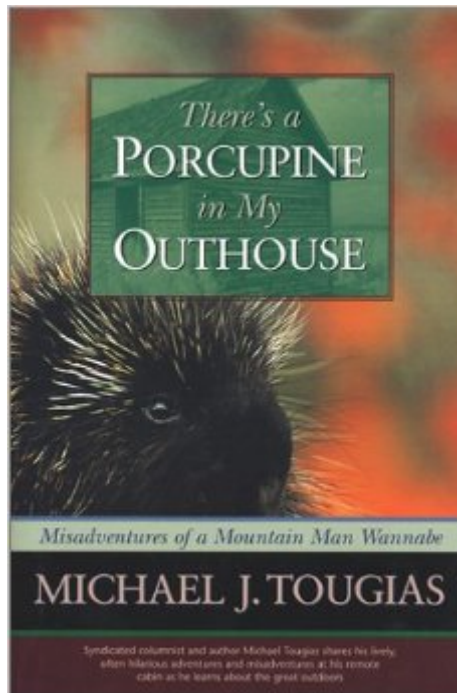


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# There's A Porcupine In My Outhouse: Misadventures Of A Mountain Man Wannabe (Capital Discovery)



## Synopsis

In this funny, honest, personal "natural history," Michael Tougias describes his evolution from hapless flatlander into acclaimed outdoor writer. Aching to become a real mountain man, he buys a remote mountaintop cabin only to find that misadventure follows calamity in his encounters with wildlife, the locals, and nature. In *There's a Porcupine in My Outhouse*, Tougias reveals his deepening respect for and connection to the natural world and how this transforms his ideas on all aspects of life. As his love of the outdoors grows, so does his feeling of responsibility and stewardship toward the environment.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

After putting my three year old to bed for the night, I collapsed into my favorite chair, picked up *"There's a Porcupine in My Outhouse"*, and found myself welcoming the morning sun with a smile on my face, memories my own misadventures, and thoughts of childhood friends. A thoroughly enjoyable and entertaining book. Michael Tougias has the uncanny knack of combining an extensive knowledge of the outdoors along with Wit and heart of a great storyteller. I found myself longing for my own special place, and to share adventures with Michael, Boomer, and Cogs as they learn about the great outdoors and themselves. I will return to this book over and over to share their stories.

Michael Tougias's latest book, *There's a Porcupine in My Outhouse*, is a well-written, humorous

account of some his adventures (and misadventures) surrounding his rustic camp in northern Vermont. Tougias bought the small A-frame when he was only 22 years old. Over the years, with the outdoors world as his teacher, he learns to live with nature, rather than by asserting dominance and control over it. Middle-aged suburbanites, such as myself, will readily see aspects of their own youthful development in Tougias's stories. Don't expect the eloquence and introspection of a Thoreau. Tougias's style is light and very engaging. Also, as a bonus, the book is filled with great recommendations for further reading about naturalists and mountain men. The pages turn very quickly, which is unfortunate, since there are only 160 of them, including lots of porcupine filler. I found myself wanting more after the tales came to a rather abrupt ending. Further development of the three characters might have added to the tales. Overall, I enjoyed the book immensely.

Michael Tougias, a well-respected outdoor writer, has written a wonderful book about his growth from a young novice outdoorsman to a competent expert. "There's A Porcupine in My Outhouse" is funny portrait of one man's experience learning about the natural world. After I finally stopped laughing, I realized that I had even learned a lot in the process of reading his book.

I bought this book because I really do have a big porcupine living in my woodshed at my Adirondack camp. This book is really funny, while at the same time has a lot of useful information in it about living in the woods and a rustic cabin. The author shares a lot of real-life, but amusing, experiences about being in the woods when it's pitch black at night, having no plumbing, etc. All of which I could relate to. I recommend this book to anyone who has a cabin, wants a cabin, or wants to feel that they are not alone in the funny experiences that can happen in the woods. In fact, I plan to leave this book in my cabin now for my guests to read.

Those of us who have gone out for a hike and gotten wet, lost, or scared by a wild animal can all see ourselves in this hilarious book. The author pokes fun at his misadventures in the country, including he and his friends being petrified of a raccoon in the attic of his cabin, the strange looks his neighbors give him when he rides a pink girl's bike (this is before the handlebars come off at a very inopportune moment) and the spiders that come out from under a raft in a pond. I have given this book as a get-well gift many times. Hoping the author writes a sequel someday.

I really enjoyed this book. If you enjoy Bill Bryson you will enjoy this Vermont narrative. Each chapter I really had no idea where it was going and was always enjoyable. Disappointed when I was

done that it wasn't longer. Great, easy read that will give you a nice taste of Vermont off the beaten path.

Of all Michael Tougias' books, this is one of the best: an easy read with humor at times tender and at others, roaring!

After reading several of Tougias' real-life stories of Coast Guard rescues, I found the Porcupine book and couldn't believe it was written by the same author. If you like the outdoors, this is a must-read. The author describes the sort of misadventures everyone has (getting lost in the woods, running away from an animal encounter, wondering about the locals) -- but with all of the details you'd never tell anyone. I've shared my copy with friends and they agree, this book is so funny it should be read only with an empty bladder because you'll laugh that much!

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