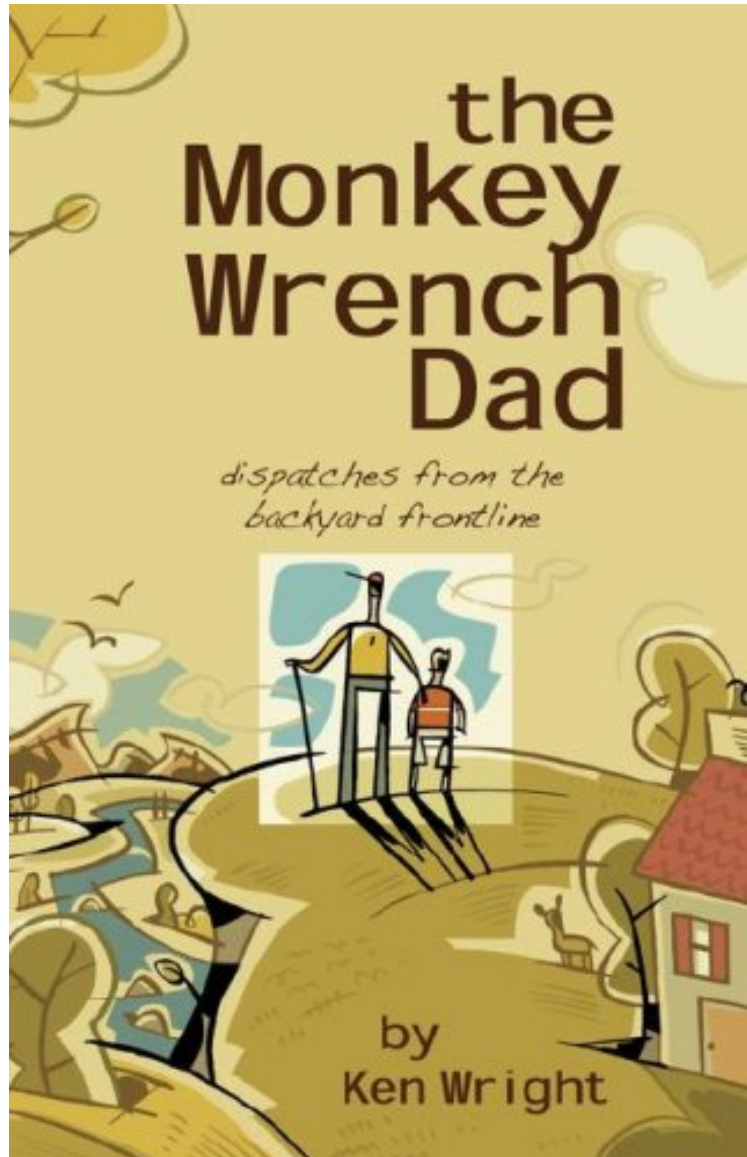


The Monkey Wrench Dad: Dispatches from the Backyard Frontline

Ken Wright

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



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#4559948 in Books 2008-05-06 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.50 x .55 x 5.511, .68 #File Name: 0981658407240 pages | File size: 56.Mb

Ken Wright : The Monkey Wrench Dad: Dispatches from the Backyard Frontline before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Monkey Wrench Dad: Dispatches from the Backyard Frontline:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Abbey LIVES ON!!By Josef JurkowitschPost Edward Abbey writer that shows that there isn't just a selfish reason to preserve and love the natural world; the love of your children!!2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Unique, vivid, edgy and thought-provokingBy C. GooldThis Pirate

Buddha, Eco-Trekkie, and Ed Abbey devotee offers unique and fascinating ways to reconcile life in the mainstream with an intense passion for the land: going barefoot, getting feral, finding new meanings for the term "monkey-wrenching" that also encompass passionate parenting and a commitment to "live well. Where we are. How we are. However things are. And not just for ourselves: but for our kids, and their kids, and for the earth that sustains us all now and then" as Wright outlines in his preface. Luckily for readers, Wright knows how to show, rather than tell his off-beat exploits, so that his essays bristle and flow and shimmer like the Southwestern landscape he loves. "It's a clear night, and warm, just the stars, the air," he writes in "The Discomfort Zone, narrating a moment shared sleeping outside with his son. "It's waking up in the earliest gray light, ravens croaking, then falling back asleep. It's water dripping from the blue spruce next to our house after a weak storm - more flash and fury than rain - rumbled through a little while ago. Webb wakes me to see if I want to go in, but I say, no. And he's psyched. We lie there together with drops on our face." But Wright's essays don't stop at showing. They have this way of starting one place, meandering along, and then circling tighter and tighter, until ... Swoop! He pounces with the essay's real center, its prey - its topic and point - whether he's talking about "Bumism" or "Pyrophilia" or "Eracism," or taking an upstream paddle up a local river on his 40th birthday and contemplating how to maintain a meaningful Pirate Buddha lifestyle. Ultimately, the heart and soul of this book is summed up in the Rumi quote included in the book's "Postface: "Let the beauty we love be what we do." Which is exactly what Wright does do in this collection of essays.

What happens to ski bums when they grow up? In his essay collection *The Monkey Wrench Dad*, Ken Wright provides his answer to this question. Wright has clearly avoided living the unexamined life that Socrates cautioned against, and his insights about his choices are sharp and witty. *The Monkey Wrench Dad*'s many fine essays offer plenty of insights for everyone who seeks to combine parenting with wilderness adventure.-- from *NewWest.net* * *
*Make no mistake, this isn't a how-to book on parenting. This is more of a where-to book on parenting that celebrates the places that have provoked the thoughts and responses Wright seeks to see in his children as they learn to explore and appreciate the natural world. It's in the exposure to the larger world, Wright argues -- the sandstone nooks and crannies or the alpine cirques and valleys where his children stop and stare and wonder at the amazing world around them -- that a younger generation will find the strength and wisdom they will need to face future challenges, including taking on the stewardship skills necessary to preserve those same unique places.-- from *The Durango Herald* * * *It's been over 30 years have passed since the publication of *The Monkey Wrench Gang*, and nearly 20 since its author, Edward Abbey, died. The generation of eco-warriors who were Abbey's contemporaries have passed on or are fading fast. In the '70s and '80s, a second generation, inspired by Abbey's books, took up the "monkey wrenching" cause and continued to resist wilderness exploitation. But this next generation are now in their middle years. Have they kept Abbey's flame of activism alive? Are they still a voice for wilderness preservation? Or have they turned their backs on the struggle and drifted into sedate, bourgeois lives? And perhaps most importantly, are they passing the cause along to their children? Ken Wright answers these questions in *The Monkey Wrench Dad*. As the title implies, Wright, like many activists from his generation, has managed to balance family and career with a continued defense of wilderness. And, yes, he is definitely bringing his children into the fold.-- from *Inside Outside Southwest*