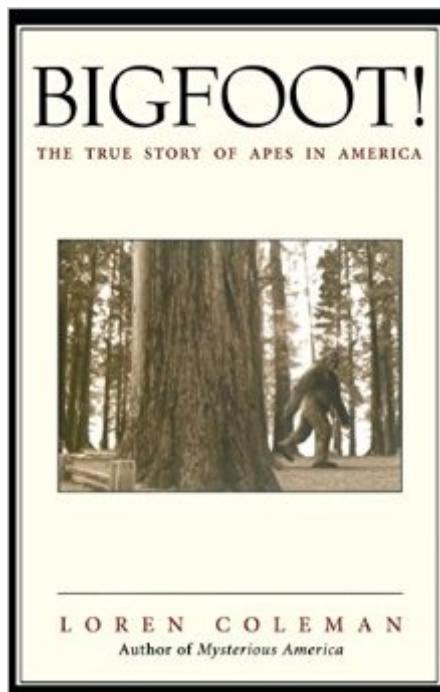


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Bigfoot!: The True Story Of Apes In America



Synopsis

For years, scientists and researchers have studied, speculated about, and searched for an enigmatic creature that is legendary in the annals of American folklore. Now, learn the truth about... BIGFOOT! In this fascinating and comprehensive look at the fact, fiction, and fable of the North American "Sasquatch," award-winning author Loren Coleman takes readers on a journey into America's biggest mystery -- could an unrecognized "ape" be living in our midst? Drawing on over forty years of investigations, interviews, and fieldwork on these incredible beasts, Coleman explores the modern debates about these powerful, ape-like creatures, why they have remained a mystery for so long, and what we can learn about ourselves from these animals, our nearest cousins! From reports of Bigfoot's existence found in ancient Native American traditions, to the controversial Patterson-Gimlin film of a Bigfoot in the wild, to today's Internet sites that record the sightings almost as soon as they occur, Coleman uncovers the past, explains the present, and considers the future of one of the greatest unsolved mysteries in the natural world.

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Customer Reviews

Loren Coleman, America's reigning cryptozoologist, studies, collects information and pursues wildlife that are not-yet-discovered by the legitimate scientific community. Books about the supernatural usually read like newspaper clippings strung together with the occasional "Gee whiz, holy mackerel can you believe it?" side remarks from the author. Coleman has evolved beyond that style. He remains excited about the subject, and succeeds with this book on a level where he hasn't

before. He weaves the historical accounts together with a writer's skill, excellent research, and honest reporting to produce a readable and informative history of the elusive beast. He starts the book by comparing Bigfoot to other cryptid primates (yeti, almas, Yowie, etc.) and follows with an interesting retelling of Sasquatch history in North America, from Indian legends to pioneer accounts. His use of Native American history is as good as anthropological monographs in the research and connections he makes to present the Case for Bigfoot. Along the way he presents the most comprehensive version of the 'Minnesota Iceman' that I've ever read, as well as a final chapter to the famed 'Jacko' story. Well-rendered retellings of all the classic encounters--the 1958 Bluff Creek flap, the Patterson-Gimlin movie, and a thoroughly researched version of the 'Ape Canyon' saga. Coleman does an excellent job in painting a picture of the diverse 'brotherhood' of modern Bigfoot hunters. The remote locations and difficult terrain was obstacle enough to seek the beast. But possibly the greatest obstacle in the search for the mystery hominid were the Bigfoot groups' bitter rivalries and petty disagreements. If you're going to read one decent book on the Sasquatch, I recommend you read this one first.

Through the years I've read many published articles and books in regards to this enigmatic creature. They were good to say the least but were missing vital ingredients, i.e., "The Story Behind the Story." This is where Loren Coleman comes in and fills in the missing pieces. He digs further into these accounts and we get a much clearer picture of important facts and details that other authors ignored, neglected or inadvertently left out. There is no glossing over or added embellishments to placate those in need of sensationalism. Overall this book is a great read and relief from the canned gibberish that emanates from the so-called Bigfoot "experts" whose sites proliferate the Internet. Like Joe Friday of Dragnet fame use to say, "Just the facts, ma'am."

'Bigfoot', the very word brings forward an image of a hundred grainy snapshots of men bumbling around in monkey suits, blatantly faked footprints and a thousand lurid stories usually found in 'the Enquirer'. So any reputable scientist generally can dismiss the whole thing as summer sunshine. I was a skeptic myself before I read this book. But the vexing problem is there has been credible sights of 'something' in the woods that are none of the above things. Credible people seeing incredible things. So what is this all about? 'Hominds' have been sighted repeatedly in every state in the US and the provinces of Canada. There are the ubiquitous footprints, snapshots, movie film, (...)matter, nests as well as the numerous visual sightings. There have also, unfortunately, been enough fakes scams fabrications and hoaxes to frustrate even the most objectively minded reader.

Loren Coleman is a noted investigator and cryptobiologist. He objectively reviews the truly mysterious cases (there are more than the average reader might think) as well as the 'tainted' cases and even the (...)evidence. There is a logical breakdown and classification of the different 'groups'(species) of the hominds with examples of sightings. This book is well researched yet very readable for the layman. I will freely admit that I don't quite know what to think of "Bigfoot" but this book has convinced me that there is a distinct possibility that such a creature or creatures could still exist. Mr Coleman argues a good case here and I would recommend this book to the objective reader.

I must say, this is THE best book on Bigfoot I have ever read. All of the others (by Green, Sanderson, Dahinden, et. al.) are dated and tell of the Sasquatch scene up to the late 70's. In 1985 I wrote John Green a letter asking him if anything was still going on in the Bigfoot world. In his response he says, "I have not written anything about sasquatch reports outside the western states and B.C. since 1977, and nothing at all since 1980, so I can't fill your request for recent information. Books on sasquatch no longer sell, so none are likely to be published." He goes on to give the address for the Bigfoot Co-Op adding, "Unfortunately, they do not receive many reports any more. Public and media interest has dried up and few reports circulate." Coleman's book brings the last 20 years up to date. What makes it especially thrilling is that thanks to my participation, or lurking, on the Internet Virtual Bigfoot Conference, the events and stories related in the book were not things that happened years ago across the continent but events that I read about as they happened. For example: Dr. Johnson at the Oregon Caves, the Skookum cast and the Myakka photo. If you are already well versed in the "classic" stories, his detailed accounts of all the players in the '58 Bluff Creek affair turned out to be full of interesting tidbits and surprises and shed a whole new light on the story. I finally have a full understanding of Ray Wallace and his part in Bigfoot lore. Chapter 15, "The Bigfooters" helped me get straightened out on who was who - sometimes the names and websites can get confusing. If you want to read up on what's been happening in the Bigfoot world in the last twenty years, this book is a must.

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