Well in Limited Space, Azby Brown, Jan 1, 2005, Architecture, 111 pages. Building small can be a sign of higher ambitions, and those who take the time to peruse these pages will undoubtedly grow to appreciate that creating a small home can be an

A Matter of Will , Robyn Donald, Feb 1, 1991, , 187 pages. .

Some Great Thing , Colin McAdam, 2004, Domestic fiction, 403 pages. Two men--one a self-made contractor, the other a disaffected businessman--become friends and seek to find happiness in a world that seems bent on keeping both of them

The Stone , Nigel G. Tranter, 1958, , 220 pages. The extraordinary tale of the Stone of Destiny, symbol of Scottish royal power, plundered from Scotland in 1296, which lay beneath the Coronation Chair in Westminster Abbey for

The Manning Sisters , Debbie Macomber, Feb 3, 2012, Fiction, . You are invited to a Manning family wedding... When Taylor Manning meets Russ Palmer she can't believe someone can be so stubborn, macho and have such outdated views on

Rewilding the West Restoration in a Prairie Landscape, Richard Manning, 2009, Nature, 230 pages. "Manning strips away layers of western myth to tell a story of bad intentions made good, good intentions gone bad, and a wild hope that has endured through decades of

Food's Frontier The Next Green Revolution, Richard Manning, 2000, Business & Economics, 230 pages. Discusses how recent developments in agricultural research will affect different cultures in the future..

A Good House is a chronicle of the year in which Manning set out to build his house and rebuild his life. Combining entertaining tales of the cast of characters who helped him build; practical information about wiring, roofing, and plumbing; and meditations on the struggle to integrate environmental and spiritual values into everyday life, this is a book about creating a solid foundation and building up from there—in a house, in a family, in living a good life.

Newly remarried after a bitter divorce, Manning at age 40 determined to build an environmentally sensitive house with his own hands. Having found land on the edge of the Missoula Valley in Montana, his first step was to drill for water. Manning had help from friends, professionals in the building trade and casual laborers--all of them, as depicted here, distinctive characters. He leads readers on a circuitous path: topics such as tools, concrete, wood and power serve as measures of progress. In the chapter on "Filth," Manning details his problems with a chemical toilet, concluding that the manufacturer's manual was too fastidious. Though he had to make compromises, Manning was satisfied with the house. Readers will be too. Photos.

Man reaches midlife, gets divorce, finds a new wife, and decides to build a house in the country. While the plot is familiar, the writing raises this above the level of most other "country home" chronicles. Manning, a freelance writer whose expose of timber industry practices (Last Stand , LJ 10/1/91) cost him his newspaper job, put extensive research into his effort to produce a home in Montana that was both comfortable and relatively uninvasive to nature. Throughout the book, the reader is treated to Manning's inner musings: observations about how social pressures and material availability have affected construction methods throughout history, plumbing as a micromodel of the earth's water cycle, and cabinetwork as the neurosurgery of carpentry. The final chapter on sources contains a short, annotated list of current materials useful in planning a comfortable and environmentally friendly home. More about homebuilding than country life, this is good information for the "planning-your-dream-home" crowd.

A thoughtful couple, knowing that we were planning to build our own house gave this book; it was a pleasure to read because the question "What is a good house?" leads to the question "What is a good life?" For the author this led to more searching questions - a house takes forests from mountains, coal from hills, life from the planet. As these are all major contradictions for those who value nature, the author set out to build his house in such a way as to ensure his happiness with minimum damage to the earth. Building a house is an environmentally destructive act which, multiplied millions of times, is responsible for the degradation of some of our best land. The threat is that unless we are careful we may live our lives in an unsustainable manner. On a fairly superficial level Manning set out to build an environmentally sensitive, energy efficient house but at a deeper level he wanted a house that would rebuild his life from a failed marriage. He did not want frugality to preclude beauty nor asceticism to preclude art. This meant that the land and the author had to cut a deal which is really what this book is all about - the factors that we have to consider, the trade-offs that we have to make and the process of reaching our decisions.

.. Or buying. Everyone who lives in modern America should read this, to understand the complexity of living in a household with on-demand conveniences. Where does water come from? Where do our feces go? Where does electricity come from? Manning considers the source of all of these, plus the material- lumber, chemicals, etc.- that go into building and living in a house. He has actually worked with his own hands to build his own house, and so he understands the craft and care necessary to build a good house. He has worked for too long as an environmental journalist to overlook the consequences of building and living in a new house. This book and his craft-activism are anathema to the cookie-cutter profit-fueled home building that has generated sprawl and leaves dull houses standing empty in the suburbs, where the greatest asset to a home is its resale value.

I read this book 1995 and recently picked it up and read it again. It is filled with environmental policy history, practical house building tips, and personal insight. Most importantly, many of the issues he addresses and incorporates into his home 25 year ago, are at the forefront of today's environmental movement.

Book Description: Grove Pr, 1993. Hardcover. Book Condition: Good. Possible defects such as light shelving wear may exist. May have minor creasing, writing, stickers and/or residue. COAS Books, A Bookstore for Everyone. Ships Within 24 Hours - Satisfaction Guaranteed!. Bookseller Inventory # mon0000611957

Book Description: Penguin (Non-Classics), 1994. Paperback. Book Condition: Good. - Meets or exceeds the guidelines for GOOD condition. May have minimal wear or damage; may have previous owner's signature. *Note that large or heavy items may incur additional shipping charges.* **Please feel free to contact us for exact postage pricing on multiple-item orders.**. Bookseller Inventory # mon0000634606

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Book Description: Grove Pr. Hardcover. Book Condition: Very Good. 0802115039 Hardcover. Book has been protected by a mylar cover. Stated 1st edition. Text is clean and binding is tight. Gently read! We ship daily! The Rogue Valley Media Exchange (RVME) is owned and operated by the Rogue Valley Metaphysical Library (RVML), which is a 501(C)(3) nonprofit organization. Bookseller Inventory # 81768

Book Description: Grove Pr, 1993. Hardcover. Book Condition: Very Good. Dust Jacket Condition: Very good. Slight shelf wear. New York: Grove Press, 1993. 238 pp. 8vo. Hardcover. Book Condition: Very good. Slight shelf wear. Dust Jacket Condition: Very good. Slight shelf wear. Nature. Bookseller Inventory # UMANGOO00vf

Book Description: Penguin USA, 1994. Soft Cover. Book Condition: Very Good. clean and smoke free no highlighting. Newly remarried after a bitter divorce, Manning at age 40 determined to build an environmentally sensitive house with his own hands. Having found land on the edge of the Missoula Valley in Montana. Bookseller Inventory # 008535

Salmon Nation takes general readers behind the headlines into the company of six knowledgeable guides to a deeper understanding of the most celebrated fish of western North America. Thoughtful essays by Native American writer Elizabeth Woody, fisheries biologist Jim Uchatowich, journalist Richard Manning, former commercial fisherman Freeman House, and writer Seth Zuckerman trace the relationship between people and salmon from the days of abundance that sustained Northwest Coast native cultures to the troubled world of salmon today.

"Richard Manning reports on this emerging Green Revolution, pioneering the fruit of agricultural projects under way in Ethiopia, Uganda, Zimbabwe, China, India, Mexico, Peru, and Chile. By placing their stories in social and political context and bringing in the voices of scientists, farmers, and ordinary citizens, Manning creates a mosaic portrait of where our next meals are coming from and presents some surprising and controversial solutions to our most pressing environmental problem." - Alibris.com

"This book is about an idea that rests at the junction of what we call wilderness and civilization. Simply, it is a call for rethinking, and more importantly, reconstructing, our relationship with nature" from Inside Passage. Protecting land in parks safe from human encroachment has been a primary strategy of conservationists for the past century and a half. Yet drawing lines around an area and calling it wilderness does little to solve larger environmental problems. As author Richard Manning puts it in a knowingly provocative way: "Wilderness designation is not a victory, but acknowledgement of defeat" -Alibris.com

"The past, present, and future story of the Western and Midwestern grasslands -40% of our country- and of our own place in this land. In addressing one of today's hottest environmental topics, award-winning journalist Manning shows how the grass is not only our last connection to the natural world but a vital link to our own prehistoric roots." - Alibris.com

"It is a measure of the confusion of our times that the simplest words tease out the most complicated questions. Words like good and house. What do we mean by these? A year of my life turned on this question, a year in which I built my own house.' These thoughts launch us into Richard Manning's powerful and compelling account of his building an environmentally conscious house on a thirty-eight acre piece of land in the wilds of western Montana. Concerned about our culture's disregard for the environment, and facing his own mid-life crisis, Richard Manning decided to rebuild what he could..." - Alibris.com

"A riveting expose of environmental pillage and a lone journalist's struggle to keep faith. In 1988, Richard Manning, a reporter for the Montana Missoulian, blew the whistle on two out-of-state logging companies that had clear-cut a swath the size of Delaware through the forests of the Northern Rockies. Manning's articles won his paper an award, but cost him his job. This courageous book is his story as well as a report on the destruction of America's woodlands and its cover-up." -

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Richard Manning received the first Richard J. Margolis Award for a lyrical account of his experience building a log cabin with his wife in the Montana wilderness, work that later appeared in his second book, *A Good House* (Grove Press). He has continued to write regularly about the social, political and environmental threats to America's West, winning numerous awards along the way, including the Montana Audubon Society Award for environmental reporting, the John S. Knight Fellowship from Stanford University and the C.B. Blethen Award (3 times) for investigative journalism.

As a reporter who had investigated environmental issues involving logging and other land-use issues, Richard Manning had become increasingly aware that there are enormous consequences resulting from the way people live their lives. Recently remarried and anxious to restart his life, he began feeling the urge to build a home where he could center his relationship with his new wife and bond with his son from his first marriage. From the start of his planning, he kept in mind the idea that he could build better with less. Manning wanted his house to have as little negative impact on the environment as possible. When it came to cutting down trees, the fewer the better. To reduce the expense of heating a house in the long Montana winter, he chose an earth-shelter design. Using the natural insulating properties of the earth, his house would be sheltered by a warmer medium which would make it easier to heat in cold weather. In summer the house would stay cooler.

A GOOD HOUSE is not a how-to book in the strictest sense. There are no detailed blueprints or itemized lists of construction costs. Still, the book does cover chapter by chapter the various stages involved in building the house. There are frustrating encounters with the bureaucracy in getting building permits approved and a fascinating look at how a water-witch located water on Manning's property.

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