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The Lion Hunter, In The Days When All Of South Africa Was Virgin Hunting Field



WAXKEEP PUBLISHING

RONALEYN GORDON-CUMMING

THE LION HUNTER, IN THE DAYS WHEN ALL OF SOUTH AFRICA WAS VIRGIN HUNTING FIELD



Synopsis

The Lion Hunter is a description of hunting in South Africa in the early 19th century. A table of contents is included.

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Customer Reviews

This book is filled with page after page of hunting and killing, so if you are anti-hunting do yourself a favor and don't read it. I hunt a lot and I had to think back to what it was like back in the 1880s and 1890s, when the hunters shot a lot of game to sell the hides, teeth and tusks to pay for their safari. Back then game was unlimited and no one thought the great herds would ever depleted. Thankfully strict game laws were established and controlled hunting has kept the herds at sustainable levels. The only blights on that picture are the on going civil wars and poaching. The rebels kill elephants and sell the ivory to fund their activities. Getting back to the book, if you'd like to experience what hunting was like in the days of vast herds of game this will take you that trip.

An incredible story with unbelievable hardships. Hunting expectations & outcomes beyond belief from today's viewpoint. Nearly every second animal lost, wounded because old fashioned black powder elephant guns frequently take 20 to 35 shots to kill one elephant and some times 3 to 5

shots just to kill an antelope.

The subtitle says a lot about this book, much of it recounts what I can only call wanton slaughter. He wounds an animal but doesn't always bother to follow it up, others he kills when he seems to already have a sufficiency for his needs. The writing is lacking in excitement, even thrilling encounters are put in blah, straightforward language with Victorian phrasing & sentence structure which can be dreary to read. [Much like Sir Samuel Baker's accounts of his exploits] Neither of them is a Ruark or Capstick! Still, the price was reasonable so if the subject matter interests you, go for it.

Once the reader understands that this story is from a different ear, when hunters were not as conservation- oriented, and in fact, hunted for profit more than sport, the book is interesting, informative, and a good read.

Great story, although those with concerns about the killing of animals, and the treatment of 3rd world people should take a pass. As a "true to life" adventure in the late 1800's is a great tale of resourcefulness, and adventure.

A chilling insight into the Victorian Hunter's mind. Or lack of it. Cumming was merciless - heartless in fact. The narrative becomes a boring pageant of wildlife slaughter. But it is an important book for that reason. It illustrates just how prolific wildlife was in Southern Africa before the Victorians came and it reveals the horrifying extent of the slaughter. .James Clarke

Perhaps this book will resound with fellow hunters, but honestly, as an ordinary reader, it made me feel sick as practically on every page there is a description of animals being killed. What I especially didn't appreciate, was the fact that he wounded many, many animals that got away and maybe died days later in agony. I realize that it took place in the mid 18 hundreds, but boy, the amount of wild animals this hunter killed, is astronomical!

Although I'm a hunter and love history, I couldn't finish the book due to the descriptions of hunting practices of the day--having to shoot an elephant 41 times is a painful read (although I recognize that firearms weren't nearly effective then). The author just loves to kill things too much for my taste.

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