



# A Voice Crying in the Wilderness

*Edward Abbey*

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## **A Voice Crying in the Wilderness** Edward Abbey

Finished two weeks before his death, and published posthumously, *A Voice Crying in the Wilderness* is a collection of aphorisms and common-sense wisdom filled with sarcastic, witty, and inspirational thoughts on the things Edward Abbey loved most, especially nature and freedom.

Abbey chose each passage himself from his own journals as well as from his previous writings. In his own words, some of the notes “may be unconscious plagiarisms from the great and dead (never steal from the living and mediocre).”

In Abbey’s own style—sometimes curmudgeonly, sometimes sarcastic, and often witty—he talks about nearly everything including politics, writing, sex, and sports. But as an uncompromising environmentalist, Abbey shines when talking about nature and the environment.

Abbey’s last wish was to be buried in an unmarked grave somewhere out in the vast desert he loved so much. *A Voice Crying in the Wilderness* is an enduring signal from that desert, through the words of one of the singular American thinkers of our times.

## **About the Author**

Edward Abbey was born in Home, Pennsylvania in 1927. In 1944, at the age of 17, Abbey set out to explore the American Southwest, bumming around the country by hitchhiking and hopping freight trains. It was during this time that Abbey developed a love of the desert, which would shape his life and his art for the next forty years. After a brief stint in the military, Abbey completed his education at the University of New Mexico and later, at the University of Edinburgh. He took employment as a park ranger and fire lookout at several different National Parks throughout his life, experiences from which he drew for his many books. Abbey died at his home in Oracle, Arizona in 1989.

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