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The Wilderness Warrior: Theodore Roosevelt and the Crusade for America

By Professor Douglas Brinkley

BRILLIANCE AUDIO, 2015. CD-Audio. Condition: New. Unabridged. Language: English . Brand New. Historian Douglas Brinkley draws on never-before-published materials to examine the life and achievements of our naturalist president. By setting aside more than 230 million acres of wild America for posterity between 1901 and 1909, Theodore Roosevelt made conservation a universal endeavor. This crusade for the American wilderness was perhaps the greatest U.S. presidential initiative between the Civil War and World War I. Tracing the role that nature played in Roosevelt's storied career, Brinkley brilliantly analyzes the influence that the works of John James Audubon and Charles Darwin had on the young man who would become our twenty-sixth president. He also profiles Roosevelt's incredible circle of naturalist friends, including the Catskills poet John Burroughs, Boone and Crockett Club cofounder George Bird Grinnell, and Sierra Club founder John Muir, among many others. He brings to life hilarious anecdotes of wild-pig hunting in Texas and badger saving in Kansas. Even the story of the teddy bear gets its definitive treatment. Destined to become a classic, this extraordinary and timeless biography offers a penetrating and colorful look at Roosevelt's naturalist achievements, a legacy now more important than ever. As...



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Reviews

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-- Izaiah Schowalter

Theodore Roosevelt, as shown in Douglas Brinkley's vast, energetic book, saw conservation as crucial to America's military and moral standing. The subtitle is telling "the crusade for America, not "wild America" because for Roosevelt, living forests and petrified forests, bird preserves and buffalo ranges were essential for the country's survival as a moral and military power. It all began, like so many conservationist journeys, with birds. When he was 12, the nearsighted boy received a pair of eyeglasses and discovered the beauty and abundance of avifauna. Roosevelt learned taxidermy from a man who had traveled with John James Audubon, and he came to feel a personal link to the great naturalist-artist. This crusade for the American wilderness was perhaps the greatest U.S. presidential initiative between the Civil War and World War I. Roosevelt's most important legacies led to the creation of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and passage of the Antiquities Act in 1906. His executive orders saved such treasures as Devils Tower, the Grand Canyon, and the Petrified Forest. By setting aside more than 230 million acres of wild America for posterity between 1901 and 1909, Theodore Roosevelt made conservation a universal endeavor. This crusade for the American wilderness was perhaps the greatest U.S. presidential initiative between the Civil War and World War I. Roosevelt's most important legacies led to the creation of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and passage of the Antiquities Act in 1906. His executive orders saved such treasures as Devils Tower, the Grand Canyon, and the Petrified Forest.