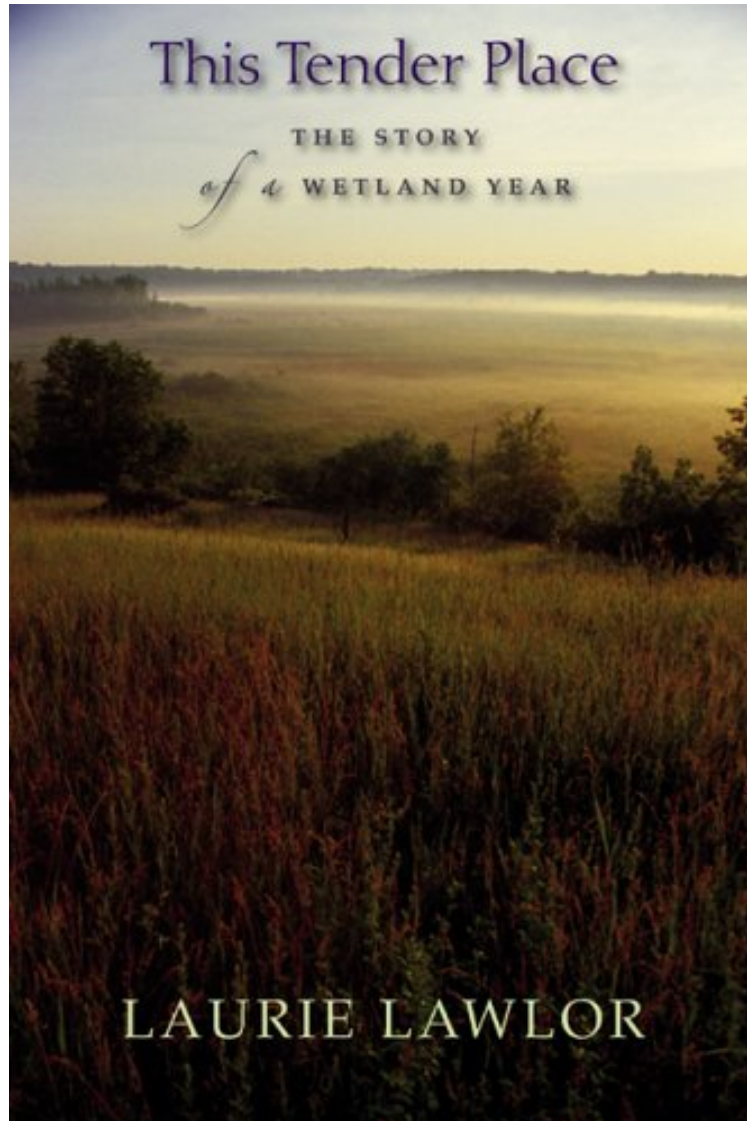


[Pdf free] This Tender Place: The Story of a Wetland Year

This Tender Place: The Story of a Wetland Year

Laurie Lawlor

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Laurie Lawlor : This Tender Place: The Story of a Wetland Year before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised This Tender Place: The Story of a Wetland Year:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Engaging kayak-level view of a wetland, would be good for young adults By Julie W. Capelli I wasn't sure what to expect when I started this book, which was recommended by a good friend. But it turned out to be a combination of the history of early Wisconsin and a kayak-level view of a year in the life of a Wisconsin wetland at the beginning of the 21st century. Descriptions of the flora and fauna of the wetland, as seen by the author on her property, were incredibly vivid and made me feel as if I were walking right behind her down

the muddy paths, or edging carefully out over the winter ice with her, or paddling next to her down the sloughs. Expertly woven in were short passages describing the lives of the Native Americans who first lived in the area, and of the early European settlers who lacked an appreciation for the importance of the wetland and destroyed millions of acres of it, along with dozens of species of plants and animals. This was a book unlike any other I have ever read. And although it is not written as a young adult book, I do think it would make a great book for an inquisitive 11- to 14-year old who is learning about the history of Wisconsin or who is interested in the environment or in the lives of native peoples. I am going to buy it for my young nieces who are home schooling, since they love nature and animals; I think they will enjoy both the photos and the text.

After the deaths of her father and father-in-law, Laurie Lawlor discovers an unlikely place for healing and transformation in a wetland in southeastern Wisconsin—a landscape of abundant and sometimes inaccessible beauty that has often been ignored, misunderstood, and threatened by human destruction. In her decade-long personal wetland journey, she examines the sky, delves underwater, and peers between sedges in all seasons and all times of day. This *Tender Place* is a celebration of nature, the elements, and humanity. From the wetland's genesis during the ice age to its survival in the twenty-first century, Lawlor chronicles the universal ties among people, wild places, and healthy wetlands. An engaging and deeply intimate record, *This Tender Place* is at its heart a story of refuge and renewal refracted through the lens of life within the wetlands—one of the most productive, yet most endangered, ecosystems in the world.

From *Booklist* In search of a country home, Lawlor was dismayed by the dilapidated farmhouse she looked at in southeastern Wisconsin but felt an instant affinity for the wetland out back, a mysterious place astir with strange forces—and, sure enough, her new home proved to be a place of wonder. The author of many books for children and adults, Lawlor has a remarkably transparent style, the perfect vehicle for capturing the subtle beauty of the fen, a rare and precious form of wetland fed by underground limestone springs. Adopting an "attitude of regard" and gamely exploring the wetland via kayak, Lawlor vividly describes cattails and water lilies and an astonishing array of wildlife, including beavers, turtles, muskrats, and swans. Lawlor is just as illuminating in her thoughtful reflections on the site's human occupants, from the mound-building Ho-Chunk to swamp-hating white settlers. Like the surprising fecundity of the unassuming fen, Lawlor's seemingly placid book teems with hidden life and significant observations, as she reveals the beauty and inestimable value of an often-maligned but truly essential natural landscape. Donna Seaman Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved "Laurie Lawlor's writing reflects her love for her wetland. At times the writing is so beautiful, so lyrical, it should be set to music."—Joanne Flemming, Wisconsin writer "A lovingly written work that captures the atmosphere of a wetland." —Elizabeth McBride, Recipient of the Ellis-Henderson Outdoor Writing Award 1997, 1999 and contributor to the *New York Times* About the Author Laurie Lawlor is the author of thirty-three books for children and adults, among them *Addie Across the Prairie* and *Window on the West: The Frontier Photography of William Henry Jackson*. Her books have received several accolades including the Carl Sandburg Award for Children's Literature, the Golden Kite Honor Book for Nonfiction award, and the American Library Association Best Books for Young Adults award. She teaches writing at Columbia College in Chicago.