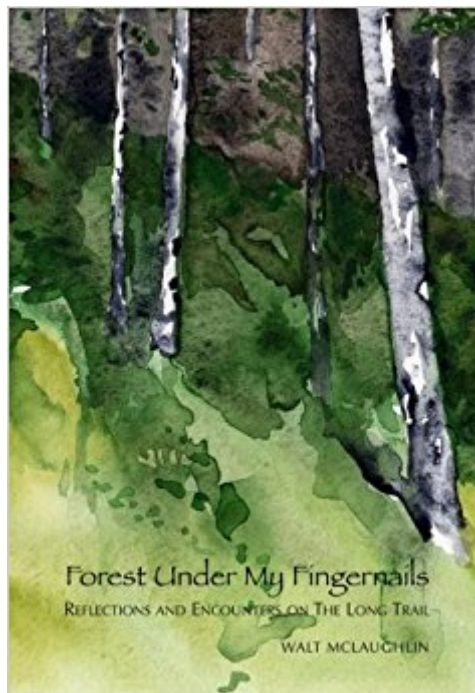




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Forest Under My Fingernails: Reflections And Encounters On The Long Trail



Synopsis

Forest Under My Fingernails is a beautifully written book about a 267 mile, 33 day backpacking trip. At different times gently introspective, humorous, and thought-provoking, this book explores the changes we go through as we gradually immerse ourselves in the deep woods, and the different rhythms we experience there. Walt's work is relatively unknown, but we regard him as one of the most eloquent nature authors and poets writing today.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 12 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,393,288 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #15 in [Books > Travel > United States > Vermont](#) #1665 in [Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Nature Writing & Essays](#) #5296 in [Books > Travel > Travel Writing](#)

Customer Reviews

Walt McLaughlin is an avid outdoorsman who has written extensively about his backcountry experiences. He has several books in print, including an account of his immersion in the Alaskan bush, *Arguing with the Wind*. His narrative about hiking in the Adirondacks, *The Allure of Deep Woods*, will be released by North Country Books in 2013. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

I read this book while hiking on the Long Trail, and it was a great companion for a rough part of the trail. McLaughlin's writing helped me focus my journey and go from mile-chugging to slowing down, really taking in the scenery and enjoying the journey immensely. I loved reading about places I had hiked through, and comparing my experience with the writer's. His approach at the beginning (fishing, napping, truly enjoying the trail) sadly gives way to a desire to do more miles and finish... maybe just for the sake of finishing? It's a very common experience on the trail, though, and McLaughlin captures the feelings perfectly. This is a great book if you are thinking about hiking in

Vermont, or if you just enjoy reading about hiking.

I am preparing for a through hike on the Long Trail this fall. This is the first "journal-style" book I've read about the Long Trail, but I really enjoyed it. If I had any quibbles with it at all, I wish it was longer, and that the author had told us more about the flora and fauna he saw along the way, and about his experiences as a GMC member and Long Trail lore. This is absolutely not a gear list or a substitute for the GMC's Long Trail Guide, but it does give a wonderful sense of what it's like to be on this trail. It also reminded me of several issues that need to be dealt with as I plan, like achy knees and uncertain water sources.

Good read. Makes me want to hike the Long Trail. As a social person, I wanted to learn more from other people and characters he met on the trail, yet he seemed more intent on hiding from them than learning about them. I liked the little side info on each area he was in. I'll probably buy another book from this writer.

I enjoyed McLaughlin's trek on the Long Trail through Vermont. His slow pace allows him to see the best that nature has to offer.

Excellent, love it. Great descriptions of the wilderness, nature, and the great outdoors and what he was going through during his hike. Recommended reading.

Helpful book in preparing to hike the trail. Descriptive and entertaining. Truly enjoyable. Can't wait to hike it this summer with my daughter and sister!

Personally I prefer writings that are more descriptive of what was seen along the way.

Like taking a walk in the woods with a friend. Much better writing than I typically find when picking up this type of book. Will definitely be reading another of Mr. McLaughlin's books!

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Northern Forest Canoe Trail Map 11, Moosehead/Penobscot Region:

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