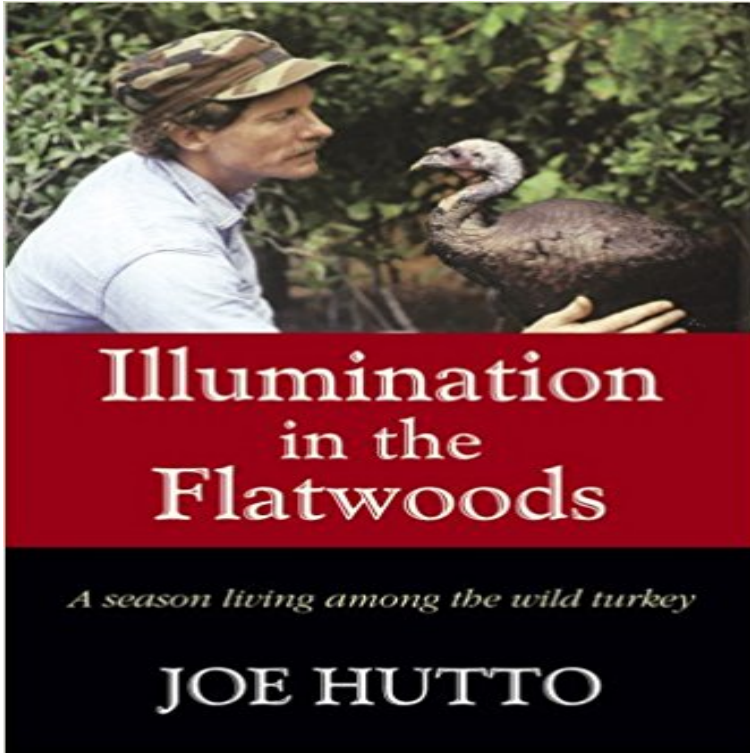


# Illumination in the Flatwoods: A Season Living Among the Wild Turkey



AN UNFORGETTABLE STORY ABOUT HUMAN-ANIMAL INTERACTION\* Now a PBS film: see the NATURE documentary *My Life as a Turkey*. \*\* Includes fifty pencil illustrations by the author and 17 color photos. \*In the spirit of the great animal behaviorist, Konrad Lorenz, Joe Hutto embarks on an experiment in imprinting, the phenomenon by which a newborn identifies its parent. Though he doesn't know it at the time, the experience will change his life. When Hutto finds himself in possession of two dozen orphaned wild turkey eggs, he incubates them with the intention of raising the hatchlings in the remote Florida flatwoods. As the first poult hatches, hears his voice, stumbles toward him with unwavering eye contact, and then falls asleep nestled against his cheek, Hutto is smitten. Occasionally in life, he writes, as we flow along, we are presented with ideas or opportunities that alter our lives immediately and dramatically—the resumption of an academic career, a sudden change in occupation, the pursuit of some lurking artistic interest, or a consuming love affair. . . . It is an instant priority that superimposes itself over all other things. This is one of these times in my life. What the following year brings is something that far exceeds his wildest expectations. The relationship that develops between the author and the wild turkeys so profoundly affects him, that he wonders who has imprinted whom. When the wild turkeys have grown into mature adults, and the last one leaves the safety of Hutto's farm to mate and fulfill its destiny as a truly wild turkey, he is elated and heartbroken, deeply rewarded and bereft. Written with skill and humor, rich in the details of the fascinating behavior of the most elusive and mysterious of the wild game birds, *ILLUMINATION IN THE FLATWOODS* will amaze and delight all who share this season with the wild turkey. Joe Hutto is a

nationally recognized naturalist and wildlife artist. He is currently living with and studying a herd of mule deer in the Wind River Mountains. His last study of a wild sheep herd culminated in the book *The Light in High Places*. He and his wife, Leslye, own and operate a small, historic working ranch south of Lander, Wyoming. \* \* \* This book is all about turkeys, and yet you will come away from it thinking not about poults and jakes but about the overlap of art and science, the difference between love and sentiment, and what fine creatures humans can be when they are at their best. BAILEY WHITE Touching, amusing, illuminating... If you are a turkey hunter, and therefore a passionate admirer of the wild turkey, read this book. If you revel in the keen observations of a fine naturalist, read this book. If you neither hunt turkeys nor care about the natural world, read this book anyway. It will might elevate you from your miserable lot in life. LIONEL ATWILL, contributing editor, *Field & Stream* Hutto beautifully chronicles an audacious, inventive experiment in ethology. It is an extraordinary tale of man-animal interaction related with bemusement, wonder, and ultimately, reverence for the complexity of nature. Kirkus Reviews Joe Hutto has with empathy and patience entered the wild turkeys world like no one before. His insight is a revelation and his writing a delight. GEORGE B. SCHALLER Spellbinding! An amazing story of natural history and grace in the world. Beautifully written and observed, *ILLUMINATION IN THE FLATWOODS* is a work of art worthy of its subjects. This book takes us to a place we might never have even dreamed, and gives our minds courage to believe things our hearts have always known. RICK BASS Huttos book will join Gavin Maxells *Ring of Bright Water* and Joy Adamsons *Born Free* as a classic work of natural history and human-animal interaction.... Huttos prose flows with lyrical beauty, carried on the respect and deep love he holds for his charges. *Bird Watchers Digest*

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His rich writing and **Touching the Wild: Living with the Mule Deer of Deadman Gulch 1** Illumination in the Flatwoods: A Season with the Wild Turkey Touching the Wild: Living with the Mule Deer of Deadman Gulch . the difference between love and sentiment, and what fine creatures humans can be when they **Illumination in the Flatwoods: A Season Living - Google Books** Illumination in the Flatwoods: A Season Living Among the Wild Turkey eBook: Joe Hutto: : Kindle Store. **Illumination in the Flatwoods: A Season With The Wild - Goodreads** Illumination in the Flatwoods: A Season With the Wild Turkey . matter, as I had recently seen the NATURE episode, My Life as a Turkey [first. and was surprised and delighted to find the parallels between turkey and chicken behavior. **Illumination in the Flatwoods: A Season With The Wild Turkey, By** When Hutto came into possession of two dozen orphan turkey eggs, he decided to raise them in the remote Florida flatwoods so they would be able to reenter : **Nature: Touching the Wild - Living With Mule Deer** Illumination in the Flatwoods: A Season With The Wild Turkey .. I have to admit that I did see the PBS special, My Life as a Turkey, before reading the book, but .. He is a naturalist, among other things, and his curiosity is understandable. **Illumination in the Flatwoods: A Season Living Among the Wild** Illumination in the Flatwoods: A Season Living Among the Wild Turkey Joe Hutto No preview available - 2006. Common terms and phrases. activity adult wild **Illumination in the Flatwoods: A Season With the Wild Turkey** Naturalist/wildlife artist Hutto describes a summer

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