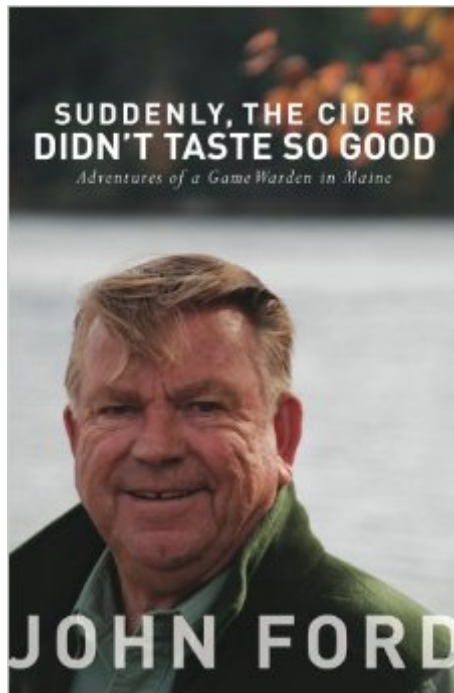


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Suddenly, The Cider Didn't Taste So Good: Adventures Of A Game Warden In Maine



Synopsis

Retired Maine Game Warden John Ford has seen it all. He's been shot at by desperate prison escapees, been outwitted by wily trappers, and rescued scores of animals. As a tenacious and successful warden, he was always willing to spend the time needed to nab violators of the state's fish and game laws. At the same time, though, he wasn't a cold, heartless, go-by-the-book enforcer; he usually had a good quip ready when he slipped the handcuffs on a violator, and he wasn't above accepting a lesson learned as sufficient penalty for breaking the law. Ford is also a very gifted storyteller and he writes of his adventures in *Suddenly, the Cider Didn't Taste So Good*, a collection of true tales, both humorous and serious, from the trenches of law enforcement, and also includes heartwarming accounts of his rescue of hurt or abandoned animals.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The obvious is that John Ford has written a book compiled of a series of amusing or touching or dangerous incidents that he lived as a Maine game warden, but that is not why I liked this book and read every word. What I began to sense coming through the narrative was a rural northern New England spirit, something I've always been partial to. The book is about a way of living, about how a man decides to live his life, the rules he follows and what he believes in. The stories are much bigger than the writing. As a published columnist and author, I read all the time. And I try to read contemporary fiction, but for the most part, I can't get past a few chapters. Why? Because although the writers have educated themselves in the skills of composing prose and know all the tricks of

manipulating readers, there is no heart. John Ford's voice has a truth to it and an easily definable spirit, and that's not easy to achieve, so as I read, I began to appreciate the style more and more for these qualities. The New England spirit I found was one of toughness, decency, kindness, humor, and honor. And whether Ford was facing a shotgun directed at his head or two bouts of cancer, he showed the same courage, calmness and awareness of others. As a warden he instigated some jokes that bordered on malicious, but he also laughed when the same was served to him. We have the portrait of a man's life as much as we have a book about being a game warden. And Ford is willing to give us both sides of himself, the shiny and the rusty. He does not hold back when he's at fault or has acted like a fool, and this verisimilitude fortifies the book's honesty.

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