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# Crown Of The Continent: The Wildest Rockies



## Synopsis

Far from the beaten path for many Americans, our northern Rocky Mountains feature two popular national parks, fertile ranch land, and some of the most unspoiled and intact landscapes in North America. This so-called Crown of the Continent is also the largest wildlife corridor in the Lower 48 and remains undivided by highways and cities. Photographer Steven Gnam's sumptuous and striking photos reveal the region in all its moods, bringing the rugged and lush landscapes, the big megafauna and small critters, the popular recreation and personal lives up close in vivid detail. His images will inspire pride in Crown residents and encourage visitors to dig deeper to create greater public awareness for this American treasure. Complementing Gnam's remarkable images is an essay by award-winning writer Douglas Chadwick, who explores the Crown's biodiversity, from wolverines and grizzly bears to marmots and stoneflies. Chadwick's essay shows that connecting key wildlands is not only critical, but achievable through community collaboration. Michael Jamison describes recent conservation successes to preserve the way of life in the Crown, while Karsten Heuer's epilogue encourages continued work to keep the region intact. Their message is hopeful: conservation groups, local governments, and native tribes in the Crown have begun to make wildlife a priority when considering new development. The Crown of the Continent is also a rare example of international cooperation to preserve a wild landscape. In 1932, Glacier National Park and Canada's Waterton Lakes National Park were joined together as Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park and designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The transboundary nature of the Crown of the Continent is one of the region's greatest assets, and both the United States and Canada are represented in the photos and essays of *The Wildest Rockies*.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Gnam's perspective goes deeper than the scenic wildlife portraiture of a coffee-table book - it serves to remind us why the Crown of the Continent is so special." -Â Flathead Beacon " 'Crown of the Continent' explores the wildest part of the Rockies, where these spectacular mountains truly come to life, through the lens of Steven Gnam and the thoughtful essays of writers who live and work in the region and deeply care about the Crown and its future." -Â Seattle Times "The Crown of the Continent just got a new jewel." -Â The Missoulian'...so we cross those international borders, and look at the unspoiled and intact landscapes...It's a beautiful coffee table book, with wonderful photographs to help celebrate'Â -Montana Public Radio" This is no simple coffee table eye bliss; it is a remarkable visual banquet and an intellectual stimulus. It truly sets a whole new standard for the genre and addresses the region's ecological foundation as successfully and intimately as it opens the visual splendor of the Crown."Â Â - Dr. William Conway, leading scientist and senior conservationist, Wildlife Conservation Society

Photographer Steven Gnam answered the call as a child of seven when his parents moved his citified family to the northwest corner of Montana and released him to explore the local environs: the eighteen million acre â œcrown of the continentâ • region where ice melt forms the headwaters to rivers reaching Hudson Bay, the Gulf of Mexico, and the Pacific. Gnamâ ™s playmates included grizzlies, wolves, mountain lions, and wolverinesâ •the most diverse collection of carnivores in North Americaâ •and his skill in capturing this majestic place with a pen and a telephoto is unsurpassed. (Foreword Book Reviews)

If it weren't for a few photos of the Bob Marshall Wilderness in a mid-'80s issue of National Geographic, Steven Gnam may never have discovered the Crown of the Continent. Those photos inspired his parents to relocate the family to Whitefish when Gnam was just an infant. And in a truly small world twist, Gnam wound up dedicating his professional life to capturing images of the very same vistas that prompted his family's migration. (Missoula Independent)

Crown of the Continent: The Wildest Rockies is designed to bring attention to, and create defenders and advocates for, places like the Flathead River and the Rocky Mountain Front. It is bracing, big-scale country, brilliantly conveyed by Gnamâ ™s photography as well as Chadwick and other chosen writers. Such country should never, ever become a sacrifice to the carbon economy. (Seattlepi.com)

This beautiful book highlights one of the most wild, rugged, and relatively intact landscapes in North America. With stunning, artistic photography and authentic stories of the diverse people and wildlife that share the Crown of the

Continent region of the Northern Rockies, it conveys a critical conservation message without getting bogged down in the overly preachy politics that often plague modern-day conservation narratives. Conversely, thumbing through the pages of this book left me energized and inspired. (Out There Monthly) A gorgeous book. (Great Falls Tribune) In his stunning homage to the expanse of Rocky Mountains between Missoula, Mont., and Banff in Alberta, Canada, photographer Steven Gnam captures an awe-inspiring region in all its seasons while locals offer essays on the importance of this exceptional geographic stretch and the need to increase wildlife corridors. (Shelf Awareness) â emphasizes peopleâs connections to land in a regal piece of wilderness (Alaska Airlines magazine) Crown of the Continent stands alone as a work of art, but Gnamâs goal for this project was also to take viewers deep into the regionâ via foot, skis, bike, and even snorkeling gear. (Mountain magazine)

Steven Gnam has been photographing wildlife, landscapes, and people in adventures across the western United States and Canada for the past 12 years. Most of his work focuses on celebrating and protecting the wild lands of the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific Northwest. His photographs have been used by conservation organizations across the West, including The Nature Conservancy, National Parks Conservation Association, and the Montana Wilderness Association.

This book contains some of the best landscape and nature photography I have ever seen. Extremely well printed and bound, it shows a part of the country that few people ever see. The accompanying text is interesting and informative, but the photography alone is worth the investment. Tack sharp, artistic in composition, and rich with color, these photos transport you to places few ever reach. Usually I find books like this have, at best, 50% 5 star photos. I have yet to find two images that I don't consider 5 star quality in Crown of the Continent. My one unfulfilled wish is that there was an accompanying "how to" book.

Sitting down and looking through a book is a rarity these days. If you long for the days when you can relax, have a cup of tea, and imagine you are elsewhere, then I highly recommend this book. The pictures are glorious (page 88) is my favorite!! I've been to the Rockies and these pictures take me there. I see them! I feel them! I smell them! I hear them!

I am so proud to have a grandson with the talent and fortitude to venture out in the true wilderness and capture the unique pictures that he has bundled into a thriller book. Steven's pictures give me a

sense of being right out there with him, taking in all the beauty and awe. If you wish to impress someone with a gift, I suggest this book is perfect. Once opened, it is hard to put down.

The photography is awesome to say the least. I do love Steven's assertion that none of the photos were taken from a plane as it would certainly fool me, but then you must consider this is from the perspective of a former teacher of mountaineering. The photos include some species I was not familiar with and you can certainly add to your geographic knowledge of a vast part of the Rockies.

This is a gorgeous book. I have given several as gifts and am delighted to have received one myself on my last birthday.

Terrific book for anyone who loves nature and Montana the way I do. Reasonably priced and I've ordered several for gifts.

It was a Christmas gift for my husband who had hiked the Colorado Trail. He loved it, said the photos were gorgeous!

Beautiful pictures! Love the book. I'm from Montana and I've had many friends look at it and enjoy looking through the pages.

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