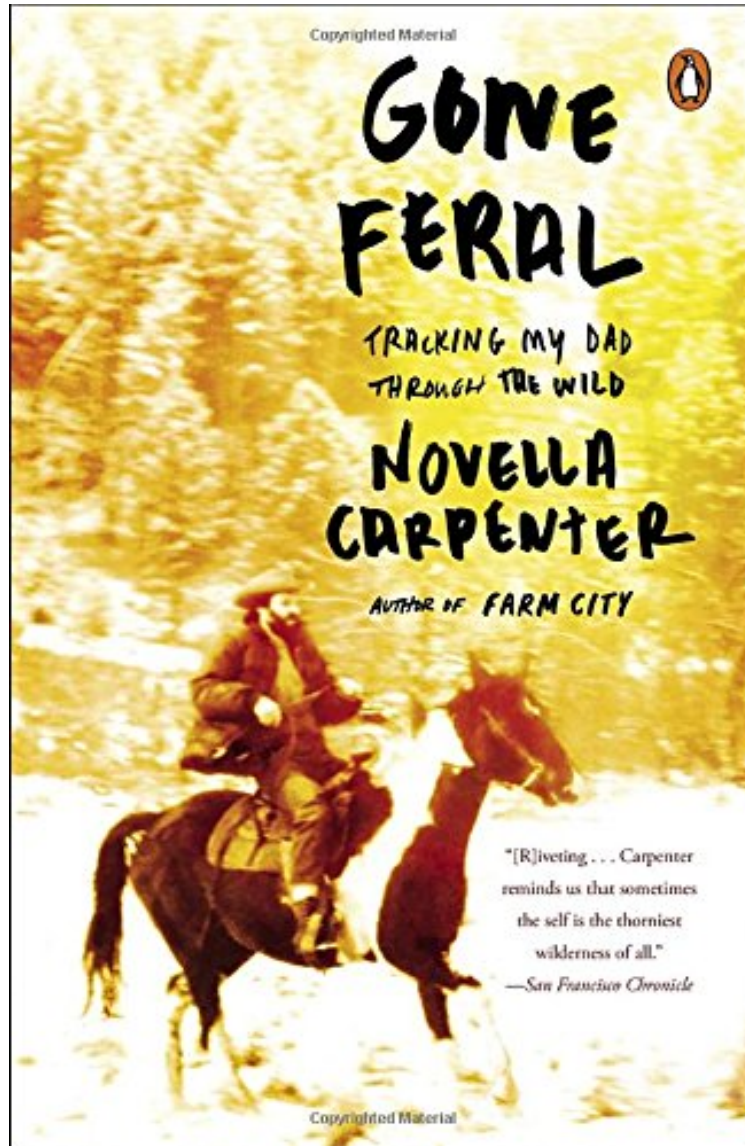


[Free read ebook] Gone Feral: Tracking My Dad Through the Wild

Gone Feral: Tracking My Dad Through the Wild

Novella Carpenter

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#1649006 in Books Carpenter Novella 2015-08-11 2015-08-11Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.20 x .40 x 5.00l, 1.00 #File Name: 014312742X224 pagesGone Feral Tracking My Dad Through the Wild | File size: 44.Mb

Novella Carpenter : Gone Feral: Tracking My Dad Through the Wild before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Gone Feral: Tracking My Dad Through the Wild:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This is (wonderfully) NOT your usual 1%-er memoir of daughterhoodBy Dean Miller"Gone Feral" is a great new departure for Carpenter, who is earning a place as an important voice of practical idealism about sustainability, in a genre fraught with a great deal of precious classism.If

you are interested in food, urban farming, urban pioneering, self-determination, humility, love or turkeys...(seriously) read her first book: "Farm City." Carpenter is an original and a fearless observer of herself and the world. Which is what makes this latest book so good. If you have a father or are a parent or sibling, you'll be drawn into the story of Novella growing up in her idiosyncratic - and archetypal - hippie family. This book expands her range, demonstrating sure handling of an emotional and personal story. (Disclaimer: Novella was the editor on my first book and later worked for me in a newsroom, so I'm not a perfectly independent reviewer. Also, I'm the editor she describes at one point in "Gone Feral". I don't remember it all the way she does, but memoir is not exactly journalism, so I won't belabor it.) 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Feeling misled. By Sylvia Archer I love a good adventure biography. I thought that was what I might be getting here. However, (spoiler alert), no one is ever really missing, except perhaps in an emotional sense, and no tracking other than a few phone calls takes place. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. It was an interesting story though it left me feeling very sad for the author's father. By Kathy Pratt I read this book for my book club. It was an interesting story though it left me feeling very sad for the author's father. I also found the author's choice of descriptive words a bit gross at times. Such as, "he hocked a big loogie". Really? Why do we need to know that?

Elizabeth Gilbert, author of *The Signature of All Things* and *Eat, Pray, Love* "I'm so glad Novella Carpenter has written this book... The resulting journey is both brave and honest." *San Francisco Chronicle* "[R]iveting... Carpenter reminds us that sometimes the self is the thorniest wilderness of all." Novella Carpenter picks up the phone one day to receive some disturbing news: her father has officially gone missing. Carpenter's father, George—a back-to-the-land homesteader and troubled Korean War veteran—has spent decades battling his inner demons while largely absenting himself from his children's lives. Though George is ultimately found, Carpenter is forced to confront the truth: her time with her dad—now seventy-three years old—is limited, and the moment to restore their relationship is now. *Gone Feral* is the story of Carpenter's search for her parents' broken past in the harsh wilds of Idaho. The story starts in San Miguel de Allende in 1969, where Carpenter's free-spirited parents meet and fall in love. Their whirlwind romance continues through Europe and ends on 180 acres near Idaho's Clearwater River. Carpenter and her sister are born into a free, roaming childhood, but soon the harsh reality of living on the land—loneliness, backbreaking labor—tears the family apart. Carpenter's mother packs the girls and heads for the straight life in Washington State while George remains on the ranch, tied to the land and his vision of freedom. In *Gone Feral*, Carpenter—now a grown woman leading an untraditional life, not unlike her parents', raising livestock and growing vegetables in the city—finds herself contemplating a family of her own. Before that can happen, she knows she has to return to Idaho to discover why her father chose this life of solitude. She quickly finds that George is not living the principled, romantic life she imagined, and the truth is more complicated—and dangerous—than anything she suspected. As she comes to know the real George, Carpenter looks to her own life and comes to recognize her father's legacy in their shared love of animals, of nature, and of the written word; their dangerous stubbornness and isolating independence. Finally, *Gone Feral* sees the birth of Carpenter's own daughter, an experience that teaches that a parent's love is itself a wild thing: unknowable, fierce, and ever changing. In reckoning with her past, Carpenter clears the road to her future. Raw, funny, unsentimental, alive with unforgettable characters and pitch-perfect dialogue, *Gone Feral* marks Carpenter's transformative passage from daughter to mother, a wry and rough tale of life lived on the margins and redemption between generations. Booklist "Spurred on by a desire to raise a family of her own and decipher the genetic code for either survival or destruction that she might be passing on, Carpenter performs a wild pas de deux with the cantankerous George, approaching him as one would a wild animal with no trust in humanity. Carpenter chronicles her daring quest for understanding and familial continuity in this sincere and remarkably uninhibited memoir."

From Booklist Like the offspring of so many of the hippie back-to-the-landers of the 1970s, Carpenter, herself an urban farmer (*Farm City*, 2009), and her sister received only minimal parental attention, which was further diminished when their parents split over the strain of free love and a lax work ethic. When her mother took the girls to Washington, leaving their father behind on a sprawling Idaho homestead, they never thought he would disappear from their lives. The phone call that comes nearly 30 years later saying that George, their now 73-year-old father, really has gone missing motivates Carpenter to try to find the man, literally and figuratively, whom her father became. Spurred on by a desire to raise a family of her own and decipher the genetic code for either survival or destruction that she might be passing on, Carpenter performs a wild pas de deux with the cantankerous George, approaching him as one would a wild animal with no trust in humanity. Carpenter chronicles her daring quest for understanding and familial continuity in this sincere and remarkably uninhibited memoir. --Carol Haggas *San Francisco Chronicle* "[R]iveting... a mission to reconcile the romantic image she has conjured of her absent father with the troubled man he truly is... Author of *Farm City: The Education of an Urban Farmer* and co-author of *The Essential Urban Farmer*, Carpenter captures her scrappy, resourceful life with vivid detail and candor. We see her riding her bike in a fake-fur hat to find leafy branches for her Nigerian Dwarf goats to eat; we see the sticky bee frames piled in the corner of her living room; we see her and her partner Bill wrestle with their longing to bring a child into their unconventional life. Carpenter brings

the reader so close, we can smell the chevre-like scent of her goat Milky Way's head, can feel the hot knife she presses to her skin after a bad breakup in her younger years... Carpenter reminds us that sometimes the self is the thorniest wilderness of all."Booklist"Spurred on by a desire to raise a family of her own and decipher the genetic code for either survival or destruction that she might be passing on, Carpenter performs a wild pas de deux with the cantankerous George, approaching him as one would a wild animal with no trust in humanity. Carpenter chronicles her daring quest for understanding and familial continuity in this sincere and remarkably uninhibited memoir."Elizabeth Gilbert, author of *The Signature of All Things* and *Eat, Pray, Love*"I'm so glad Novella Carpenter has written this book. It's gratifying to see a woman take on the question that has pulled at male authors for so long — namely, 'What am I to make of my old man?' In her efforts to answer that question (and to reconsider and reconcile her own complicated family history) Carpenter goes on nothing less than a vision quest, in search of answers from a particularly reticent and strange father. The resulting journey is both brave and honest. There is much to be learned here for all daughters — about acceptance, about redemption, about the distances we must go at times to find our own deepest familial truths."Jon Mooallem, author of *Wild Ones*"Novella Carpenter couldn't be more fun to hang out with on the page. *Gone Feral* is full of scruffiness and wit, melancholy and compassion. It's an extraordinary portrait of a father and daughter doing their best to be family."Kim Barnes, author of *In the Wilderness* and *In the Kingdom of Men*"Novella Carpenter is a delightful storyteller, and *Gone Feral* reads like a fable, full of wild and unknown things, including a trickster father, whose mountain man fantasies and failed dreams lead the author on her own sometimes hilarious, sometimes heartbreaking journey of discovery."About the AuthorNOVELLA CARPENTER is the author of the bestselling *Farm City: The Education of an Urban Farmer* and is the coauthor of *The Essential Urban Farmer*. She lives and farms in Oakland, California, with her partner, Billy, and their daughter, Francis.WWW.NOVELLACARPENTER.NET