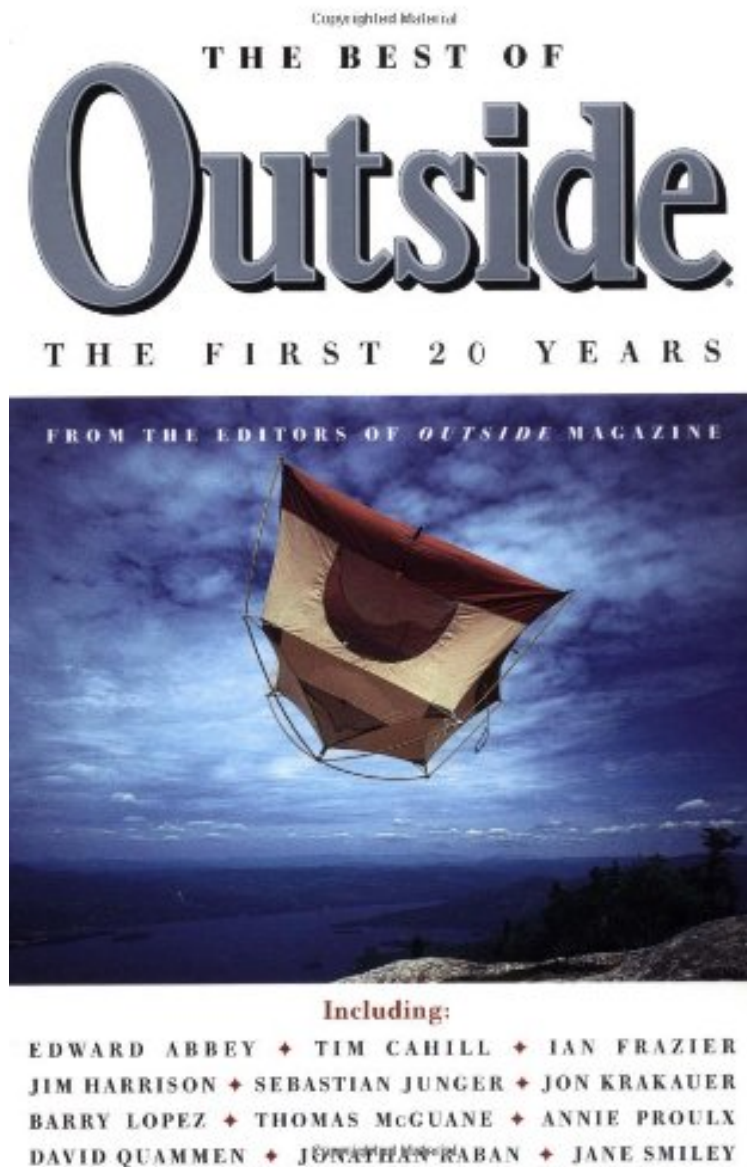


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The Best of Outside: The First 20 Years

Outside Magazine Editors

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The man-eating proclivities of Komodo dragons. The complicated art of being a cowgirl. A picaresque ramble with a merry band of tree-cleaners. The big-wave crusaders of the world's best surfers. For the past twenty years, Outside magazine has set the standard for original and engaging reports on travel, adventure, sports, and the environment. Along the way, many of America's best journalists and storytellers--including such writers as Jon Krakauer, Tim Cahill, E. Annie Proulx, Edward Abbey, Thomas McGuane, David Quammen, and Jane Smiley--have made the magazine a venue for some of their most compelling work. The Best of Outside represents the finest the award-winning magazine has to offer: thirty stories that range from high action to high comedy. Whether it's Jonathan Raban sailing the open sea, Susan Orlean celebrating Spain's first female bullfighter, or Jim Harrison taking the wheel on a cross-country road trip, each piece can be characterized in a word: unforgettable. Commemorating Outside magazine's twentieth anniversary, The Best of Outside is one of the most entertaining and provocative anthologies of the decade.

.com For two decades Outside magazine has remained committed to good writing, publishing feature articles from well-known authors on a variety of topics connected (in sometimes obscure yet fascinating ways) to the outdoors, adventure, travel, and just about anything else that happens beyond the confines of the mall. The most memorable of these pieces are collected in a single anthology, The Best of Outside: Tom McGuane offers compelling reasons to hunt; Jonathan Raban discusses life on the open ocean; Barry Lopez considers the graceful and beleaguered flocks of snow geese that once filled the skies. Also included are the original articles from Jon Krakauer and Sebastian Junger that would expand into their bestselling books Into Thin Air and The Perfect Storm, respectively. From Library Journal Celebrating 20 years in publication, the editors of Outside magazine glean here 31 of the best pieces that have appeared in its pages. This book glitters with the prose of writers such as Edward Abbey, Thomas McGuane, E. Annie Proulx, and Jane Smiley. Each essay concerns the writer's encounters and interactions with nature. Abbey shares a 1984 experience in the Alaskan wilderness in "The Last Pork Chop." Ian Frazier writes of how he and two friends pondered the problem of removing plastic bags from the tops of trees in New York City. Having devised a solution, they debagged the city and headed west for the Mississippi (where the floods of 1993 had left a devastating trail of debris in the treetops) and began their quest for "Keeping America's Trees Safe from Small Curd Bubble Wrap." Highly recommended for public libraries and academic libraries with browsing collections. Sandra Knowles, Univ. of South Carolina Sch. of Medicine Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc. "Throughout...[the book], we are forced to focus upon the moment and the way it's constantly moving away from us. The result is a tantalizingly transient piece of Americana and, in fact, the world".--San Francisco Examiner "An engagingly satisfying, thoughtful melange for all who ponder life beyond the confines of home and health."--Alice Joyce, Booklist From the Hardcover edition.