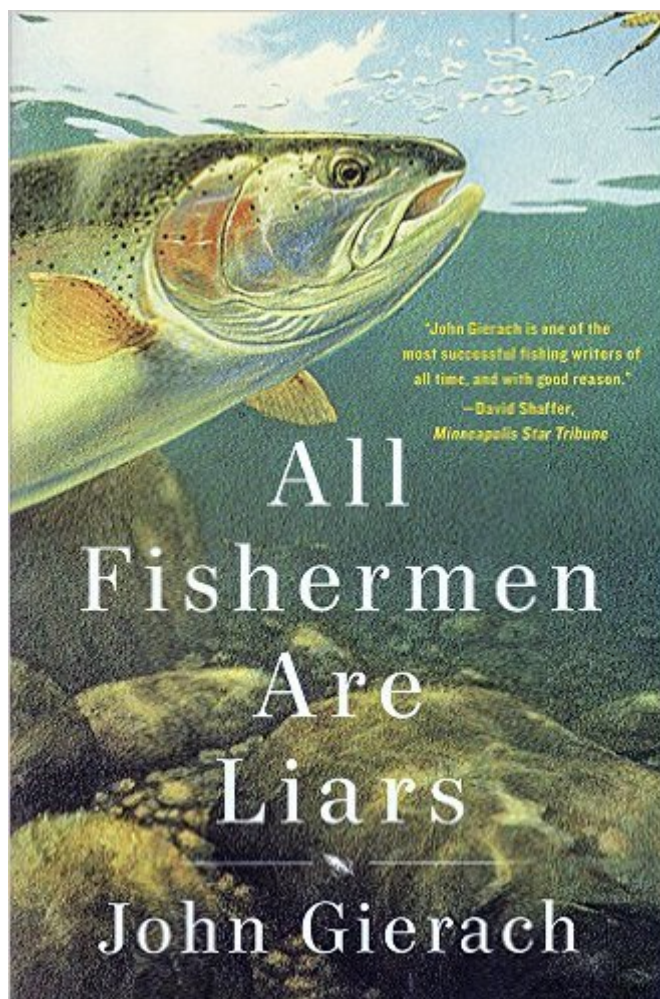


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# All Fishermen Are Liars



## Synopsis

This tribute to the elusive art and ineffable pleasure of fly-fishing (Kirkus Reviews) shows us why life's most valuable lessons and some of its best experiences are found while fly-fishing. For John Gierach, the master of fly-fishing (Sacramento Bee), fishing is always the answer even when it's not clear what the question is. In *All Fishermen Are Liars*, Gierach travels around North America seeking out quintessential fishing experiences, whether it's at a busy stream or a secluded lake hidden amid snow-capped mountains. He talks about the art of fly-tying and the quest for the perfect steelhead fly (The Nuclear Option), about fishing in the Presidential Pools previously fished by the elder George Bush (I wondered briefly if I'd done something karmically disastrous and was now fated to spend the rest of my life breathing the exhaust of this elderly Republican), and the importance of traveling with like-minded companions when caught in a soaking rain (At this point someone is required to say; You know, there are people who wouldn't think this is fun). And though Gierach loses some fish along the way, he never loses his passion and sense of humor. Wry, contemplative, and lively that is to say, pure Gierach *All Fishermen Are Liars* is a joy to read and, as always, the next best thing to fishing itself. From the early days...to his present cult status, Gierach's candor and canniness at the water's edge have been consistent.... His grizzled, laconic persona is engaging and the voice of the common angler (The Wall Street Journal).

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I disagree with the first review, if I were to recommend a Gierach book for first timers it would be "Death, Taxes and Leaky Waders" or "Sex, Death and Fly Fishing". But it's only an opinion. One of

my favorite things about this author is the Glenn Wolff illustrations in most of his work. Kinda feel like I know both of these guys a little. My wife has talked to Gierach via Mike Clark rods in Colorado and I communicate with Wolff via email. I own all of Johns books and treasure them plus a few of Glenns prints from the Gierach books. This man writes about life while fishing, he's not a fishing writer. Not for everyone but give him a read. You may be pleasantly surprised.

I'm a great fan of Gierach. I've read all of his books and, whenever I've reviewed them for , I've assigned them a 5-star rating. However, I found "All Fishermen Are Liars" a little flat. I thought perhaps my lukewarm feelings about this book were a result of having OD'd on all his writings. But, when I went back to some of his previous books, I thoroughly enjoyed them as much as when I first read them. So, it's this book that I found wanting. I liked the introductory chapter in which he presents kind of a semi-autobiography, describing his childhood, his venture out West, his bohemian lifestyle early on, the innumerable itinerant jobs, his evolution into an accomplished fly fisher and writer. However, a number of other chapters I simply found uninspiring---no clever turn of phrase, no humorous situations, no point. Some of the chapters just felt forced and stilted. Don't get me wrong, there were some good chapters--in addition to the introductory chapter, I really enjoyed the chapters labeled 'March' and 'Montana' but, again, I found the book as a whole uneven---and, thus, a little disappointing.

It's not lost on you, reading Gierach, that he attained a degree in Philosophy many moons ago. Like all the Gierach I've read, (which would be all his output), Fisherman Are Liers never disappoints. Gierach has an eye not only for the fishing, but for the place, the world, and the broad spectrum of fishermen. He'll describe, in some technical detail, fly fishing, but also knows and notes the species of tree, bird and critter around him. The author is, by his own admission, fairly reclusive these days; nonetheless, were you so fortunate as to run into him on a river or lake, a float plane or an airport, I have no doubt you'd recognize the gleam in his eye, and be treated to a bit of the joy, reflection, and passion he infuses his work with every. If you've not read Gierach, you've got a treat ahead. Start with Trout Bum and work your way forward; you can thank me later.

Great quality book! one star off because I thought it was a little boring. I'm not an avid fly fisherman. There's nothing better than fishing for me. But this is more about the experience of fly fishing than actually stories about catching fish. A kind of rambling on that an old fisherman would do. Not my style but I still enjoyed it! I'm more into deep sea angling and catching rod bending halibut. This

author is all about the rod bending of a 3wt fly rod.

This is the second book I have read by this author. I believe he is someone who could write a blog about his every day and it would be good reading. Unfortunately others who blog or tweet regularly don't have his skills. The book would be interesting to anyone with an interest in fly fishing, being outdoors, or being around interesting people.

Gierach is unquestionably one of the modern fly fishing era's more popular writers. He earned that title with a stream of books that divulged his candid opinion of many fishing related topics. This book does not exhibit his unvarnished look at issues but it seems a bit protective of his sources, venues; a step back from previous efforts. I like this author and this book but it seems to be the effort of a writer who is tired or has become protective of his privacy. Given Gierach's popularity I can understand his attitudinal change but his latest book is not the same. It is like reading his previous work through some sort of filter.

I own many of John Gierach's books, and this one is as good as any of them.....maybe better than a couple. One of the stories gives a sort of timeline of his growing up fishin' and just life experiences, in a rather interesting way. If you like his writings you'll enjoy having this one in your collection for sure!

Another great collection of stories by Mr. Gierach. The first story in the book is obviously autobiographical, and I couldn't help but wonder as I read it if this may be John's final "book." I sure hope not. The book is story telling and word crafting at it's best. I can't find words to do it justice. For those who have not yet read any of John's books, and are not sure if the genre is right for them, don't hesitate, get this book. The stories are entertaining, and are about "things" most people can relate to. As an added bonus, there are tidbits of fishing wisdom and know-how that either reinforces what is already known to be true, or informs of things not yet fully learned.

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