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Losing Paradise

By Paul G. Irwin



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The last decades of the twentieth century saw an unprecedented assault by humans on nature and animals throughout the world. Instead of moving toward a better world, we are now facing a tidal wave of ecological challenges that threatens to sweep away whatever progress we have achieved.

In this landmark book, author Paul G. Irwin presents an alarming look at what we have done—and continue to do—to animals, to our environment, and to ourselves. *Losing Paradise* first examines the beliefs that lie at the core of our destructive actions—beliefs that place humans above and against nature. It then details the results of these distorted values, including the cruel treatment of animals through factory farming, hunting, and trapping, and the destruction of our environment. But while *Losing Paradise* shows the damage we have done, it also shows the steps we can take to build a truly humane society and reclaim our wondrous natural world. Most important, it reminds us of the paradise this earth can be for all God's creatures.



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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

Irwin is president and CEO of the Humane Society of the United States, and what he attempts to do in this book is laudable. By trying to show that willful devastation of any one part of the ecosystem will ultimately ruin the entire planet, he hopes to persuade readers to take action that will help avert potential disaster. Whether he succeeds in prompting the masses to act remains to be seen. However, Irwin does write persuasively of the need for a return to agriculture that is self-sustaining (e.g., ending "factory farms"), a recognition that hunting and trapping may not be feasible in the not-too-distant future, and a recognition within mainstream America that "what goes around comes around" environmentally. Undoubtedly, this book will spark discussion and, with any luck, broaden awareness of just how interconnected humans are with their environment. Recommended for public and academic libraries. DAlicia Graybill, Lincoln City Libs., NE
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Review

“*[Losing Paradise]* will spark discussion and broaden awareness of just how interconnected humans are with their environment. Recommended.”

(Library Journal)

About the Author

Paul G. Irwin is the president and chief executive officer of The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS). He also serves as president of the World Society for the Protection of Animals, EarthVoice, the Center for Respect of Life and the Environment, the International Center for Earth Concerns, and Humane Society International.

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