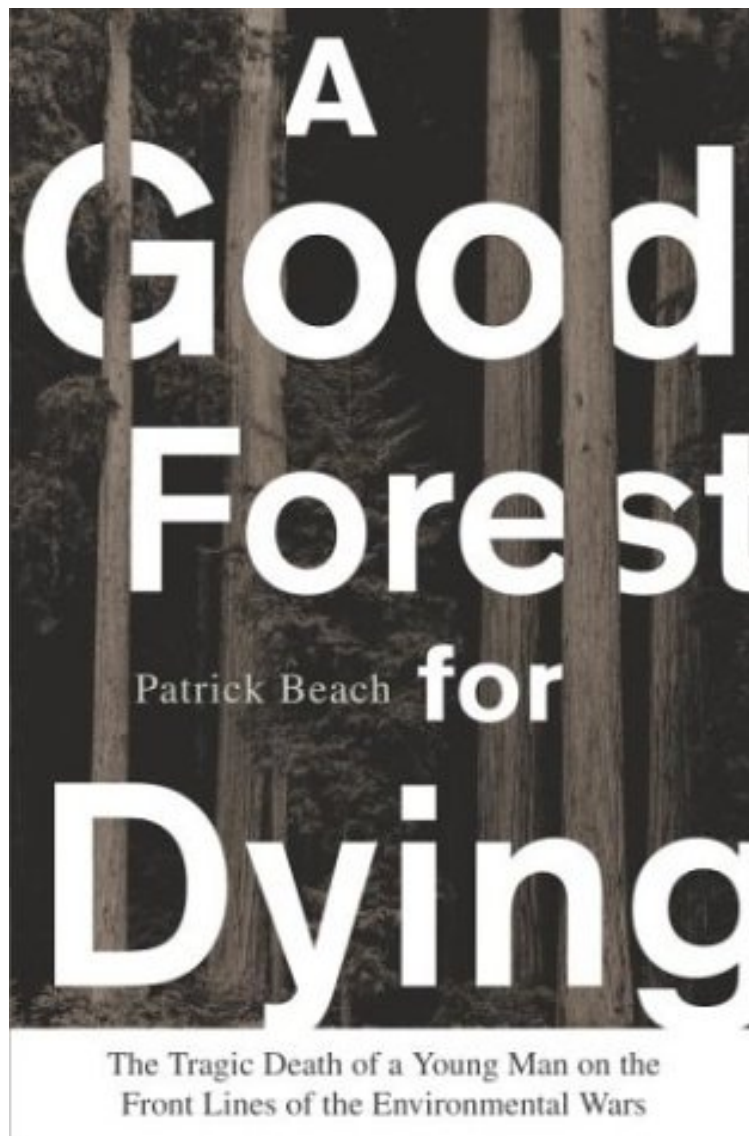


(Mobile ebook) A Good Forest for Dying: The Tragic Death of a Young Man on the Front Lines of the Environmental Wars

A Good Forest for Dying: The Tragic Death of a Young Man on the Front Lines of the Environmental Wars

Patrick Beach

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Patrick Beach : A Good Forest for Dying: The Tragic Death of a Young Man on the Front Lines of the Environmental Wars before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Good Forest for Dying: The Tragic Death of a Young Man on the Front Lines of the Environmental Wars:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A must read!By outleft in NVThis book is incredibly well written,

allowing the reader a look at both sides of this controversial subject. I purchased read the book because of my friendship with the mother of this young man. As I began reading the book I was immediately touched by the author's unbiased honesty and ability to portray both sides as human, not evil. Nathan "Gypsy" Chain, was someone's only son who was driven by a passion to protect what was sacred to him. He gave his life for this and still today fuels many to continue the quest to save the old growth trees. Patrick Beach exposes the greed driven corporation which made it's own rules resulting in the untimely death of a courageous young man. He reveals with unbiased clarity how men women are driven to protect what they believe in. Whether that is the protection of these magnificent centuries old trees or their way of making a living and feeding their children. I simply say, read this book and have your own journey unfold before you. You will not be sorry and will be forever touched by it. 23 of 24 people found the following review helpful. Amazing Life Lessons - A History Unfolds By cindy allsbrooks Many of us live our lives without knowledge of what goes on around us. Truly I was unaware of the struggle to save California's old growth redwood forest until my son, David Nathan Chain died in that war. It is often referred to as the "Timber Wars". We all just assume that our magnificent old redwoods are protected. Many of us also assume that people with corporate power will make good decisions for the welfare of our communities. We live in a time that mandates our interest in what is takes place in our country. If we don't, what will we leave our children? This book was a complex story to tell. It is documented history of actual events where the human side is exposed for it's good and it's bad. Pat Beach has my utmost respect for telling it from all sides and making it a brilliant piece of journalism. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Riveting By Csar Chvez Patrick Beach spent 6 years researching this book, pouring over legal documents, conducting interviews, etc... But instead of a dry recitation of the facts, Beach tells a fascinating and engaging story, more interesting to read than the best of fiction. Highly recommended.

Early on a September morning in 1998, David Gypsy Chain and eight fellow Earth First! activists went into the redwood forests of Scotia, California. Their loosely organized plan to protest the destruction caused by the logging industry almost immediately turned farcically tragic. A. E. Ammons, a logger for Pacific Lumber, confronted the group, threatening them in an obscenity-ridden diatribe: if they didn't leave "I'll make sure I got a tree comin' this way!" The group retreated, moving deeper into the wilderness. A short time later, just as they were attempting to confront the logger yet again, Gypsy was dead, crushed to death by a tree Ammons felled. A GOOD FOREST FOR DYING traces the long history of bitter clashes between environmental concerns and economic interests in the American West and shows why these tensions came to a head in northern California in the 1990s. It tells the story of how Pacific Lumber, once an environmentally friendly, family-owned business, became part of a conglomerate whose business practices made it a ripe target for environmental activists. But A GOOD FOREST FOR DYING is also the story of Gypsy Chain, a troubled young man raised in a loving family. A social misfit in his small Texas hometown, he died in a faraway forest before he had a chance to come to terms with himself and his family. His mother never lost faith in her sometimes wayward, idealistic son. After his death, and helped by a team of shrewd, leftist lawyers, she mounted a fight for justice in the name of her son and the cause of saving the redwoods. A balanced, highly readable examination of complex, emotionally charged issues, A GOOD FOREST FOR DYING will appeal to a wide audience. Its insights into the inner workings of the radical environmental movement and its dissection of corporate greed and misdeeds are reminiscent of such provocative exposés as A Civil Action and Erin Brockovich. The story of Gypsy's strange odyssey and the disturbing circumstances of his death seen primarily through the eyes of his mother is as powerful and as moving as Jon Krakauer's classic Into the Wild.

From Publishers Weekly On a September day in 1998, David Nathan "Gypsy" Chain, an Earth First! activist, was killed on a mountain slope in the redwood forest of California. Earth First! cried murder, and celebrities like Bonnie Raitt joined in honoring Gypsy as a martyr slain by corporate greed. Pacific Lumber, which owned the land where Gypsy was protesting tree cutting, blamed the activists themselves. What really happened that day, and why was the event so polarizing? Beach, a writer for the Austin (Tex.) American-Statesman, has no simple answers. He explores the long history of the conflict, which encompasses not only a wide range of environmental beliefs and tactics but also the different viewpoints of loggers and corporate management. He describes the short life of Gypsy Chain, a sensitive but sometimes troubled young man who discovered, in the fight to save the redwoods, a transforming sense of purpose. And he reports the struggle of Gypsy's family and fellow activists to find justice through a seemingly hostile court system. Though Beach attempts fairness to all sides, his sense of moral outrage is never far from the surface and his rib-kicking prose takes no prisoners. Yet he switches viewpoints so quickly and so often it is difficult to determine which passages are in his own voice: does he really believe the loggers are "like the cowed inhabitants of a totalitarian state," for example? In the end he confesses to being a "raging moderate" on environmental issues, but also notes that "protest groups are... the living world's immunological response." A crucial point-but, the larger question of how to make future policy remains unexplored. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist Journalist Beach explains that by 1985 less than 4 percent of the magnificent old-growth redwood forests of Humboldt County, California, remained and that their harvester, Pacific Lumber, was nearly

somnolent. Enter businessman Charles Hurwitz, known as "Takeover Charlie" for his audacity, and his cohorts, the now infamous junk-bond outlaws, Michael Milken and Ivan Boesky. Hurwitz acquires Pacific Lumber and starts logging, and soon environmental activists are laying their lives on the line to save the ancient arboreal giants. And so an epic battle between hippies and loggers, Pacific Lumber, and the courts begins, culminating in the 1998 death of a 24-year-old protester named David Nathan Chain, who is killed by a falling tree after an enraged logger refuses to stop cutting. Beach retrieves this important, complex, and emotional story from already dusty legal and media files and brings it cogently and respectfully back to life via a compelling cast of real-life characters, convincingly arguing that the paradoxical and tragic battle over the redwoods constitutes a momentous stage in the long struggle for environmental preservation. Donna Seaman Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved "A GOOD FOREST FOR DYING is one of those rare masterworks that seamlessly blends grand stabs of American history with the unforgettable characters at the heart of a breathtaking story. This is a rich, important examination of mammoth twists and turns along the backbone of this nation -- and one man's harrowing, cautionary battle to find himself and find his country. Patrick Beach is a brilliant escort for this thrilling and cautionary journey deep inside the forest -- and deep into the soul of the United States of America. He writes with a naturalist's awe, an historian's authority and a storyteller's magic. He has created a work with the majesty and enduring power of the very forest itself." Bill Minutaglio, author of CITY ON FIRE and FIRST SON: GEORGE W. BUSH AND THE BUSH FAMILY DYNASTY "A rare combination of dispassionate reporting and thoroughly engaging story-telling. Accounts from the front in the environmental wars don't get any better than this." --H.W. Brands, author of THE AGE OF GOLD and THE FIRST AMERICAN and the forthcoming LONE STAR NATIONS She sat in her pickup and cried her makeup off. In the radiance of a thousand small, unforgettable images like this one, Patrick Beach illuminates the broken humanity of ordinary people trapped on both sides of a lethal logging confrontation. His copious reporting of their narrowing fate, discharged into a spare, but all-seeing narrative, elevates their powerlessness and suffering into an American fable for our times: symptomatic, cautionary, indispensable. --Ron Powers, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of TOM AND HUCK DON'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE, coauthor of FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS