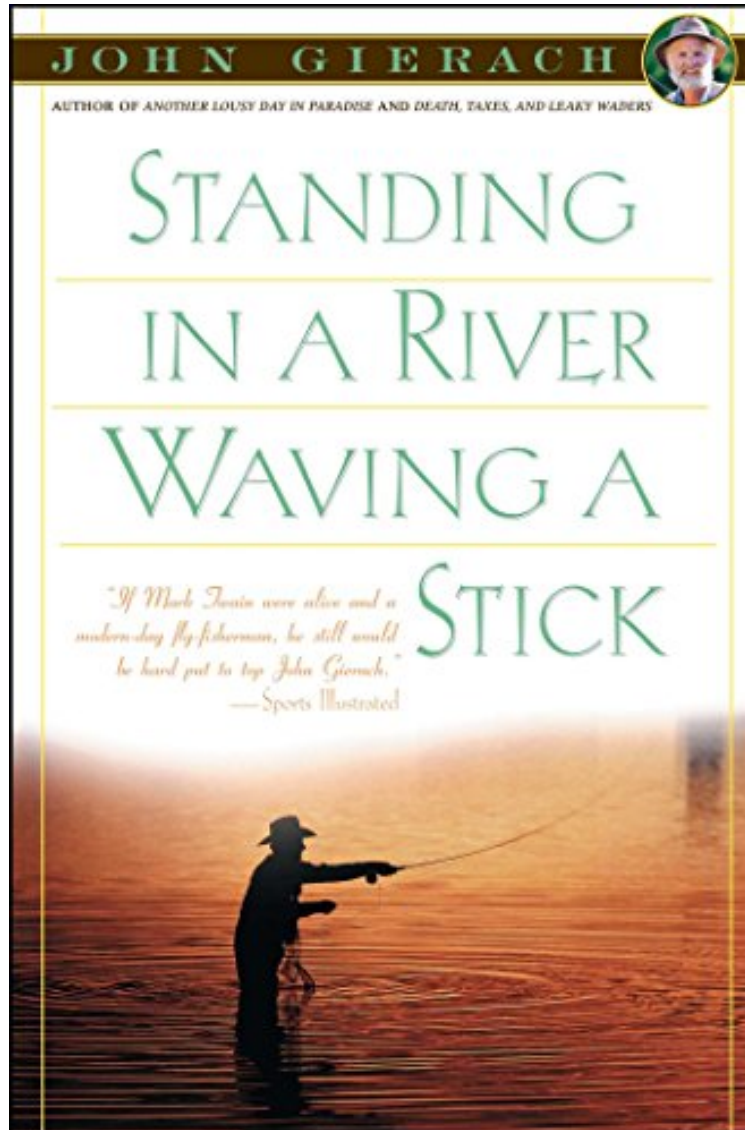


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Standing in a River Waving a Stick

John Gierach

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#276874 in Books John Gierach 2000-04-05 2000-04-05 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.44 x .70 x 5.50l, .51 #File Name: 0684863294240 pages Standing in a River Waving a Stick | File size: 52.Mb

John Gierach : Standing in a River Waving a Stick before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Standing in a River Waving a Stick:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Gierach is an author who relates to you as an angler By Gary Fedus This can be both good and bad. As someone who has struggled with the desire to spend time on rivers more than life's responsibilities allow, it can cause some personal struggles. On the other hand, it's just what the doctor would order to create a better balanced life. I know I'll never satiate my desire to be on a trout stream - at least for as long as I am working on a full time basis, have family demands and community commitments . It is inspiring to read about

someone who lives life simply enough to make spending time on the river (lake or pond) a priority, not knowing for sure why. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. ThiefBy Michael ellisJOHN you thieving bass turf, you plagiarized all my dreams so now I can just curl up with nothing to look forward to since you depicted all the beauty, mystery, challenges, excitement and sublime imagery for me. My only salvation is that you'll still be out there living the dream with that willow branch in your hand and feeding some fish for the rest of us. "Gone Fishing ... Again". Rock on John!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great read, great author- you will want to keep reading Gierach's books!By WhitneyBought this for my boyfriend who is an avid fisherman he LOVES this book. He is constantly reading me excerpts and they are really interesting and often make me laugh. He intends to buy many many more of John Gierach's books! He without hesitation gave this 5 stars and as a big reader I trusted his judgement :) Enjoy!

Brilliant, witty, perceptive essays about fly-fishing, the natural world, and life in general by the acknowledged master of fishing writers. With his inimitable combination of wit and wisdom, John Gierach once again celebrates the fly-fishing life in *Standing in a River Waving a Stick* and notes its benefits as a sport, philosophical pursuit, even therapy: "The solution to any problem—work, love, money, whatever—is to go fishing, and the worse the problem, the longer the trip should be." After all, fly-fishing does teach important life lessons, says Gierach—about solitude, patience, perspective, humor, and the sublime coffee break. Recounting both memorable fishing spots and memorable fish, Gierach discusses what makes a good fly pattern, the ethics of writing about undiscovered trout waters, the dread of getting skunked, and the camaraderie of fellow fishermen who can end almost any conversation with "Well, it's sort of like fishing, isn't it?" Reflecting on a lifetime of lessons learned at the end of a fly rod, Gierach concludes, "The one inscription you don't want carved on your tombstone is 'The Poor Son of a Bitch Didn't Fish Enough.'" Fortunately for Gierach fans, this is not likely to happen.

.com John Gierach, America's favorite trout bum and author of such wise and humorous collections as *Dances with Trout and Sex, Death, and Fly-Fishing*, sets this volume in motion by testing the waters of the philosophical stream: "Lately," he ponders, "I've been thinking about what makes a good fly-fisher, possibly the last fair question of the twentieth century that might actually have an answer." In searching for that answer, he naturally begins to spin his reels, firm in the belief that the solution to any question or problem is to go fishing, "and the worse the problem, the longer the trip should be." Of course, Gierach's life is one extended fishing trip, so he sets out for pools and streams from Montana and Michigan to British Columbia and his own Colorado, musing along the way on subsets of that last fair question like technique versus inner grace, the number of fish you actually catch, the stories you come home with, and the company you choose to cast your lot--and flies--with. As expected with Gierach, the essays of this spirited array are less answers in themselves than provocatively enjoyable journeys through a richly literate and detailed landscape of interesting bugs (the chapter called "Boatmen"), obsessions ("Getting Stuck"), local streams ("Taking It Personally"), and even a memorial service held off until the fish were biting ("Jordan River"). In the end, Gierach is left where he began, "certain that on the day I become a truly sublime fly-fisher, all my failings will be overshadowed and all my demons will swim under rocks and stay there until I go away." Until that day comes, he'll just have to take solace from the way he continues to hook us pleurably on the natural resources of his own prose. --Jeff Silverman
From Publishers Weekly
Everything from bears to the mysterious ways of ornery trout comes under the attention of Gierach in this lighthearted collection of essays, which is less concerned with the craft of fly-fishing than with the gestalt. Gierach (*Another Lousy Day in Paradise*, etc.) does hold forth on tying flies, watching bugs and other aspects of the fisherman's art, particularly the equipment. Fly-fishing in remote areas calls for packing such necessities as an emergency fire-starting kit, a sweater and a coffeepot. For Gierach, fishing in the backcountry often leads "to excuses to stage an elaborate coffee break in a stunningly beautiful place miles from the nearest road, which makes the coffeepot as crucial as the fly rod." He is at his most interesting and interested when he turns into a riverbank philosopher. In the end, getting the fly to the fish may be a goal but not necessarily the essence of fishing, notes Gierach, who admits that he prefers to eat wild red meat and fowl. Even though fish is brain food "and I could use the help." Readers won't find Gierach's favorite streams and ponds (he deliberately doesn't tell) or how to tie a #20 Olive Parachute, but they will get a folksy earful on how fishing is similar to the way a dog follows its master "with nothing much in mind except to see what's gonna happen next." Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.
From Library Journal
Gierach is the favorite author of many fly fishers, and even of some nonanglers who just like his sense of humor. His earlier books include the very entertaining *Dances with Trout* (LJ 4/1/94) and *Sex, Death, and Fly-Fishing* (LJ 5/15/90), and this is another fine collection of amusing essays mostly about the fun and frustration found in fishing with a fly rod. He and his companions like to spend most of their spare time in or alongside a body of water mulling tactical options for hooking (and then releasing) large trout, but they seldom take themselves too seriously? it's just fishing, after all. Nonetheless, Gierach's pithy observations and musings about nature (including human) will delight readers nodding in agreement at the wisdom that lurks behind Gierach's seemingly offhand prose. Highly

recommended.?Will Hepfer, SUNY at Buffalo Libs.Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.