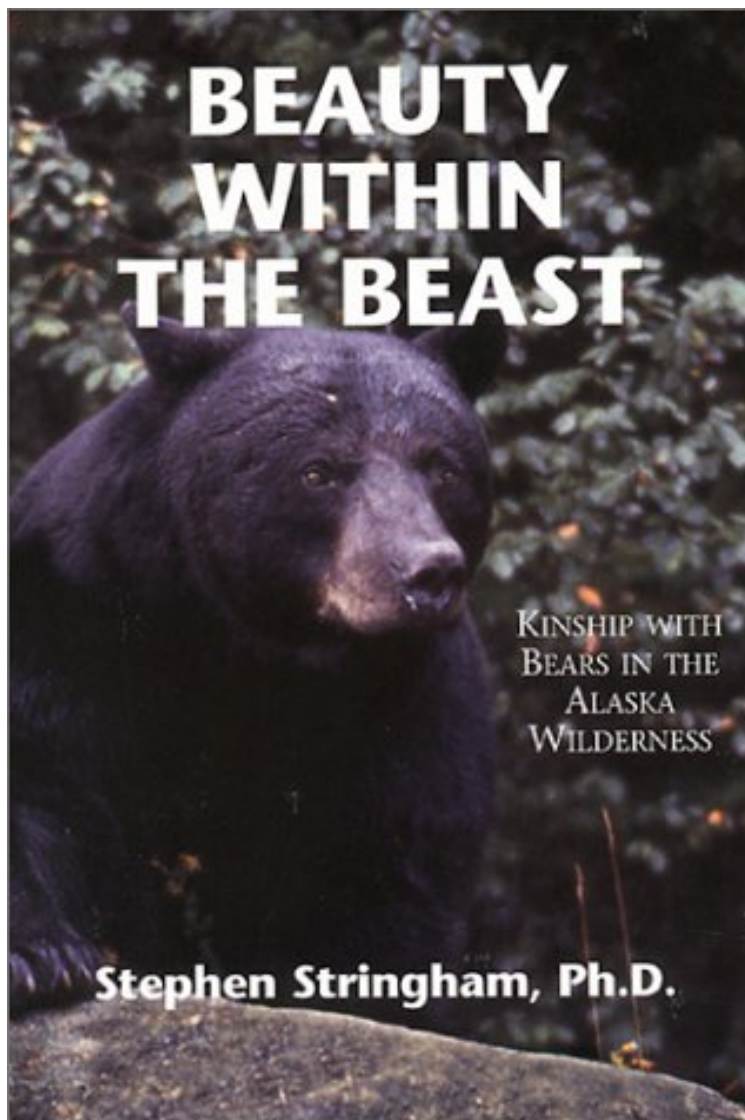


(Free) Beauty Within the Beast: Kinship with Bears in the Alaska Wilderness

## Beauty Within the Beast: Kinship with Bears in the Alaska Wilderness

*Stephen Stringham*

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**Stephen Stringham : Beauty Within the Beast: Kinship with Bears in the Alaska Wilderness** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Beauty Within the Beast: Kinship with Bears in the Alaska Wilderness:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Kathy DayExcellent book on bears0 of 5 people found the following review helpful. trashBy aljoSurprising someone would go to all the effort to write such a boring book.

He seemed to have his heart in it when he talks about the bears, but when it includes people, he loses it. I threw it in the trash where it belongs. I normally recycle everything. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Real Life Adventure By A Customer Few of us will ever have the opportunities that Dr. Stringham has had, to live intimately with wild animals on a daily basis and observe them close at hand. Dr. Stringham has written an enchanting and engaging account of raising three wild bear cubs in the Alaskan wilderness. Bears have been revealed as intelligent and adaptive creatures who occupy a unique niche in the American wilderness, comparable to the niche primates occupy in Africa. This book is exciting, highly readable and hard to put down. Dr. Stringham is not only a gifted wildlife biologist, but a gifted writer; his descriptions are beautiful. I love this book, as has every other person I know who has had the fortune to read it. Christine Nicolayeff

An innocent act of kindness turns a bear into a dangerous marauder and when she is killed she leaves her three cubs without a mother. Stephen Stringham and his new bride decided to raise these three orphan cubs in the Alaska wilderness. Together, they taught Ontak, Chrislee, and Jonjoanak about which plants they could eat and how to fish and hunt. Dr. Stringham's extensive scientific background made him an ideal teacher of the foraging skills and the social skills they would need to live in a bear's world. In the process of teaching them, Stringham learns from the cubs how bears express fear, anger, and how to appease defensive bears and intimidate the aggressive ones. He and his wife would develop trust and respect through their affection and play, helping to heal the cubs' emotional wounds and decrease their aggression and violence. As the Stringhams' bond with their furry charges deepens, they realize that it is a connection that is all too uncommon between people and animals. When Dr. Stringham is told by the Department of Fish and Game to destroy the bears, the depth of that bond would be tested. *Beauty Within the Beast* is a heartwarming true story of how people and animals can find common ground and live in harmony on earth.

From the Publisher An innocent act of kindness turns a mother bear into a dangerous marauder. When she is killed, Stephen Stringham and his new bride Alattanna decide to raise her three orphans. Deep in the Alaska wilderness, they help Ontak, Chrislee, and Jonjoanak learn which plants to eat, as well as how to fish and hunt. Dr. Stringham's extensive scientific background make him an ideal teacher of the foraging and social skills that cubs need for living in a bear's world. In the process of teaching them, Stringham learns from the cubs how bears express emotions and communicate, as well as how to appease defensive bears or intimidate aggressive ones. As the Stringham's bond with their furry charges deepens, they achieve a connection that is all too uncommon between people and animals. When Dr. Stringham is told by a government agency to destroy the cubs, the depth of that bond is tested. *Beauty Within the Beast* is a heartwarming true story of how people and animals can find common ground and live in harmony on earth. Chapters 1-7 tell how Steve and Alattanna ended up adopting the cubs and their experiences bonding with the youngsters as their fear of bears, and the cubs' fear of people, were gradually replaced with trust and affection. Chapters 8-13 tell how Steve and Alattanna helped the cubs master survival skills, while the cubs introduced their foster parents to a whole world of new insights into the nature of bears their aggression, communication, intelligence, curiosity, playfulness and affection. Where necessary, Dr. Stringham has fleshed out his narrative with knowledge acquired from his more recent studies of black and grizzly bear behavior which continue to this day. From the Inside Flap "Steve Stringham's *"Beauty Within the Beast"* is a captivating, entertaining, and edifying gem. We are treated to a wealth of information about bears served up as an often delightful, sometimes sobering tale of man and beast learning to live with each other. The challenges and adventures of three orphaned bear cubs and the man and woman who adopt them serve as backdrop for an amazing amount of factual information about bear ecology and management. No other book I know of offers such an entertaining and enlightening view of a bear's life." (David Mattson, Ph.D., a leading researcher on grizzly bears, Biological Resources Division, USGS.) "From personal experience, I know that raising bear cubs profoundly changes your life. This thought-provoking and elegantly written book captures the serendipitous events that lead to such encounters and the ensuing bittersweet adventures that reawaken and reaffirm our emotional kinship with other intelligent, but mysterious, beings." (Gordon Burghardt PhD, Professor of Psychology and Ethology, Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville. Pioneering researcher on the behavior of bears and reptiles.) "This is a precious book, and one difficult to put down once opened. Moreover, it has the elements for becoming a classic. It is not only a rich, authoritative source of bear behavior, but it mixes in the human element with humor and empathy, and confronts with courage and intelligence contentious issues in bear conservation. I have learned from this book and enjoyed it greatly. I recommend it highly! (Valerius Geist PhD, retired Professor and former Director of the Faculty of Environmental Design, Univ of Calgary. Pioneering researcher on moose, mountain goats and mountain sheep. Author of numerous technical and popular books on wildlife, beginning with *Mountain Sheep: A Study in Behavior and Evolution*.) About the Author Stephen Stringham, Ph.D. is an acknowledged expert on the population ecology and behavior of bears. He has been published widely in the scientific and popular press. He is currently working on a book about his experiences with grizzly bears. He lives in Alaska with his wife, Jackie.