

last child in the woods by richard louv

Last Child in the Woods by Richard Louv: Rediscovering Nature in a Digital Age

last child in the woods by richard louv is more than just a book title; it represents a powerful call to action in today's rapidly urbanizing and digitally dominated world. Richard Louv's groundbreaking work explores the growing disconnect between children and nature, a phenomenon he terms "nature-deficit disorder." Through compelling research and heartfelt storytelling, Louv highlights how this separation impacts children's physical health, emotional well-being, and overall development. If you've ever wondered why kids today seem less engaged with the outdoors or why getting outside feels so vital, this book offers profound insights and solutions.

Understanding the Core Message of Last Child in the Woods by Richard Louv

At its heart, last child in the woods by richard louv addresses a critical issue: the dwindling presence of nature in children's daily lives. Louv argues that this disconnection is not just a cultural shift but a public health concern. Modern lifestyles, urban sprawl, and the rise of screens have dramatically reduced the amount of time young people spend outdoors. This, Louv suggests, leads to a range of problems—from attention disorders and obesity to anxiety and depression.

Nature-Deficit Disorder: What It Means

Louv introduces the term "nature-deficit disorder" to describe the consequences of this separation. Although it's not a medical diagnosis, the phrase captures the essence of the problem: children who grow up without regular access to natural environments often experience diminished sensory development and a loss of critical emotional connections. This concept has resonated with educators, parents, and policymakers who see firsthand how a lack of outdoor play affects children's behavior and learning.

The Importance of Free Play in Nature

One of the book's key themes is the value of unstructured, imaginative play in natural settings. Louv emphasizes that nature offers a unique playground that encourages curiosity, creativity, and problem-solving skills. Unlike structured indoor activities, playing outside allows children to engage their senses fully, develop resilience, and foster a lifelong appreciation for the environment.

The Broader Impact of Nature on Child Development

Louv's insights extend beyond just the loss of playtime. He connects nature exposure with numerous developmental benefits that are often overlooked in today's tech-centric upbringing.

Physical Health Benefits

Outdoor activities naturally promote physical exercise, which is vital in combating childhood obesity and related health issues. Beyond exercise, exposure to sunlight helps regulate vitamin D levels, which supports bone health and immune function. Louv points out that children who spend more time in green spaces tend to have better overall fitness and fewer instances of chronic conditions.

Mental and Emotional Well-Being

Nature's calming effects have been well documented, and Louv's book reinforces this by showing how time outdoors reduces stress, anxiety, and symptoms of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). The sensory richness of natural environments helps children focus and renew their mental energy, which is critical in an age where screen time often leads to overstimulation and fatigue.

Social Skills and Community Connection

Interestingly, Louv also highlights how nature-based activities encourage social interaction. Whether it's playing in a park, hiking, or participating in community garden projects, these experiences foster cooperation, communication, and a sense of belonging. This is particularly important as many children today face isolation due to busy schedules and digital distractions.

Practical Ways to Reconnect Children with Nature

Understanding the problem is just the first step—last child in the woods by Richard Louv also provides practical advice for parents, educators, and communities eager to bridge the nature gap.

Encouraging Outdoor Exploration

Louv suggests simple strategies like scheduling regular family nature walks, visiting local parks, or creating backyard gardens. These activities don't require expensive equipment or travel, making nature accessible to families

from all backgrounds.

Integrating Nature into Education

Many schools are adopting outdoor classrooms and environmental education programs inspired by Louv's work. Hands-on learning experiences in natural settings can enhance science lessons, improve concentration, and boost student engagement. Encouraging schools to prioritize green spaces and nature-based curricula is a crucial step toward healthier childhood development.

Community Initiatives and Policy Changes

Communities can play a vital role by protecting green spaces, developing safe trails, and organizing nature clubs or summer camps. Louv urges policymakers to recognize the importance of accessible natural areas for children's well-being and to support urban planning that integrates parks and wild places.

How Last Child in the Woods by Richard Louv Inspires a Cultural Shift

Since its publication, last child in the woods by richard louv has sparked a broader movement advocating for the restoration of childhood connections to nature. Its influence extends into environmental activism, public health campaigns, and educational reform.

The Rise of Nature Preschools and Forest Schools

One notable trend inspired by Louv's ideas is the growth of nature preschools and forest schools. These institutions prioritize outdoor learning and play, immersing children in natural settings daily. The success of these models demonstrates how early exposure to nature can shape healthier, happier, and more environmentally conscious individuals.

Technology Balance, Not Rejection

Interestingly, Louv doesn't call for abandoning technology altogether. Instead, he advocates for a balanced approach where digital devices complement rather than replace outdoor experiences. Parents and educators are encouraged to set mindful limits on screen time and create opportunities for nature engagement that compete with the allure of digital entertainment.

Empowering Parents and Caregivers

A big part of the book's impact lies in empowering adults to take action. Whether it's through reading Louv's work or joining local green initiatives,

parents can become advocates for their children's right to explore, discover, and grow in nature.

Last Child in the Woods by Richard Louv: A Timeless Reminder

As urban landscapes continue to expand and technology becomes ever more pervasive, the message in last child in the woods by richard louv remains urgent and relevant. Reconnecting children with nature isn't just about nostalgia or leisure—it's about nurturing their holistic development and safeguarding the future of our planet. Whether you're a parent, teacher, or community leader, Louv's insights offer a roadmap to creating richer, more meaningful experiences for the next generation amidst the wonders of the natural world.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main theme of 'Last Child in the Woods' by Richard Louv?

The main theme of 'Last Child in the Woods' is the concept of 'nature-deficit disorder,' highlighting the negative effects of children's disconnection from nature on their health and development.

Who is the author of 'Last Child in the Woods'?

The author of 'Last Child in the Woods' is Richard Louv.

What does Richard Louv mean by 'nature-deficit disorder'?

'Nature-deficit disorder' is a term coined by Louv to describe the consequences of children spending less time outdoors, leading to various physical and mental health issues.

How does 'Last Child in the Woods' suggest addressing nature-deficit disorder?

The book suggests increasing children's exposure to nature through outdoor activities, environmental education, and creating green spaces to promote connection with the natural world.

When was 'Last Child in the Woods' published?

'Last Child in the Woods' was first published in 2005.

What impact has 'Last Child in the Woods' had on

education and parenting?

The book has influenced educators and parents to prioritize outdoor play and nature-based learning as essential for children's well-being and development.

Does 'Last Child in the Woods' discuss technology's role in children's disconnection from nature?

Yes, Louv discusses how increasing screen time and indoor technology use contribute to children's reduced interaction with the natural environment.

What solutions does Richard Louv propose for reconnecting children with nature?

Louv proposes solutions such as encouraging unstructured outdoor play, nature-based curricula, family nature outings, and community green spaces.

Is 'Last Child in the Woods' focused only on American children?

While the book primarily references American society, its themes about children's disconnection from nature are relevant globally.

How has 'Last Child in the Woods' influenced environmental movements?

The book has inspired movements advocating for children's access to nature, influencing policies on urban planning, school programs, and public health initiatives.

Additional Resources

****Rediscovering Nature: An In-Depth Look at *Last Child in the Woods* by Richard Louv****

last child in the woods by richard louv is a seminal work that draws attention to a growing disconnect between children and the natural world. Published in 2005, this landmark book critically explores how modern society's increasing reliance on technology and urbanization has led to what Louv terms the "nature-deficit disorder." Through a combination of research, personal anecdotes, and cultural analysis, Louv argues that the diminishing time children spend outdoors has serious consequences for their physical, emotional, and cognitive development.

This article provides an analytical review of *Last Child in the Woods*, highlighting its key themes, societal implications, and ongoing relevance in today's technologically saturated environment.

Understanding the Core Premise of *Last Child

in the Woods*

At its heart, *Last Child in the Woods* is a wake-up call. Richard Louv meticulously documents how children's interaction with nature has plummeted over recent decades. The book draws on empirical studies linking outdoor play with improved attention spans, creativity, and mental health. Louv does not merely lament the loss of green spaces; he connects this trend to broader issues such as childhood obesity, depression, and attention deficit disorders.

A central concept introduced is "nature-deficit disorder," a non-medical term Louv uses to describe the consequences of children's estrangement from nature. While not recognized as a clinical diagnosis, this term has catalyzed conversations among educators, parents, and policymakers about the importance of environmental engagement.

The Shift from Outdoor Play to Screen Time

One of the most compelling aspects of Louv's analysis is the stark contrast he draws between past generations and today's youth. Where once children roamed freely in forests, fields, and parks, many now spend significant hours indoors, engrossed in video games, television, and smartphones.

Louv supports his claims with data from studies showing a decline in outdoor activity by as much as 50% in some demographics over the past 30 years. This shift is not just about leisure preferences but reflects wider societal changes, including parental fears about safety, urban sprawl, and the prioritization of structured activities over unstructured play.

Broader Implications of the Nature Deficit

The implications raised in *Last Child in the Woods* stretch beyond individual health, touching on ecological and societal dimensions. Louv warns that children who grow up disconnected from nature are less likely to develop an environmental ethic, which could have long-term consequences for conservation efforts and sustainability.

Psychological and Cognitive Benefits of Nature

Louv highlights research demonstrating that exposure to natural environments can reduce symptoms of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) in children. Furthermore, studies cited in the book reveal that outdoor play fosters problem-solving skills, independence, and social interaction.

The author also references the restorative effects of nature on stress reduction. This is particularly relevant in our fast-paced world, where children face pressures from academics and social media. Louv's work suggests that regular time spent outdoors can serve as a natural antidote to these modern stressors.

Educational Innovations Inspired by Louv's Work

Last Child in the Woods has influenced a surge in educational approaches emphasizing outdoor learning. Programs like nature-based preschools, forest schools, and green schoolyards have gained traction, aiming to integrate nature into students' daily experiences.

These initiatives often report improved academic outcomes, higher engagement, and better emotional well-being, validating Louv's thesis. The book has also encouraged urban planners to consider access to parks and green spaces as essential infrastructure for healthy childhood development.

Critiques and Counterpoints

While *Last Child in the Woods* has been widely praised for its passionate advocacy and well-researched arguments, some critics argue that Louv's concept of nature-deficit disorder may oversimplify complex social issues. For example, socioeconomic factors can limit access to natural spaces, and not all families have the means or safe environments to prioritize outdoor time.

Moreover, some scholars point out that technology itself can be a tool for environmental education if used thoughtfully. Digital apps and virtual reality experiences can complement, though not replace, real-world nature interactions.

Balancing Technology and Nature

Louv himself acknowledges the role technology plays in children's lives but advocates for a balanced approach. His work calls for intentional efforts to ensure that technological engagement does not entirely supplant time in nature.

This nuanced perspective encourages parents and educators to foster "nature-rich" experiences alongside responsible technology use, rather than demonizing digital media outright.

Lasting Impact and Continued Relevance

Nearly two decades after its publication, *Last Child in the Woods* remains a cornerstone text in discussions about childhood development and environmental education. Its influence is evident in multiple sectors, from public health campaigns to urban design, emphasizing the intrinsic link between nature and human well-being.

In an era marked by climate change concerns and rising mental health issues among youth, Louv's insights resonate with renewed urgency. The book challenges society to reconsider how children's environments shape their futures and the planet's sustainability.

- **Environmental Awareness:** Encourages early connection with nature to foster lifelong stewardship.
- **Health Benefits:** Links outdoor activity to reduced obesity rates and improved mental health.
- **Educational Reform:** Inspires curriculum changes that include outdoor learning experiences.
- **Urban Planning:** Advocates for accessible green spaces in community development.

Ultimately, **last child in the woods by richard louv** serves as a thoughtful investigation into how modern lifestyles impact childhood experiences and, by extension, society at large. It invites a reevaluation of priorities to ensure that future generations retain the invaluable benefits of direct interaction with the natural world.

[Last Child In The Woods By Richard Louv](#)

last child in the woods by richard louv: *Last Child in the Woods* Richard Louv, 2008-04-22
 The Book That Launched an International Movement Fans of The Anxious Generation will adore *Last Child in the Woods*, Richard Louv's groundbreaking New York Times bestseller. "An absolute must-read for parents." —The Boston Globe "It rivals Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring*." —The Cincinnati Enquirer "I like to play indoors better 'cause that's where all the electrical outlets are," reports a fourth grader. But it's not only computers, television, and video games that are keeping kids inside. It's also their parents' fears of traffic, strangers, Lyme disease, and West Nile virus; their schools' emphasis on more and more homework; their structured schedules; and their lack of access to natural areas. Local governments, neighborhood associations, and even organizations devoted to the outdoors are placing legal and regulatory constraints on many wild spaces, sometimes making natural play a crime. As children's connections to nature diminish and the social, psychological, and spiritual implications become apparent, new research shows that nature can offer powerful therapy for such maladies as depression, obesity, and attention deficit disorder. Environment-based education dramatically improves standardized test scores and grade-point averages and develops skills in problem solving, critical thinking, and decision making. Anecdotal evidence strongly suggests that childhood experiences in nature stimulate creativity. In *Last Child in the Woods*, Louv talks with parents, children, teachers, scientists, religious leaders, child-development researchers, and environmentalists who recognize the threat and offer solutions. Louv shows us an alternative future, one in which parents help their kids experience the natural world more deeply—and find the joy of family connectedness in the process. Included in this edition: A Field Guide with 100 Practical Actions We Can Take Discussion Points for Book Groups, Classrooms, and Communities Additional Notes by the Author New and Updated Research from the U.S. and Abroad

last child in the woods by richard louv: Summary of Richard Louv's Last Child In The Woods Everest Media,, 2022-03-09T22:59:00Z Please note: This is a companion version & not the original book. Sample Book Insights: #1 Nature, in all its forms, offers children a separate peace. It offers them healing, creativity, and a place distant from the adult world. It offers them freedom, fantasy, and privacy. #2 We often see ourselves as separate from nature, but humans are also part of that wildness. We are born into it, and we spend hours exploring the woods and farmland at the suburban edge. #3 I used to climb trees as a kid. The woods were my Ritalin, and they calmed me

and focused me. They excited my senses and filled me with wonder. #4 The issue of nature deficit disorder is becoming more and more prevalent among my generation. While many still enjoy playing in nature, many others do not, and instead see it as unproductive and off-limits.

last child in the woods by richard louv: Greening the Children of God Chad Michael Rimmer, 2019-10-02 Greening the Children of God uncovers the theological roots of the growing ethical imperative to reconnect children to their natural environment. Theologians emphasize the sacramental nature of embedding our lives in creation. Environmental educators emphasize knowledge of local biology. Psychologists emphasize the morally pro-formative experience of care between biodiverse creatures. Together they affirm that knowing their place in the natural environment helps a child develop an intersubjective “ecological” identity that nurtures virtues of mutuality and care. During the Scientific Revolution this ethical harmony was threatened as science and moral theology began to adopt different epistemological methods. Seventeenth-century Anglican priest and poet Thomas Traherne was prescient of the consequences of this divorce and insisted that education should promote a child’s attention to the moral dimensions woven into “the tapestry of creation.” Traherne professed that play, wonder, and a sensory relationship to diverse creatures play a pedagogical role in a child’s moral formation. Greening the Children of God establishes the contemporary significance of Traherne’s moral theory in conversation with child psychologists, educators, philosophers, and theologians who know that cultivating a place-based relationship to the local ecology helps children perceive creation’s deep mutuality and develop a moral identity in the image of a caring Creator.

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last child in the woods by richard louv: Coming Home to Earth Mark S. Bocker, 2016-09-13 As a young Norwegian Lutheran teenager in rural Wisconsin, Bocker lay awake one night worrying whether he believed in Jesus enough to get to heaven. This getting-to-heaven anxiety reflected an excessive focus on individual salvation and a loss of concern for the well-being of the Earth community. A faith journey that leaves Earth behind is misguided. Ever since those early teen years Bocker has been on a journey to come home to Earth. Coming Home to Earth makes the case that there is no salvation apart from Earth and that Earth care is at the core of our identity and mission as followers of Jesus. The ecological consequences of a loss of concern for the well-being of Earth have been devastating. Bocker is especially concerned to determine what will motivate followers of Jesus to make radical changes in our way of life so that we can participate in the healing of wounded Earth and all of its inhabitants, both human and nonhuman. We are far more likely to make needed sacrifices for our fellow creatures if we share God's delight in and affection for them, and cherish Earth as our home.

last child in the woods by richard louv: Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations for 2008, Part 8, 110-1 Hearings , 2007

last child in the woods by richard louv: The Planetary Emergency Kent D. Shifferd, 2021-02-02 Earth and its inhabitants face an unprecedented crisis--the human-caused destruction of the planet's life support systems. Deteriorating climate bringing super storms, mass forest fires, melting glaciers, droughts, extreme heat and rising seas, a decline in food production, soil loss, water pollution and declining fisheries all threaten the future of life on earth with a looming extinction event not seen for 60 million years. Beginning in the 17th century, we developed a civilization based on radical materialism, exploitation of natural resources and the myth of endless economic growth. For all its technological wonders, this hypercivilization has proven unsustainable. This book explores ways we can create an ecocivilization compatible with the laws and limits of

nature--a new way of living already developing, with new technologies, new forms of social organization and a new story about ourselves and the Earth.

last child in the woods by richard louv: The Palgrave International Handbook of Women and Outdoor Learning Tonia Gray, Denise Mitten, 2018-05-12 This Handbook serves as a starting point for critical analysis and discourse about the status of women in outdoor learning environments (OLEs). Women choose to participate actively in outdoors careers, many believing the profession is a level playing field and that it offers alternatives to traditional sporting activities. They enter outdoor learning primarily on the strength of their enthusiasm for leading and teaching in natural environments and assume the field is inclusive, rewarding excellence regardless of age, gender, socioeconomic status, disability, or ethnicity. However, both research and collective experiences in OLEs suggest that many women feel invisible, relegated, marginalized, and undervalued. In response to this marginalization, this Handbook celebrates the richness of knowledge and practices of women practitioners in OLEs. Women scholars and practitioners from numerous fields, such as experiential outdoor education, adventure education, adventure therapy, and gender studies, explore the implications of their research and practice using poignant examples within their own disciplines. These insights emerge from similar life experiences as women and outdoor leaders in the 1970s to the present. Social inequalities still abound in OLEs, and the Handbook ensures that the contributions of women are highlighted as well as the work that needs to be done to make these spaces inclusive. Global in perspective and capacious in content, this one-stop volume is an indispensable reference resource for a diverse range of academics, including students and researchers in the fields of education, psychology, sociology, gender studies, geography, and environment studies, as well as the many outdoors fields.

last child in the woods by richard louv: Environmental Missouri: Issues and Sustainability - What You Need to Know Don Corrigan, 2014-04-01 Title: Environmental Missouri: Issues and Sustainability - What You Need to Know Author: Don Corrigan Size: 6 x 9 Bindings: softcover Pages: 240 ISBN: 9781935806684 Cost: \$19.95 Environmental Missouri is the first comprehensive guide to local and state environmental issues involving the air we breathe, the water we drink, and the land we inhabit in the Show-Me State. This collection is very serious and yet intensely readable, as it examines such problems as urban sprawl, polluted streams, radioactive waste, lead contamination, airborne mercury, ozone and smog, and noise and light pollution. The book raises questions about wildlife concerns: What's with the Asian Carp taking over our rivers? Why are the bees disappearing? When will the Ozark Hellbender revive and thrive? Environmental Missouri is not all bad news and pessimistic prose. A final chapter on sustainability looks at how Missourians are going green, whether it's with cloth diaper parties, raising backyard chickens, farming responsibly, or hosting green burials at trail's end. Each chapter includes a Q and A with a habitat expert or environmental activist to give a unique perspective on the concern at hand. Environmental Missouri argues that we should teach our children well, instead of trying to sweep problems under the rug. It's time to tackle matters head on and guide the way to a more sustainable future! Published in cooperation with Webster University Press.

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meets students in the current moment before encouraging them to consider the past. "Application" sidebars suggest practical activities that allow students to delve deeper into topics while "Reflection" boxes encourage students to think critically about their own media use. With a strong emphasis on media literacy that treats students as media stakeholders who have a vested interest in understanding its workings and effects, Mindich's text is the perfect book for a generation of students looking to take charge of their futures in this mediated world. New to the Second Edition: New chapter-opening vignettes connect with students in the current moment before welcoming them to consider the past. New Chapter 8, "Representation and the Lives that Matter in the Media," encourages students to think critically about which people get to be heard and which are overlooked. New Chapter 13, "Hot and Cold Video Games," critically explores a powerful media force in students' recreational lives. Expanded discussions on current cultural, political, and technological references, engaging with controversies. Features Full color layout with photos and graphics to enrich students' reading experience. Integrated focus on representation in media reminds students of the pervasive impact of bias across society. Margin keyword definitions help students develop critical vocabularies. Three different feature boxes (Reflection, Application, and Now and Then) reinforce concepts and engage students' critical thinking skills. Chapter learning objectives, chapter summaries, and discussion questions reinforce historical frameworks and key concepts. Access ancillary materials at <https://textbooks.rowman.com/mindich2e>. For instructors: a test bank, lecture notes and slides, and a sample syllabus. For the students: chapter flashcards, a digital glossary, and videos and links.

last child in the woods by richard louv: *American Idle* Mary Collins, 2009 **First Place Grand Prize Winner for Non-Fiction books at the 2010 Next Generation Indie Book Awards!! Congratulations Mary!!**

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last child in the woods by richard louv: *Seeking the Greatest Good* Char Miller, 2013-09-22 President John F. Kennedy officially dedicated the Pinchot Institute for Conservation Studies on September 24, 1963 to further the legacy and activism of conservationist Gifford Pinchot (1865-1946). Pinchot was the first chief of the United States Forest Service, appointed by Theodore Roosevelt in 1905. During his five-year term, he more than tripled the national forest reserves to 172 million acres. A pioneer in his field, Pinchot is widely regarded as one of the architects of American conservation and an adamant steward of natural resources for future generations. Author Char Miller highlights many of the important contributions of the Pinchot Institute through its first fifty years of operation. As a union of the United States Forest Service and the Conservation Foundation, a private New York-based think tank, the institute was created to formulate policy and develop conservation education programs. Miller chronicles the institution's founding, a donation of the Pinchot family, at its Grey Towers estate in Milford, Pennsylvania. He views the contributions of Pinchot family members, from the institute's initial conception by Pinchot's son, Gifford Bryce

Pinchot, through the family's ongoing participation in current conservation programming. Miller describes the institute's unique fusion of policy makers, scientists, politicians, and activists to increase our understanding of and responses to urban and rural forestry, water quality, soil erosion, air pollution, endangered species, land management and planning, and hydraulic fracking. Miller explores such innovative programs as Common Waters, which works to protect the local Delaware River Basin as a drinking water source for millions; EcoMadera, which trains the residents of Cristobal Colón in Ecuador in conservation land management and sustainable wood processing; and the Forest Health-Human Health Initiative, which offers health-care credits to rural American landowners who maintain their carbon-capturing forestlands. Many of these individuals are age sixty-five or older and face daunting medical expenses that may force them to sell their land for timber. Through these and countless other collaborative endeavors, the Pinchot Institute has continued to advance its namesake's ambition to protect ecosystems for future generations and provide vital environmental services in an age of a burgeoning population and a disruptive climate.

last child in the woods by richard louv: Only the Sacred Peggy Whalen-Levitt, 2011-09 The materialist philosophy that has dominated Western civilization for the past four hundred years is coming to an end. In *Only the Sacred: Transforming Education in the Twenty-first Century*, we are introduced to a new vision of reality where we sense a more profound world within the material world we know so well. In this remarkable collection of articles originally published in *Chrysalis*, a publication of the Center for Education, Imagination and the Natural World, we journey with twenty-three educators through an exploration of fundamental questions of our time, a path of inner schooling for educators, and practices where a new understanding of a sacred universe is actualized in diverse educational settings. Inspired by the mentoring of Thomas Berry, this collection makes it clear that the depth and fullness of the universe, from the stars in the heavens to the dirt beneath our feet, cannot be known by the intellect alone. Only a sense of the sacred, deep within the human soul, will reveal the whole.

last child in the woods by richard louv: Homesick Lyla Yastion, 2018-09-15 Human-induced climate change is emerging as the most critical issue of the modern era. Ninety-seven percent of climate scientists now confirm that human extraction and burning of fossil fuels, along with rampant deforestation, is causing a rapid build-up of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases in air and water. These emissions heat up the planet and may be pushing Earth's capacity beyond the threshold at which equilibrium can be restored. Global warming is sustained by a global capitalist economy dependent upon the fossil fuel industry and agribusiness, both of which are unsustainable. The toxic effects of air pollution, ocean acidification, and soil degradation are harming the health of all species. Through an interdisciplinary approach that brings in the perspectives of the physical sciences, psychology, anthropology, economics, cultural history and spirituality *Homesick* investigates the evolutionary path by which human beings have arrived at this precarious juncture. It proposes that this perilous detour in human cultural evolution arises from a fallacious belief that the human species, unlike other species, is not bound by ecological laws but has a special right to control and master the natural world. Human beings suffer from the illusion that they are separate from the Earth, their planetary home, which is perceived as an object— a commodity— to exploit through technology. They have forgotten what indigenous peoples still remember: humanity is part of, not apart from, the natural world. *Homesick* argues that cultural transformation towards a sustainable future is possible when human beings reawaken to Nature as partner and provider. As memory of their embeddedness in the natural world is aroused, they will experience love and respect for the interdependent web of life that sustains them. This reawakening incrementally induces a radical change in thinking within society and sets in motion a paradigm shift. Cultural institutions are then reshaped to match this new benign worldview.

last child in the woods by richard louv: Should Christians Be Environmentalists? Dan Story, 2012-04-13 Did God instruct the human race to be His caretakers over nature? If so, is environmental exploitation disobedience to God? Is it true, as many critics claim, that Christianity is the root cause of today's environmental problems--or are all religions and cultures responsible? How

should the church respond? Should Christians Be Environmentalists? systematically tackles these tough questions and more by exploring what the Bible says about the environment and our stewardship of creation. Looking at three dimensions of environmentalism as a movement, a Bible-based theology of nature, and the role the church has in environmental ethics, Dan Story examines each through a theological, apologetic, and practical lens.

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last child in the woods by richard louv: The Public Garden , 2004

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