

## **Stories of Place through Time: The Literary Heritage of Jackson Hole, Wyoming**

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*Some artists so completely capture the essence of a place and make it their own that to imagine the place or hold it in the mind's eye of memory is to see it distilled through their art.*

– Jack Turner, *Travels in the Greater Yellowstone*, 2009.

### **The Power of Place**

Ringed by mountains and incomparable wild places, Jackson Hole has long inspired explorers, adventurers, writers, artists, and visionaries. Just as artists are driven to create art, writers have been moved to try to capture the essence or spirit of this place.

### **Jackson Hole as a Literary Center**

Literary centers associated with large metropolitan areas primarily specialize in urban and societal related writings: comedy, novels, crime and mystery, fiction and science fiction. Conversely, characterized by a storied past and an extraordinary power of place, Jackson Hole's literature predominately features "Western themes"—nature, conservation, wildlands, wildlife, public lands, mountain sports, Western history. The Wyoming Arts Council has called it, "writings informed by Nature."

While it has a relatively small resident population, Jackson Hole's natural environs and history have always evoked passions to express one's self through the arts. Local organizations, such as, Jackson Hole Writers, Grand Teton Association, the Center for the Arts, the Teton County Library, and the NPS/University of Wyoming's Research Center at the AMK Ranch frequently sponsor acclaimed authors and speakers. The Wyoming Arts Council offers annual writing awards and fellowships, and Writer in Residence programs have in the past been conducted through The Murie Center and Teton Science School. A large public archive and research center, which houses parts of this work, is also maintained by the Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum. Additionally, the 2017 Jackson Hole Writer's Conference enjoyed its 26th anniversary with a gathering of nearly a hundred writers and sponsoring partners. The anthology, *Writing it Right: Reflections from the Jackson Hole Writers Conference* (2016), highlights the conference's origins and accomplishments.

Independent Valley Bookstore owner, Steve Ashley, conservatively estimates the works of more than thirty living local authors are presently shelved in his store; likewise for another independent Jackson book store, The Book Trader. A computer search by librarian Jessica Johnson yielded roughly 140 different titles by local authors shelved in the Teton County Library collections. The Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum bookstore has one of the largest, most complete selections of Jackson Hole and Western history books in the region.

An anonymously authored 20-page mimeo simply entitled *Local Authors (1919-1993)*, listed 215 books related to Jackson Hole, with many authors having multiple published works. A 92-page annotated

bibliography by Eva Floy Wheeler, *History of Wyoming Writers* (1981), is replete with Jackson Hole authors. Missing from those tallies are works from before 1919 and after 1993 to date. Inclusive of the missing dates, I estimate over 150 authors have written from Jackson Hole. If we assume approximately three books published by each author (many have more), the corpus of Jackson Hole literature may roughly total 400 books, amounting to more than a casual weekend of reading.

### **What Motivates Writers to Write in Jackson Hole**

Jackson Hole has been and remains a *defacto* testing ground for mankind's ability and political will to coexist with and preserve a remaining relatively intact piece of the natural world. The consequences of this grand experiment, with its surrounding unrivaled extensive public lands and protected natural settings, spurs imaginations, engages people worldwide, and attracts over four million visitors annually.

The Jackson Hole News and Guide's publication, *Headwaters: Conservation in the Greater Yellowstone* (2017) declares the region represents "the heart of America's environmental conservation debate." As the largest and most intact ecosystem remaining in Earth's northern temperate zone, the area represents the biological heartland of the Northern Rocky Mountains and arguably for the country.

By the late 19th century, Jackson Hole had only just begun to boast a remote settlement. Now it possesses a unique "late frontier" history. In a community isolated by topography, deep snow and spring runoff, early residents managed a subsistence on rutabagas and elk meat. Those early times contrast markedly to today, where, as Jackson economist Jonathan Schechter points out, our citizenry is among "the wealthiest in the country;" and, "Jackson Hole residents live in the healthiest and largest generally intact ecosystem in the continental United States."

Ultimately, all kinds of people have been caught up in communicating their personal feelings, experiences and observations about the region through a journalism of prose, articles, essays, testimonials, memoirs, creative fiction, anthologies, lyrical poetry, website blogs, and more. Writers have been driven to record their deeply felt impressions of what this singular landscape has meant to them and its importance. The result is a remarkable legacy of place based literature.

### **Notes on Authors and Works by Genre <sup>1</sup>**

#### Prior to the 20th Century

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<sup>1</sup> Preparing a listing and analysis of Jackson Hole authors and representative works quickly becomes complicated and a bit overwhelming. I have chosen to list the books authored by local writers and/or about Jackson Hole by their published dates under genre or themes. For reasons of space, generally only the initial of the first name and the surname of the authors have been given and a representative title, although the author may have in some cases published several books. The authors cited in the text are generally not repeated again in the listings. In some cases, authors having multiple publications involving more than one genre have been cited more than once. Additionally, some works, for example, G. Exum's *Never a Bad Word or a Twisted Rope* (1999), could be categorized under both mountaineering and autobiography. Generally, I've recorded such works only once, under one genre or the other. The list of authors is long, my apologies for the abbreviated treatments and also for any works unintentionally overlooked. The review is intended to serve as a preliminary reference guide or primer to local authors past and present and some of their works.

The literature from the 19<sup>th</sup> century derives from journals of mountain men, fur traders, early-day adventurers, and government expedition reports. Generally, such works were edited and published *post factum* by other than the original chronicler. Representative titles include:

Osborne Russell's classic, *Journal of a Trapper* (1955), edited and published from his 1830s dairies; W. Ferris, *Life in the Rocky Mountains*, from his 1840s diaries (2012 ed.); Lt. Gustavus Doane's 1876 journal, edited and published by O. and L. Bonney, *Battle Drums and Geysers* (1970); government expedition leader F. V. Hayden's *U.S Geological Survey Reports* on the Yellowstone Region (1872, 1877, 1878), the latter reports were paramount to Congress's establishment of Yellowstone National Park. Hayden also encouraged mountain man and guide, Richard "Beaver Dick" Leigh, who was residing in Teton Valley, to keep a diary. Leigh's 1873-79 journals were published by E. Thompson, *The Honor and the Heartbreak* (1982).

You could say adventurer Ballie-Gorman authored the earliest travelogue for Jackson Hole, entitled *Camps in the Rockies* (1882). Also among the early works is Theodore Roosevelt's account of an 1892 elk hunt in the Yellowstone Thoroughfare and Two Ocean Pass area, *The Wilderness Hunter* (1893), wherein Roosevelt described the Shoshone Indian's means for hunting elk. It is particularly relevant because the Native American's efficient hunting methods indirectly precipitated the 1895 Jackson Hole Indian war, as historian J. Wight has chronicled in *The Jackson Hole Conspiracy* (2007).

### Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century

#### *Emergence of the Western Genre*

Owen Wister's *The Virginian: A Horseman of the Plains* (1902) is said to be the "first great novel of the West." It spawned an entire new genre, Western fiction. Written at The Philadelphia Club, Pennsylvania, Wister's research and ideas, however, were gleaned from his interviews with locals in Jackson Hole and elsewhere in Wyoming. Wister built a cabin along the Moose-Wilson Road in Jackson Hole in 1912, but abandoned it never to return again after his wife tragically died in childbirth the next year. A mountain in the Teton Range is named after Wister (see also J. W. Stokes, *Wister's West*, JHHS&M Chronicle Vol. XXVIV No.3, 2009).

In 1912, Struthers Burt, educated at Princeton and Oxford, established the renowned Bar BC guest ranch in Jackson Hole near Moose, Wyoming. Prolific writers, the Burt family contributed much toward putting Jackson Hole on both the literary and tourist map. Struthers' philosophy was that writing is a self-taught profession and is an art learned only from life itself.

Best known locally for his memoir *The Diary of a Dude Rancher* (1924), Struthers published over twenty novels; his wife, Katharine, authored sixteen novels, perhaps best regarded locally was *The Branding Iron* (1919). She modeled her Western story's characters after real life Bar BC employees. Katherine also

wrote the Hollywood scripts for many of the era's silent Western films. Their son, Nathaniel, with ten books to his credit, is best known locally for his memoir, *Jackson Hole Journal* (1983).

Significantly, the Burt's connections with East Coast society brought big name publishers and writers to the Bar BC and Jackson Hole, luminaries such as: Alfred Knopf, Bernard DeVoto, William Faulkner, Ernest Hemingway, Eleanor "Cissy" Patterson, and Wallace Stegner. One Bar BC wrangler incredulously remarked that the guest ranch sported "eight type writers."

Additional information on the Burt's literary accomplishments and the Bar BC's renowned writer guests can be found in Elizabeth C. Flood's "Words from the Wild: Cadre of Accomplished Writers Discovered Jackson Hole Early On" (*JH Mag. Winter 2012, pp76-83*).

### Mid- 20th Century to Date

#### *Mountain Men and the Fur Trade*

Jackson Hole is strongly identified with the mountain man and fur trade era. The topic was reviewed by S. Kahin in the 2015 *JHSM Chronicles*, pp2-6. In addition to the two previously cited trapper classics, others treating Jackson Hole's connection to that era include: M. Mattes', *Colter's Hell and Jackson's Hole: The Fur Trappers' Exploration of the Yellowstone and Grand Teton Park Region* (1962) and *Jackson Hole: Crossroads of the Fur Trade, 1807-1840* (1994); L. Hafen, *The Mountain Men and Fur Trade of the Far West* (10 vols. 1965-1972); V. Talbot, *David E. Jackson: Field Captain of the Rocky Mountain Fur Trade* (1996); and J. Hardee's well researched and eminently readable, *Pierre's Hole! The Fur Trade History of Teton Valley, Idaho* (2010).

#### *Local Western History*

From the early to mid-20th century to date numerous Jackson Hole histories have been authored. Local history is one of Jackson Hole's signature genre. Some histories overlap but differ in presentation or interpretation; others stand uniquely on their own. Recent improved access to data bases and archival material, such as that provided by the JHHS&M's *Stan Klassen Research Center* and the *Laramie Western Heritage Center* have contributed to more comprehensive, scholarly and factual treatments. Some of the published histories could also be classified under memoir and biography.

The many bygone day accounts reflect Jackson Hole's unique past, people's personal connections to the land, and stories kept alive through old timer's recalled experiences, nostalgia, family tales, and recorded oral histories. Cherished myths gave rise to animated stories distinctly Jackson Hole. Early citizens of the Hole often exhibited an "inverse civic pride," promoting and celebrating the valley as a bad or tough place. Recording the valley's past continues to remain a worthy endeavor for Western aficionados and longtime residents.

Some of the earliest works under this genre include: E. N. Wilson, *The White Indian Boy: The Story of Uncle Nick among the Shoshones* (1919); R. Brown, *A Souvenir History of Jackson's Hole* (1924); B. Driggs, *History of Teton Valley* (1926); N. Mumey, *The Teton Mountains: Their History and Tradition* (1947); and, E.W. Hayden's, *From Fur Trapper to Tourist in Jackson Hole* (1957).

Beginning around 1958, through local resident Slim Lawrence's gifted collections, *The Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum* was established. Over the years, it also encouraged and contributed to the publishing local histories. A listing of those and many others includes:

J. Fabian, *The Jackson Hole Story* (1963); W. Rogers, *Old Timer of the Jackson Hole Country* (1964); D.J. Saylor's *Jackson Hole, Wyoming: In the Shadow of the Tetons* (1970); R. Rudd, *Homesteads and Cabins of Jackson Hole* (1970); H. Albright, *Oh Ranger!* (1972); F. Calkins, *Jackson Hole* (1973); R.H. Betts' well-written *Along the Ramparts of the Tetons* (1978); V. Huidekoper's pictorial *Early Days in Jackson Hole* (1978); M. Sanborn, *The Grand Tetons: The Story of the Men Who Tamed the Western Wilderness* (1978); M.V. Allen, *Early Jackson Hole* (1981); G. Wright, *The People of the High Country: Jackson Hole Before Settlers* (1984); D. Lenore, *A Tale of Dough Gods, Bear Grease, Cantaloupe, and Sucker Oil* (1986); R.&G. Laubin, *The Indian Tipi: Its History, Construction, and Use* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed, 1989); the biography of an aspiring local outlaw, J. Watson's *The Real Virginian* (1989); B. Holmes, *Victor, Idaho, 1889-1989* (1989); M. Potts, *Campfire Tales of Jackson Hole* (1990); F. Nelson's fine portrayal, *This Was Jackson Hole* (1994); D. Platts' carefully researched booklets of local personages and happenings, such as: *The Pass* (1988), *John Cherry* (1991), *Cunningham Ranch Incident* (1992), *Robert Miller* (2003), and *Teton Jackson* (2007); W. Farmer, *Shootout on the Town Square* (1994); S. Adare, *Jackson Hole Uncovered* (1997); K. & L. Diem, *A Community of Scalawags, Renegades, Discharged Soldiers, and Predestined Stinkers* (1998); J. Daugherty's comprehensive tome, contracted by the National Park Service, *A Place Called Jackson Hole* (1999); L.S. Moore, *The Old Wilson Schoolhouse* (c2000); H. Forbush, *Tales of the Big Hole Mountains* (2000); J. Huyler, *And That's the Way it was in Jackson Hole* (2003); E. Bradford, *Teton Jackson: The Life and Times of Jackson Hole's Famous Outlaw* (2003); B. Smith's, et al., history of homesteading on what is today's National Elk Refuge, *Imperfect Pasture* (2004); R. Diener, *The Jackson Hole Indian War of 1895* (2006); B. Kreps' popular, *Windows to the Past: Early Settlers in Jackson Hole* (2007); C. Craighead, *Meet Me at the Wort: History, Legends, and Lore of the Wort Hotel* (2006); P. Smelker, *The Bar BC Chronicle* (2009); R. Pieros, *1878-2012 Jackson Hole Historical Photographs—Past to Present* (2012); E. Layser's depiction of the Hole's earliest settlers, *The Jackson Hole Settlement Chronicles* (2012); T. Taylor, *On the Trail of the Shoshone Sheep Eaters* (2017). We might also note, prolific local author Charlie Craighead holds a record for authoring the most forwards and blurbs for Jackson Hole's written histories.

### *Mountaineering and Alpinism*

The Teton Mountains have been labeled the "Alps of North America." Home to world renowned mountaineers, parallels to the celebrated alpinism of Europe exist. The spectacular mountains captivate sight-seers and have long attracted a dedicated contingent of mountaineers, photographers, artists, and writers. The cloud piercing peaks continue to dazzle, generating a near metaphysical sense of place for many.

The long standing Owen-Langford controversy over who was actually the first to summit The Grand is obligatorily reading for anyone interested in Teton mountaineering. F. Fryxell, *The Teton Peaks and their Ascents* (1932) was among the first books on alpinism in the Tetons. In its 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, L. Ortenburger's et al., *A Climber's Guide to the Tetons* (1956) has been labeled the "Teton Magnum Opus." Also recognized as an early comprehensive treatment is O. and L. Bonney's *Guide to the Wyoming Mountains and Wilderness Areas* (1960), the latter included guides for all aspects of recreating in the Tetons, from history, camping, and trails, to hunting, and climbing. Authors of a number of Jackson Hole books, the Bonney's had a Houston, Texas, address, but also maintained a cabin in Kelly, Wyoming. Another from the mountaineering community, P. Sinclair, authored, *We Aspired: The Last Innocent Americans* (1993). No mountaineering literature list would be complete without the two legendary Teton climbers: Paul Petzoldt, *Teton Tales and other Petzoldt Anecdotes* (1995,) and G. Exum's, *Never a Bad Word or a Twisted Rope* (1998). Historian J. Daugherty, *A Place Called Jackson Hole* (1999), also provides a comprehensive history of mountaineering in the Tetons (pp 268-291). Also writer and climber M. Loomis authored *Climbing Self Rescue* (2006); B. Coburn, *The Vast Unknown: America's First Ascent of Everest* (2013); and P. Fox, *Deep: The Story of Skiing and the Future of Snow* (2014). Wilson resident Thomas Turiano's, amazingly comprehensive tome, *Select Peaks of the Greater Yellowstone: A Mountaineering History and Guide* (2003), combined with his 408 page *Jackson Hole Backcountry Skier's Guide* (2014), have been termed "encyclopedic."

The Tetons continue to be a mecca for climbers and ski mountaineering, and while today's knowledge and technology, such as improved equipment, avalanche forecasting, Goggle Earth and GPS, have reduced some risks, there are still plenty of adrenaline charged possibilities. Wilson author and ski mountaineer, Kit Deslaurier's, *Higher Love* (2015), whose casual outings involve skiing up and down The Grand in a single day, remind us the Tetons continue to offer endless rarified personal challenges, many impossible for us mere mortals. Local mountaineer, J. Kelsey, also recently published a memoir, *A Place in Which to Search* (2016).

#### *Natural History, Nature, Wilderness, Conservation and Wildlife*

Titans in the field of conservation and natural history have written from Jackson Hole. In the past, a center for this activity was Moose, where, as near neighbors, both the Muries and the Craigheads resided and worked.

Listed on the National Historic Register, the Murie Ranch was the meeting place, where Olaus Murie, Aldo Leopold, and Howard Zahniser gathered to draft the 1964 Wilderness Act. Olaus's manual, *The Elk of North America* (1951), stood as the definitive reference for wapiti for over three decades; also his *Field Guide to Animal Tracks* (1954) was a first of its kind. His brother, Adolf's work, *Wolves of Mount McKinley* (1944), ultimately led to the termination of predator control within Denali and Yellowstone National Parks. The Murie's are additionally celebrated in Alaska for their contributions toward the creation of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Among the Murie's many citations for their conservation work, Margaret Murie was awarded the *Presidential Medal of Freedom* in 1998. Olaus and Margaret coauthored *Wapiti Wilderness* (1985), which remains a locally popular classic. The Muries are said to be responsible for initially inspiring renowned author and conservationist George Schaller.

Jackson Hole based wildlife biologists and scientists, Frank and John Craighead's, also friends and colleagues of the Muries, amazing careers and lives are briefly summarized at [www.craigheadresearch.org/frank-craighead](http://www.craigheadresearch.org/frank-craighead). Inexhaustible contributors to wildlife science and conservation, the Craighead brothers' works established them as authorities on wide-range of wildlife, conservation, and resource management subjects, from raptors, *Hawks in Hand* (1939), to their seminal work on Yellowstone National Park's grizzly bears, *Track of the Grizzly* (1979). They also authored *The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act* (1968). Field observations recorded in Frank's book, *For Everything there is A Season* (2001) are still being used as baseline observations studies for plant phenological studies in Jackson Hole. Frank and John were also the principal authors for a first of its kind, easy to use, field guide for the Northern Rockies' flora, entitled *Rocky Mountain Wildflowers* (1963).

Other giants in conservation who have written from Jackson Hole included, for example, Horace Albright, *The Birth of the National Park Service* (1985); Jackson's locally celebrated naturalist and Rungius Medal recipient, Bert Raynes, *Valley So Sweet* (1995); and Jackson based photographer T. Mangelsen and J. Goodall, *The Natural World: Portraits of Earth's Great Ecosystems* (2017).

In recent years, two other highly regarded authors emerged from the writer-in-residence program at the Murie Center: Molly Loomis, *Climbing Self Rescue* (2006), and renowned author on western conservation and contemporary cultural, Terry Tempest Williams, *The Hour of the Land: A Personal Topography of America's National Parks* (2016). Additionally, nationally renowned author Barry Lopez assumed the title of writer-in-residence at the Kelly based Teton Science School, while completing his blockbuster, *Arctic Dreams* (1986).

There are many other works fitting the conservation, wilderness, wildlife, and natural history themes, including: botanist Richard Shaw, *Vascular Plants of Yellowstone and Teton National Parks* (1976); G. Gruell, *Fire's Influence on Wildlife Habitat on the Bridger-Teton National Forest, Wyoming* (1980); local naturalist Bert Raynes' *Birds of Grand Teton National Park and the Surrounding Area* (1984); R. Winks, *Laurence S. Rockefeller Catalyst for Conservation* (1997); T. Clark, *The Natural World of Jackson Hole* (1999); R. Righter, *Crucible for Conservation* (1982); T. Clark and A. Harvey, *Rare, Sensitive and Threatened Species of the Greater Yellowstone* (1989); J. Jones, *Preserving the Game* (1989); Jack Turner, *Abstract Wild* (1996) and *Teewinot: A Year in the Teton Range* (2000); prolific Kelly based and nationally recognized author T. Kerasote, *Heart of Home* (1997) and *Blood Ties* (1995); T. Mangelsen and C. Blessley, *Spirit of the Rockies: The Mountain Lions of Jackson Hole* (1999); T. Clark, *The Natural World of Jackson Hole* (1990); J. Ernst, *Worthwhile Places: Correspondence of J.D. Rockefeller and Horace Albright* (1991); H. Holdsworth, *A Portrait of Jackson Hole and the Tetons* (2001); D. Casey & M. Rutherford, *Coexisting With Large Carnivores* (2005); S. Clark, *Ensuring Greater Yellowstone Future Choices for Leaders and Citizens* (2008); B. Smith, *Where the Elk Roam* (2012); P. Hansen, *Green in Gridlock* (2013); T. Mangelsen and T. Wilkinson, *Bear 399* (2015); D. Quammen, *Yellowstone: A Journey through America's Wild Heart* (2016); D. Love & J. Reed, *Creation of the Teton Landscape* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed. 2016); J. Good & K. Pierce, *Interpreting the Landscape*, (2<sup>nd</sup> ed, 2016); B. Smith, *Stories from Afield* (2016); S. Marsh and F. Shepard's award-winning, *Saving Wyoming's Hoback* (2017); and T. Williams, *The Hour of the Land: A Personal Topography of America's National Parks* (2017).

*Memoir, Biography, and Autobiography*

The unique lives and experiences of people residing in Jackson Hole inspire the writing of memoirs and biographies:

A.A. Anderson, *Experiences and Impressions—The Autobiography of Colonel A.A. Anderson* (1933); J. Dyke, *The West of the West Texas Kid, 1881-1910: Recollections of Thomas E. Crawford* (1962); B. Gillette, *Homesteading with the Elk* (1967); E. Goddard and L. Sawell, *A Grand Teton Sleigh Ride* (1973); R. Martin, *Cissy: The Extraordinary Life of Eleanor Medill Patterson* (1979); B. Lemon & B. Anderson, *Cabin Comments* (1980); G. Spence, *Gunning for Justice* (1982); B. Woolsey, *Off the Beaten Track* (1984); J. Sommers, *Green River Drift: A History of the Upper Green River Cattle Association* (1994); K. Thomsma, *The Truth About Sacajawea* (1997); S. Jones, *R. and G. Laubin American Indian Dancers* (2000); C. Moulton, *Legacy of the Tetons: Homesteading in Jackson Hole* (2007); T. Wilkinson, *Last Stand: Ted Turner's Quest to Save a Troubled Planet* (2013); NY Times Best Selling author, A. Fuller, *Don't Let's Go to the Dogs Tonight* (2001) and *Leaving Before the Rains Come* (2016); L. Moore, *Jackson Hole's Birthday Club* (2003); R. Askins, *Shadow Mountain: A Memoir of Wolves, a Woman, and the Wild* (2004); T. Kerasote's national best-seller, *Merle's Door* (2007); H. Baldwin, *Letters from Jackson Hole* (2009); B. Smith, *A Newspaper Titan: The Infamous Life and Monumental Times of Cissy Patterson* (2011); M. Ferro, *If Heads Came Off by Accident* (2012); L. Bednar, *My Final Ride* (2014); D. Cheny's NY Times Best Seller, *In My Time: A Personal and Political Memoir* (2012); L. Jacobs, *Jackson Hole Journey* (2013); E. Layser, *I Always Did Like Horses and Women: Enoch Cal Carrington's Life Story* (2014), also *Darkness Follows Light* (2016); M. Baptiste's, *Altitude Adjustment* (2014); C. Cabot, *Uncharted* (2014); J. Cooke, *On the Road with Janis Joplin* (2014); G. Pucchi, *We Do the Damndest Things* (2015); L. & H. McKinstry, *Wilderness Fever: A Family's Adventures Homesteading in early Jackson Hole, 1914-1924* (2016); and K. Grange, *Lights and Sirens* (2017).

### Fiction

Reference to the Struthers Burt family's many novels was made earlier. Another early novelist incorporating fictionalized facets and composites from Jackson Hole was E. "Cissy" Patterson's, *Glass Houses* (1926); others include: G. Sturlin, *The Moorecalf Rubicon* (1994); Jackson resident and NY Times bestselling thriller series author K. Mills, *Rising Phoenix* (1998); K. Gregory, *Jenny of the Tetons* (2002); T. Welling, *Cowboys Never Cry* (2010); C. Mann, *Why Wait* (2012); national award winning author of 22 thrillers some of which are set within Teton County, C.J. Box, *Out of Range* (2012); S. Marsh, *War Creek* (2014); P. Henderson's romance trilogy, *Teton Season of Joy* (2015).

### Comedy, Satire and Parody

For those inclined to look askance at some of the curious aspects of Jackson Hole's social life, its peculiarities can provide comic relief in writings such as: D. Hough, *Snow Above Town* (1943) and *The Cocktail Hour in Jackson Hole* (1956); and the founder of Jackson Hole Writers' annual conference and author of eight novels, T. Sandlin, *Sex and Sunsets* (1987)—one reviewer referred to Sandlin's writings as "works of staggering lunacy"; and M. Bressler, *Saddles to Sushi* (2008).

### Outdoor Guidebooks

An abundance of guidebooks continue to be authored for the Jackson Hole region. *The Grand Teton Association's* website [grandtetonpark.org/Books](http://grandtetonpark.org/Books) provides a partial listing of Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Park guidebooks. Some titles here overlap with books that might also be listed under mountaineering or natural history or vice versa:

C. Schreier, *Grand Teton Explorer's Guide* (1982); R. Dumais, *50 Ski Tours in Jackson Hole and Yellowstone* (1990); L. Olsen & T. Bywater, *A Guide to Exploring Grand Teton National Park* (1991, 2005); K. Duffy & D. Wile, *Teton Trails* (1995); T. Turiano's *Teton Skiing: A History and Guide to the Tetons* (1995) and the *Jackson Hole Backcountry Skiers Guide* (2004); J. Schmidt, *Yellowstone and Teton Parks* (2004); C. Craighead & H. Holdsworth, *Day Hikes and Short Walks of Grand Teton National Park* (2005); B. Schneider, *Hiking Grand Teton National Park* (2005); A. Lightner, *Roads Through Time* (2009); L. Olsen & T. Bywater, *Guide to Exploring Grand Teton* (2009); U. Butler, *Scenic Routes and Byways* (2012); K. Coburn's lovingly illustrated and written, *The Trail to Table Mountain* (2009); K. Retallic, *Fly Fisher's Guide to Wyoming* (2012), R. Woods, *Jackson Hole Hikes* (1999, updated ed. 2015); and S. Marsh, *Cache Creek: A Trail Guide to Jackson Hole's Wilderness Backyard* (2016).

#### *Anthologies, Poetry and Short Stories*

F. Hunter and E. McCabe, *The Soul of Jackson Hole* (1974); J. Anderson, M. Meyer, & M. Whitfield editors, *Spindrift: Stories of Teton Basin* (2000); S. Marsh editor, *Stories of the Wild* (2001); E. Layser, *Green Fire: Stories from the Wild* (2012); J. Huyler, *Every Full Moon in August* (2012); L. Howe editor, *Blood, Water, Wind, and Stone: An Anthology of Wyoming Writers* (2016).

#### *Art and Photography*

K. Fenton, *Conrad Schwiering-Painting on the Square* (1981); J. & T. Schmidt and photographers U. & W. Clay, *Grand Teton; Citadels of Stone* (1996); V. Carruth & J. Hennes, *Teton Sketches of Summer* (1990); T. Moran, *A Portfolio of Watercolor Sketches by Thomas Moran: Selected from the Collections of Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks* (1990); H. Baldwin, *Local Color: Jackson Hole in Words and Watercolor* (2006); J. Arnold, *Mountaineer's Dawn: An Artist's Ascent of the Teton Range*, with Forward by P. Layser (2011); T. Wilkinson & T. Mangelsen, *The Last Great Wild Places: Forty Years of Wildlife Photography* (2014); D. & J. Poulton, *Painters of Grand Teton National Park* (2015); S. McGary, *Plein Air Master and Mentor Gregory I. McHuron* (2016); E. Goss, *Jackson Hole: Six Decades of Painting the Valley* (c2016); H. Holdsworth, *Grand Tetons: A Photographic Journey* (2017); T. Mangelsen and J. Goodall, *The Natural World: Portraits of Earth's Great Ecosystems* (2017); and, B. Boner's photographic compendium, *Yellowstone National Park: Through the Lens of Time* (2017).

#### *Children's Books*

S. Carrighar's timeless story, *One Day at Teton Marsh* (1940); K. Thomasma's extensive Indian children series beginning with *Naya Nuki: Shoshoni Girl Who Ran* (1983); S. Plumb, *A Pika's Tail* (1994); K. Gregory, *Jenny of the Tetons* (2002); P. Osborne, *Legends of the Sleeping Indian* (2003); G. Robson & E. Clark, *Who Pooped in the Park?* (2005); C. Craighead & H. Holdsworth, *The Kids Guide to Grand Teton National Park* (2006); J. Lue, *What I Saw in Grand Teton* (2017); L. Olsen, *The Ugly Mooseling* (2012);

J. Craighead George's award winning, *My Side of the Mountain* (2001) and *Julie of the Wolves* (2016); N. Stevenson, *Georgia Rules* (2017); and C. Whitling, *Mountain Mix: A Trail-Ready Coloring Book* (2018).

From the journals of the first European explorers to modern day authors, writers have strived to define and record the essence of what makes Jackson Hole so special a place. The amassed body of literature on the many facets of its natural landscapes and unique history mirrors our cumulative perceptions of this distinctive place overtime. The continuing predominance of publications with natural history and Western history themes reflects a profound recognition of the importance of the area's wildlands, wildlife, and outdoor recreation opportunities within a world increasingly comprised of an urbanized society.

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Earle F. Layser, Alta, Wyoming, 2018