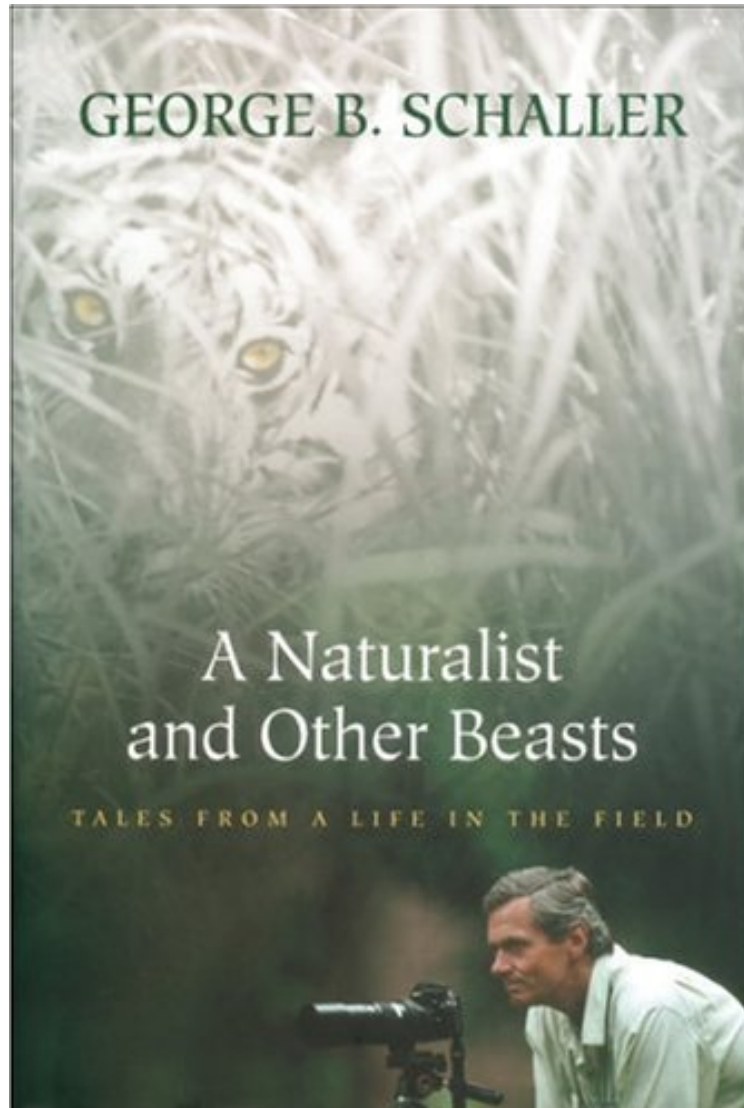


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## A Naturalist and Other Beasts: Tales from a Life in the Field

*George B. Schaller*

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**George B. Schaller : A Naturalist and Other Beasts: Tales from a Life in the Field** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Naturalist and Other Beasts: Tales from a Life in the Field:

2 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Expected more from George By John Schorsch Short stories condensed to dullness from larger longer writings. Not worth the effort. Check primary resources from Schaller's earlier writings. A pot boiler, must be short on cash. Sad, a discount to a great naturalist. 9 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Inspiring... By ROGERIO C. DE PAULA This is a real field diary of one of the few

naturalists alive who continues to walk among beasts! Dr. George Schaller transport the readers to his journeys and research in all the corners in this planet. It's breathtaking, entertaining, and overall inspiring not only biologists or nature lovers. This book shows how is possible to life an explendid life exploring and protecting wildlife throughout the world. 12 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Vintage Schaller! By happyhippo A fantastic book. It takes us on a world tour (The Americas, Africa and Asia) to introduce us to the marvelous wildlife that this field biologist extraordinaire has worked on for the past fifty or more years. It collects articles written over the years in one handy volume. Passionately argued and brilliantly written, highly recommended!

Since the 1950s, eminent field biologist George Schaller has roamed through many lands observing wild animals and conducting landmark long-term studies that have deepened our understanding of them. He has reported and reflected on his work in classic books such as *The Year of the Gorilla*, *The Last Panda*, and National Book Award winner *The Serengeti Lion*, but much of his best writing appeared only in magazines. This collection features nineteen short pieces, brought together in book form for the first time a unique overview of his remarkable career. Chapters describe stalking tigers in India and jaguars in Brazil's Pantanal swamps, studying mountain gorillas in Rwanda and predator-prey relations in the Serengeti, tracking new species on the wild border of Vietnam and Laos, searching for snow leopards in the Hindu Kush, and Schaller's groundbreaking work with giant pandas in Sichuan. Schaller's new introductions set the scene for each chapter, and a new overall introduction looks back on his career. His own photographs appear throughout: of animals and their behavior, of fieldwork, of the author and his family on location in temporary homes from a hut in the African highlands to a tent in the snowy mountains of China.

From Publishers Weekly Wildlife Conservation Society vice president Schaller (*The Last Panda*) presents 19 short pieces culled from the dozens of articles and books he has published during half a century spent observing animals around the world. The selections include studies of the daily lives of such exotic beasts as jaguars in Brazil; tigers in central India; lions, wildebeest and cheetahs in Tanzania's Serengeti Plain; giant pandas in China; snow leopards in Pakistan; and chiru (antelope) in the uplands of the Tibetan Plateau. Entwined with his descriptions of the animals are vivid pictures of his own life in the field: treks to remote places, camps established in tents and huts, hours perched in trees and other uncomfortable posts. Schaller began his career as a field biologist but, as these essays show, broadened his outlook over the years to become an outspoken advocate for wild animals and their habitats, helping to establish many wildlife conservation programs. He states in his introduction that as he looks back over his career, he finds today's conservation discourse lacking in heart, with people speaking of nature as "natural resources." His delightful book, imbued with his own unabashed sense of wonder before nature's beauties, is an antidote to this pragmatic trend. 75 bw photos not seen by PW. (Apr.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist Schaller, field biologist and vice president of the Wildlife Conservation Society in New York, guides readers through 50 years of fieldwork during the golden age of wildlife studies. He organizes his tales of adventure geographically, writing vividly of his unforgettable experiences in the Americas, Africa, South Asia, China, Mongolia, and the Tibetan plateau. In a time of sound bites, Schaller reminds us of the profound benefits of patient animal observation. No technology can replace a trained field biologist, and Schaller is at the top of his field in studies of barking deer and mice, a heron dubbed Siegfried, and prairie dogs in Tibet, not to mention mountain gorillas, tigers, and the thrilling discovery of new species. In this fond memoir, Schaller presents exciting animal lore that will inspire readers to learn more about these precious creatures. It is good to be reminded of what is beautiful in this world, and of our collective responsibility to ensure its continued existence. Pamela Crossland Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved. From the Inside Flap "Full of fascinating observations and eminently dependable information--terrific!"--Peter Matthiessen "George Schaller is one of those rather rare human beings--a painstaking and meticulous scientist who has also the spirit of the early naturalist-explorer. He is a brilliant conservationist."--Jane Goodall "[P]olitics and science are only two of Schaller's realms--the other is the transcendent connection between humans and other animals."--Bill McKibben "George Schaller is one of the great explorer-naturalists, and he would so rank in whatever era he lived. It is a pleasure to read this account from his own pen of his many adventures and scientific discoveries."--Edward O. Wilson