

The Lost Wolves Of Japan

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Shields' Magazine
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Folk-lore in the Old Testament
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many japanese once revered the wolf as oguchi no magami or large mouthed pure god but as japan began its modern transformation wolves lost their otherworldly status and became noxious animals that needed to be killed by 1905 they had disappeared from the country in this spirited and absorbing narrative brett walker takes a deep look at the scientific cultural and environmental dimensions of wolf extinction in japan and tracks changing attitudes toward nature through japan s long history grain farmers once worshiped wolves at shrines and left food offerings near their dens beseeching the elusive canine to protect their crops from the sharp hooves and voracious appetites of wild boars and deer talismans and charms adorned with images of wolves protected against fire disease and other calamities and brought fertility to agrarian communities and to couples hoping to have children the ainu people believed that they were born from the union of a wolflike creature and a

goddess in the eighteenth century wolves were seen as rabid man killers in many parts of japan highly ritualized wolf hunts were instigated to cleanse the landscape of what many considered as demons by the nineteenth century however the destruction of wolves had become decidedly unceremonious as seen on the island of hokkaido through poisoning hired hunters and a bounty system one of the archipelago s largest carnivores was systematically erased the story of wolf extinction exposes the underside of japan s modernization certain wolf scientists still camp out in japan to listen for any trace of the elusive canines the quiet they experience reminds us of the profound silence that awaits all humanity when as the japanese priest kenko taught almost seven centuries ago we look on fellow sentient creatures without feeling compassion

wolf land traces the lives of the wolves that once called britain and ireland home beginning with the ice age each chapter considers a key period in the history of wolves on these islands describing the landscapes they traversed their relationship with the ever growing human population and the ways in which humans weaved wolves throughout every aspect of their cultural lives from literature and art to religion and politics building on this history wolf land concludes by reflecting on the parts of this story yet to be written asking whether wolves could once again make britain and ireland their home there is no better time for understanding the complex multifaceted ecology of wolves in britain and ireland calls for widespread nature restoration and the reintroduction of apex predators necessitate a thorough understanding of the history of this animal as well as the reasons why the species ultimately disappeared only by thoroughly comprehending the past can we hope to forge a future that involves wolves elizabeth marshall is an expert in historical and literary research with extensive knowledge of wolf ethology ecology and reintroduction passionate about critically examining and tracing historical sources elizabeth separates fact from the ubiquitous fiction associated with these animals wolf land is a book for not only wolf lovers and natural and cultural history enthusiasts but also for those interested in rewilding reintroduction and the complex yet fascinating relationship between nature and culture

fifth book in the series

andie s winter adventure takes an unexpected turn when he stumbles upon a mysterious pack of wolves frozen in time hidden deep within the snowy forest these wolves are the ancient guardians of winter protectors of a powerful magic that controls the seasons as andie uncovers their secret he learns that dark forces led by the winter sorceress threaten to unbalance nature and plunge the world into eternal cold with the wolves help andie must navigate treacherous trials battle the sorceress s minions and restore harmony to the seasons before winter s magic is lost forever

challenges many of the fundamental assumptions that have shaped contemporary scholarship on japan engaging from different perspectives questions of economic growth isolation from and interaction with the outside world the tools of conquest and

empire and the character of modernity

muskox and caribou discussed with other species

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