



Fire Season: Field Notes from a Wilderness Lookout

Philip Connors

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'I've watched deer and elk frolic in the meadow below me, and pine trees explode in a blue ball of smoke. If there's a better job anywhere on the planet, I'd like to know what it is.' For nearly a decade, Philip Connors has spent half of each year in a small room at the top of a tower, on top of a mountain, alone in millions of acres of remote American wilderness. His job: to look for wildfires. Capturing the wonder and grandeur of this most unusual job and place, *Fire Season* evokes both the eerie pleasure of solitude and the majesty, might and beauty of untamed fire at its wildest. Connors' time up on the peak is filled with drama - there are fires large and small; spectacular midnight lightning storms and silent mornings awakening above the clouds; surprise encounters with smokejumpers, black bears, and an abandoned, dying fawn. Filled with Connors' heartfelt reflections on our place in the wild, *Fire Season* is an instant modern classic: a remarkable memoir that is at once an homage to the beauty of nature, the blessings of solitude, and the freedom of the independent spirit. Advance praise for *Fire Season*: 'A masterwork of close observation, deep reflection, and hard-won wisdom ...an unforgettable reckoning with the American land' Philip Gourevitch 'His adventures in radical solitude make for profoundly absorbing, restorative reading' Walter Kirn

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