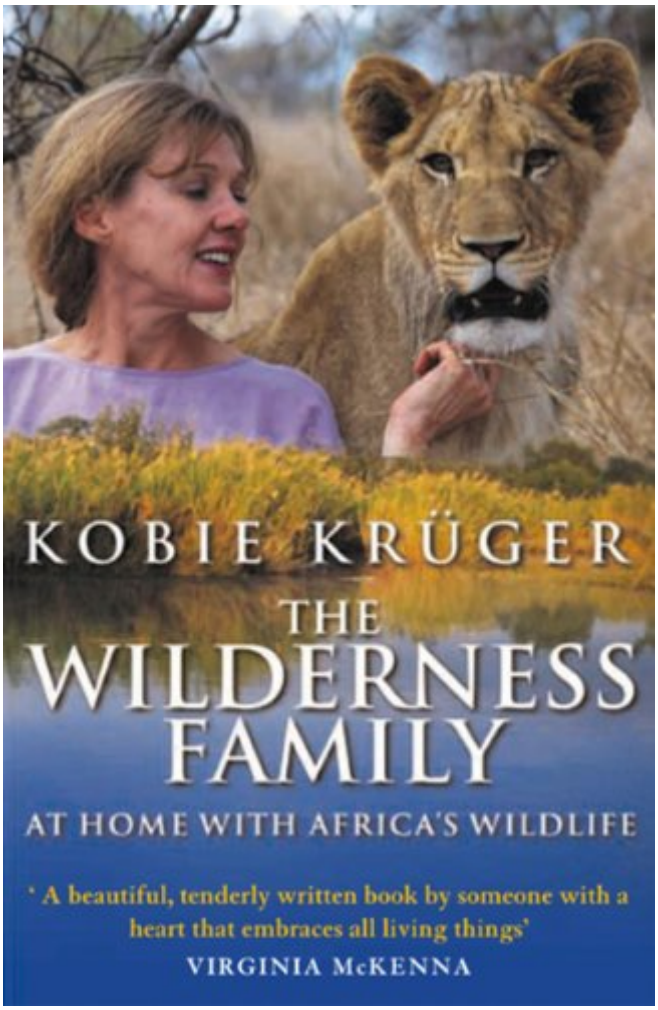
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The Wilderness Family



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Synopsis

When Kobie KrÃƒÂ ger, her game-ranger husband and their three young daughters moved to one of the most isolated corners of the world - a remote ranger station in the Mahlangeni region of South Africa’s vast Kruger National Park - she might have worried that she would become engulfed with loneliness and boredom. Yet, for Kobie and her family, the seventeen years spent in this spectacularly beautiful park proved to be the most magical - and occasionally the most hair-raising - of their lives.Kobie recounts their enchanting adventures and extraordinary experiences in this vast reserve - a place where, bathed in golden sunlight, hippos basked in the glittering waters of the Letaba River, storks and herons perched along the shoreline, and fruit bats hung in the sausage trees.But as the Krugers settled in, they discovered that not all was peace and harmony. They soon became accustomed to living with the unexpected: the sneaky hyenas who stole blankets and cooking pots, the sinister-looking pythons that slithered into the house, and the usually placid elephants who grew foul-tempered in the violent heat of the summer. And one terrible day, a lion attacked Kobus in the bush and nearly killed him.Yet nothing prepared the Krugers for their greatest adventure of all, the raising of an orphaned prince, a lion cub who, when they found him, was only a few days old and on the verge of death. Reared on a cocktail of love and bottles of fat-enriched milk, Leo soon became an affectionate, rambunctious and adored member of the fmaily. It is the rearing of this young king, and the hilarious endeavours to teach him to become a ’real’ lion who could survive with his own kind in the wild, that lie at the heart of this endearing memoir. It is a memoir of a magical place and time that can never be recaptured.

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Customer Reviews

An incredible story. I loved all the stories about this wilderness family, humans' and of other species. I believe it will touch the heart of anyone who loves life, nature and their families, even if they did not know or care about wildlife before.You see through Kobie's eyes the child like sweet nature of all creatures. I recently got a niece and I could relate to this months old baby the antics of the lion, rhinos and elephants.The pet lion cub, Leo's story got me so emotional I could not help crying. It was probably the most sentimental of all the stories. In other stories you learn too. What should you do when a rhino or buffalo charges at you. What should you do if a wild cat gets upset with you. What should you do not to annoy elephants.A very soulful book. I am contemplating visiting my sister in South Africa and going to Kruger park!

I loved this book. If you ever wanted to know what it is like to live in total isolation surrounded by intense, unforgiving nature read Kobie's story. Her husband is a ranger in the vast Kruger Park in South Africa and spends days and weeks away from home tending to the needs of the animals in the preserve. While, Mrs. Kruger fords a river filled with hostile hippos to take her children to school where they remain for the week. Then she goes back to tending her garden with classical music filling the air. The splendid solitude can only be imagined as we cannot know that in our modern world.She befriends and raises all sorts of animals, but falls in love with one particular lion. In fact, her infatuation with this cub is so intense it becomes dangerous to her and those around her. It is a beautiful and gripping memoir that captured me completely. I hope one day to know Kobie's world, if only as a tourist on the outside looking into her beautiful world.Lost Angel Walkabout: One Traveler's Tales

This book is well written, and along with the wonderful line drawings of the various animals talked about gives even someone who has never seen the animals an excellent idea of what she is discussing. She makes you feel like you are right there with her, experiencing the story. The story is

true, and the color photos in the middle of the book are a wonderful addition. We had visited parts of Kruger National Park, and so we could picture everything she mentioned, but that is not necessary to enjoy the book. Even my mother-in-law who has never set foot out of the US loved it. It has small chapters and can be read for a little time, or for a long time. I have given several as gifts and always had a favourable response.

I loved this book about living in Africa. It brought back happy memories of my own visit to that fascinating continent. Written with simplicity and joy this book will bring pleasure to any lover of animals, anyone with a love of Africa. Denise Nisbet

It’s an absolute must-read for families going to South Africa’s Kruger National Park. It was a book my husband and I both enjoyed reading and discussing before our trip. The only caveat is that, since it’s a combination of books/stories, sometimes the chronology jumps around. But it gives insight into a specific family and lifestyle among those in the wilderness, and the family’s experience in raising Leo is unforgettable.

Beautiful, beautiful story ! Amazing family and amazing woman (Kobie). I have read many Game Ranger’ books but this, written by the wife, is much more poetic. The description of the feelings made by a woman of such intellectual level cannot be matched by even the best wildlife storytellers.

This is a fantastic book. The author and her family is really quite passionate about living in wild and wild animals. The life story has been narrated very effectively and I recommend that every nature lover should read it.

I loved this book it has it all! Take a woman put her in the wilderness and surround her with men, children, dogs, horses elephants and more and see where you end up. This book was written by a woman who has a great sense of humor living in one of the harshest of environments. Raising a lion cub that grows to think he is a dog getting spit at by a cobra that lives in her garden,"I don’t think I would do much weeding". You will laugh at her as she introduces herself to her dentist because she doesn’t know who he is. Parting with the lion she raised as one of her own, you will laugh and cry but you will never forget this book.

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