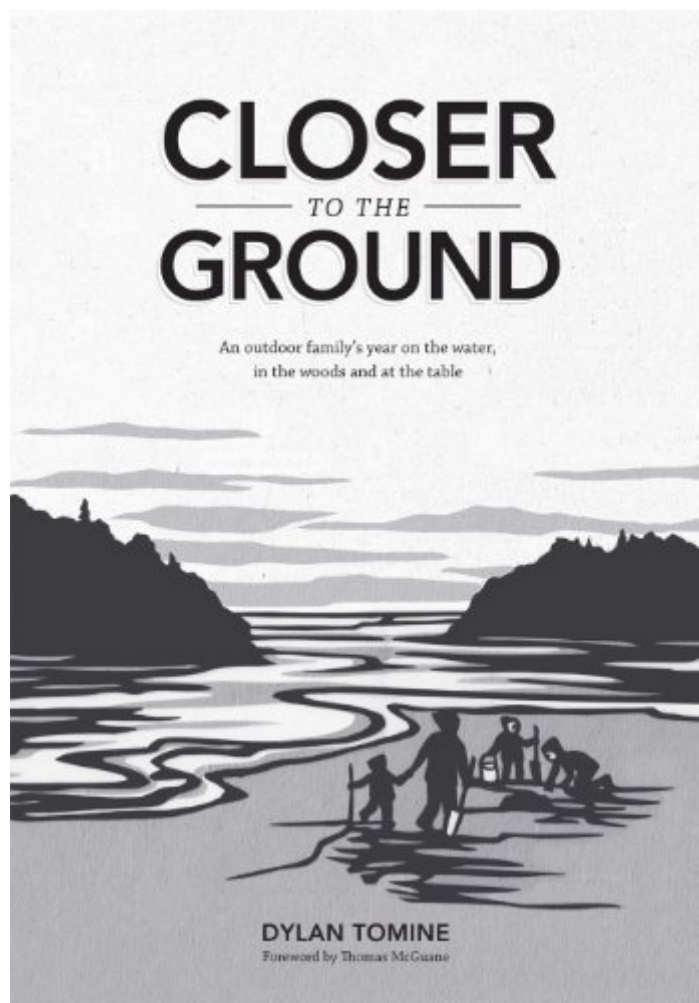


The book was found

Closer To The Ground



Synopsis

Closer to the Ground is the deeply personal story of a father learning to share his love of nature with his children, not through the indoor lens of words or pictures, but directly, palpably, by exploring the natural world as they forage, cook and eat from the woods and sea. With illustrations by Nikki McClure. This compelling, masterfully written tale follows Dylan Tomine and his family through four seasons as they hunt chanterelles, fish for salmon, dig clams and gather at the kitchen table, mouths watering, to enjoy the fruits of their labor. Closer to the Ground captures the beauty and surprise of the natural world "and the ways it teaches us how to live" with humor, gratitude and a nose for adventure as keen as a child's. It is a book filled with weather, natural history and many delicious meals.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Great book dealing with how we work and play and teach our children to respect, enjoy and eat from

the natural world that surrounds all of us. The book follows a family through the year, planning, preparing, eating and enjoying the bounty that is outside the door. We can't live in the Hood Canal of Puget Sound, but we all can explore and nurture what is in our own environment and how we can protect it from overuse but also reap its' benefits. As a gardener, the book sets an example on how to plan and grow for your family to maybe not be totally self-sufficient but to enjoy the flavor of home grown food which can be supplemented by food caught or foraged locally. The book has encouraged me to study more of what is available in the woods and rivers nearby

I adore this book. When I'm feeling rundown it inspires me and reminds me that the extra work of gardening, canning, raising hens, picking wild fruits, is all worth it. It reminds me why I love this way of life. It's a great pick me up. I've purchased multiple copies and have gifted them to family members and friends who have also been inspired. I really enjoyed this new paperback version with the photos, although I do love the cover of the hardback. Wonderful and enjoyable read!

Having had the benefit of being born in Hawaii and spending my formative and young adult years here and in Washington state, on Whidbey Island, I am grateful for the many outdoor activities and adventures our family experienced together. Like the Tomine family we enjoyed nature's beauty and bounty, fishing, gathering "ogo" seaweed to pickle in the summers on Oahu's west shore. Hiking in the Koolaus gathering strawberry guava, Lilikoi - passion fruit to make jellies and juice. On Whidbey we lived on a bluff near Oak Harbor, often walking down to the beach during low tides to dig for clams, scooped up smelt, picked and ate all kinds of berries, camped further north catching crabs and finding oysters too! Truly a wonderful way to grow up, I encourage others to enjoy too! Mahalo!

I recently moved to the Pacific Northwest and was looking for a great book that encompassed my goals and what I moved here for. This book caught me off guard. I was expecting a book on hunting, fishing and foraging in the vein of authors like Steven Rinella or Langdon Cook, but it was more than that. It was about family through and through and the adventures that Dylan Tomine and his family take you through are funny, heartwarming and just make you want to get out there and go fishing and enjoy the company of loved ones. It is what I would expect my father to write for a memoir, poignant and on the mark detailing the journey and that the goal is often the least remembered and that the path is the most cherished memory we have. This is an amazing book that shouldn't be passed up.

Raising our kids in Florida, we were hunter gatherers on and in the Gulf of Mexico for years. Mr. Tomine's stories bring happy nostalgic memories despite the very different locations and specific types of fishing and clamming. The current running throughout is one of enjoying family time, teaching self efficiency and the value of teamwork, and respecting/caring for our God given world in the process. Good stuff!

As a father of 2 young children, much like the author, I find myself trying constantly to simplify our lives and to teach my kids them to appreciate the world around them. Tomine's pragmatism isn't "preachy", but is instead a real model for how to teach our children to savor the amazing world around them. Trying to teach a 3 year old, dinosaur obsessed son how to fish is, as a goal, a recipe for disappointment (as I'm sure many fathers can attest). Instead, a smile and remembering that the goal is the journey itself as Tomine points out, makes it all worthwhile. Absolutely well done and a fantastic read...

Great book about family and working to teach/maintain a strong connection with the natural world and the fulfillment it can provide.

Perfect title for the book. Skillfully written in a way that fills one with a deeper appreciation of nature, food, family and basic values. In a leisurely way, though wonderful story telling, Dylan Tomine informs as he reveals a world filled with wonder, love and life.

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