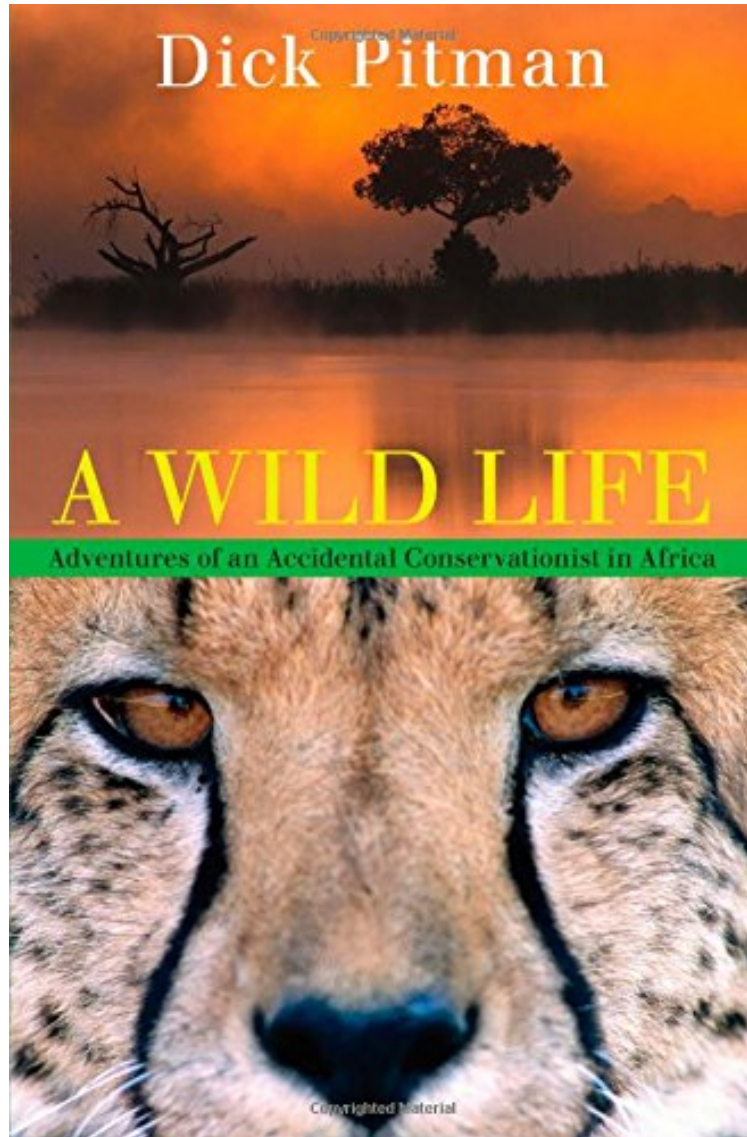


(Read free ebook) A Wild Life: Adventures of an Accidental Conservationist in Africa

## A Wild Life: Adventures of an Accidental Conservationist in Africa

*Dick Pitman*

*audiobook / \*ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC*



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#2227183 in Books Lyons Press 2008-04-01Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.00 x .81 x 5.25l, .66 #File Name: 1599213362304 pages | File size: 16.Mb

**Dick Pitman : A Wild Life: Adventures of an Accidental Conservationist in Africa** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Wild Life: Adventures of an Accidental Conservationist in Africa:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Saving the Wild in ZimbabweBy Linda BallouOr is it Life in the Wild? Dick Pitman has lived among the animals of in the remotest wilderness areas of Zimbabwe for nearly thirty years. He brings a realistic, refreshing perspective to why it is so difficult to conserve wildlife in Africa. Even though

corrupt officials syphon donor funds, and villagers are forced to poach to survive, there is progress, and there is hope in his world view. He describes with wry wit encounters of the wild kind that nearly cost him his life without complaint. He knows he has chosen his way to die. Doing what he loves, where he loves doing it. His efforts to re-establish cheetahs, that are considered pests by villagers, much like cattlemen in Montana view wolves, are successful. Collaring elephants and helping rangers cut poachers off at the pass has also been rewarded with recovering herds. He does not minimize the political problems that the people, and animals living in wilderness face, but he doesn't club you over the head with it either. Rather he tries to take you there with descriptive, clever writing that makes you appreciate the beauty of the wild places left in our world. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A reluctant review. By Lynda Whether or not you like this book will surely be based on what you're looking for when you pick it up. If you're interested in Africa, conservation -- and you have a VERY comfortable familiarity with British vocabulary/slang (presumably combined with African colloquialisms), then you will probably enjoy this book on multiple levels. For me, Mr. Pittman's style of speech was confusing -- only the second time I have ever had a problem with language in a book, especially one in English! I admittedly wanted to hear more focus on animals (as opposed to an overview of his perceptions of what was happening locally, politically, etc.) and this is what led to my overall dissatisfaction, since I didn't always follow his humor, couldn't always tell when he was joking or being sarcastic and felt a lot of confusion about where he actually stood on issues, all the while reminding myself of course that he was living during a difficult time in Africa, within complex pressures. I learned more from reading books written by native Africans of color about their experiences during those times (and still today) -- and about the animals themselves from other authors with a broader sense of humor. I think it's very telling that the other reviewers (with their glowing praises) are all people who have been to Africa and are familiar with it. They obviously respect Mr. Pitman's authenticity. Perhaps someday - when I make it to that beautiful continent - I'll be able to appreciate his work and experience more. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A tribute to the Zimbabwe's landscape and wildlife. By Diana M. Hawkins Dick Pitman, a British ex-patriot, stopped in Zimbabwe on his way to South Africa in 1977, when the country was still known as Rhodesia. While exploring national parks along the shores of Lake Kariba and the Zambezi River, he describes his personal transformation from tourist to wildlife conservationist. His stories of shepherding foreign tourists through the bush in search of game, and his efforts to save elephants, cheetahs, and black rhino, are filled with humor, passion, and heartbreak. This book is on my list of "keepers." Diana M. Hawkins, author of *Shadows along the Zambezi*.

This British ex-patriot moved to Zimbabwe in 1977, when it was still called Rhodesia. Pitman stumbled into saving wild animals almost by mistake. But his sense of humor, and love of animals, made him a perfect candidate for this fraught and sometimes frustrating mission. His tales from the bush and passion for wildlife and conservation are filled with humor and heartbreak saving elephants in Matusadona National Park, tracking black rhinos, saving cheetahs, and, perhaps most dangerous, introducing foreign tourists to African wildlife. This is a witty and hope-filled true story from a talented writer who is frequently in the news discussing the challenges of Zimbabwe's natural future.

From the Back Cover Dick Pitman was a British ex-patriot who moved to Zimbabwe in 1977, when it was still called Rhodesia. As the Zambezi Valley was threatened by development, Pitman stumbled his way into saving wild animals almost by mistake. But his sense of humor and love of animals made him a perfect candidate for this dangerous and sometimes frustrating mission. In *A Wild Life*, Pitman's tales from the bush mingle with poignant descriptions of the African landscape, and his conservation efforts are filled with both humor and heartbreak whether he's saving elephants in Matusadona National Park, tracking black rhinos, saving cheetahs, or, perhaps most dangerous of all, introducing foreign tourists to African wildlife.