

You're Not Lost if You Can Still See the Truck

By Bill Heavey

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In two decades at *Field & Stream*, the nation's biggest outdoor magazine, Bill Heavey has become America's everyman outdoorsman. Why? Because he believes that enthusiasm trumps skill. When he forgets his hat on a freezing winter hunt, he improvises, cutting open the juice-stained plush golden retriever puppy his daughter left in the car and using it as headgear. Trying to impress a lady, he flips his canoe and loses everything in the boat. Heavey takes you along with him as he nearly freezes to death in the 30-below cold of Alaska, and he also survives a divorce, plans deer hunts around his duties as a single dad, and defies a back doctor who tells him his tree-stand days may be coming to an end. Throughout, he is alive to both the ridiculousness and poignancy of life.

Collecting more than sixty of Heavey's best stories from *Field & Stream*, the *Washington Post*, and the *Washingtonian*, this far-ranging and enlightening volume traces a life lived outdoors through the good, the bad, and the downright hilarious.

You're Not Lost if You Can Still See the Truck By Bill Heavey Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #205113 in Books
- Published on: 2015-12-18
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.20" h x .80" w x 5.40" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 288 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

“Bill Heavey is one of the best magazine writers in America. No, he doesn’t work for the *New Yorker*. He writes for *Field & Stream*, the popular journal for hunters and fishermen. Outdoor writing has a dim reputation as a soapbox for braggarts who crow about hooking a monster marlin or bagging a 24-point deer. But Mr. Heavey will have none of that. . . . Not since Jack London’s stories has the stark danger of freezing lived so largely on the page. . . . As the tongue-in-cheek title of Mr. Heavey’s collection suggests, this isn’t always or even usually a serious book. Think Erma Bombeck in camo gear, and you’ll get the sensibility of many of these pieces.”—*Wall Street Journal*

“A reader doesn’t have to hunt or fish to appreciate Heavey’s gift for storytelling. . . . The best essays, here, in fact, are heartbreakingly tender. . . . This is a hard book to classify, and that’s its biggest strength.”—*Christian Science Monitor*, “10 excellent books you might have missed in 2014”

“Remarkably engaging and often hilarious. . . . Even those who have never baited a hook, assembled a tree stand, or sat in a duck blind will quickly find themselves drawn into Heavey’s world with colorful—and occasionally dangerous—accounts of outdoor life.”—*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

“To the list of great *Field & Stream* essayists . . . add the name Bill Heavey. His writing is funny, poignant, acerbic, and best of all, always alert to the absurdities of life.”—**Patrick C. McManus**

“Bill Heavey is the man who put the ‘lure’ in failure. He’s my kind of fisherman, deer hunter, and wing shot. Which is to say the, um, very amateur kind. But who wants to hear about some braggart’s cast and blast triumphs when you can hear about Bill catching a 14-inch largemouth bass on a pink Shakespeare Ladies’ Spincast Combo? Even I have never done that. At least not sober.”—**P. J. O’Rourke**

“I’ve read Bill Heavey’s page since the earliest days of my career. He’s one of my all-time favorite writers. He’s funny, fearless and always up for anything. If he could fish as well as he writes, I’d be in trouble. Fortunately, he can’t.”—**Kevin VanDam, winningest professional bass angler of all time**

“[Heavey’s] self-deprecating tales make us laugh. . . . [He] writes about the good times as well as the demons of his outdoor life. Some chapters are for soul-searching, not just fun and games.”—*Cleveland Plain Dealer*

“Humorous and thought-provoking essays on what it means to be an outdoorsman. . . . Readers will sense that it’s possible to fail at your mission and still have a grand time if you don’t take yourself too seriously.”—*Kirkus Reviews*

“Bill Heavey isn’t just one of my favorite writers, though he is. He’s also one of my heroes, proof that you can make an adult living by being witty, insightful and spending an awful lot of time outdoors. That’s the dream, and it’s chronicled in this book. Buy three copies.”—**Tucker Carlson**

“If you think of Bill Heavey as ‘just’ a humorist, you’ll be selling him short, but it’s his intelligent, unforced humor that hits you first and stays with you the longest.”—**John Gierach, author of *At the Grave of the Unknown Fisherman and All Fishermen Are Liars***

“Bill Heavey is James Thurber in camouflage overalls, an unrelenting geyser of slapstick comedy and serrated wit. If he doesn’t make you laugh, consult a coroner.”—**Jonathan Miles, author of *Dear American Airlines***

“Heavey examines an eclectic variety of topics, from hunting to fishing to relationships and even life’s more profound mysteries. His perspective is that of a devoted, if not always expert, outdoorsman. If in doubt, he makes fun of himself. . . . Fellow outdoorspeople are the target audience, but the overall quality of the writing may draw even stay-at-homes.”—**Booklist**

“Bill Heavey has become famous as America’s everyman outdoorsman, unafraid to draw attention to his many and varied failures—from sporting French lavender deodorant to scaring a UPS man half to death while bowhunting in his front yard.”—**DL-Online**

From the Inside Flap

In two decades at *Field & Stream*, the nation's biggest outdoor magazine, Bill Heavey has become America's everyman outdoorsman.

Why? Because he believes that "hunting and fishing are too important and too much fun to be left to the experts." Because he believes that enthusiasm trumps skill. And because he was born with a skewed perspective and the inability to take anything--himself included--seriously.

When he forgets his hat on a freezing winter hunt he improvises, cutting open the juice-stained plush golden retriever puppy his daughter left in the car and using that as head-gear. Trying to impress a lady, he flips his canoe and loses everything in the boat. When ants invade his home, he arms himself with a caulk gun and--over the course of an epic battle-- develops a grudging respect for his enemy.

Heavey buys the ticket, takes the ride. And takes you along with him. He nearly freezes to death in 30-below cold after becoming lost while profiling a trapper in the Alaskan tundra. In Nicaragua, where he discovers an untapped tarpon paradise, he also finds beer that comes

"with a napkin over the mouth of the bottle and a straw poked through the napkin, the local version of bug armor." Throughout, he is alive both to the ridiculousness and poignancy of life.

You're Not Lost if You Can Still See the Truck collects more than sixty of Heavey's best stories from over two decades at *Field & Stream*, as well as work from the *Washington Post* and *Washingtonian*. Filled with Heavey's trademark wit and candor, *You're Not Lost if You Can Still See the Truck* is a far-ranging and enlightening read, tracing a life lived outdoors through the good, the bad, and the downright hilarious.

From the Back Cover

"Bill Heavey is the man who put the 'lure' in failure. He's my kind of fisherman, deer hunter, and wing shot. Which is to say the, um, very amateur kind. But who wants to hear about some braggart's cast and blast triumphs when you can hear about Bill catching a 14-inch largemouth bass on pink Shakespeare Ladies' Spincast Combo? Even I have never done that. At least not sober."--P. J. O'ROURKE

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--KEVIN VANDAM, winningest professional bass angler of all time

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--JOHN GIERACH, author of *At the Grave of the Unknown Fisherman* and *All Fishermen Are Liars*

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"The art of the story, a casualty of the era of Internet fixation, is a thing of beauty in Bill Heavey's voice."
--SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

"Bill Heavey is James Thurber in camouflage overalls, an unrelenting geyser of slapstick comedy and serrated wit. If he doesn't make you laugh, consult a coroner."
--JONATHAN MILES, author of *Dear American Airlines*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Donald McLaughlin:

Why don't make it to be your habit? Right now, try to ready your time to do the important act, like looking for your favorite publication and reading a reserve. Beside you can solve your problem; you can add your knowledge by the book entitled *You're Not Lost if You Can Still See the Truck*. Try to make the book *You're Not Lost if You Can Still See the Truck* as your good friend. It means that it can to be your friend when you experience alone and beside regarding course make you smarter than before. Yeah, it is very fortunated for you personally. The book makes you a lot more confidence because you can know every thing by the book. So , let me make new experience as well as knowledge with this book.

Beverly Harrison:

This book untitled *You're Not Lost if You Can Still See the Truck* to be one of several books this best seller in this year, here is because when you read this e-book you can get a lot of benefit upon it. You will easily to buy that book in the book shop or you can order it through online. The publisher of the book sells the e-book too. It makes you quickly to read this book, as you can read this book in your Cell phone. So there is no reason to your account to past this book from your list.

Robert Goddard:

Reading can called mind hangout, why? Because if you are reading a book particularly book entitled *You're Not Lost if You Can Still See the Truck* your thoughts will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in each aspect that maybe unknown for but surely might be your mind friends. Imaging each and every word written in a reserve then become one contact form conclusion and explanation in which maybe you never get just before. The *You're Not Lost if You Can Still See the Truck* giving you an additional experience more than blown away your brain but also giving you useful details for your better life within this era. So now let us present to you the relaxing pattern is your body and mind are going to be pleased when you are finished reading through it, like winning an activity. Do you want to try this extraordinary shelling out spare time activity?

Jack Jackson:

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