



THE STORY OF MY BOYHOOD AND YOUTH

JOHN MUIR

## ***The Story of My Boyhood and Youth***

by John Muir (1838-1914)

“The only fire for the whole house was the kitchen stove, with a fire box about eighteen inches long and eight inches wide and deep - scant space for three or four small sticks, around which in hard zero weather all the family of ten shivered, and beneath which in the morning we found our socks and coarse, soggy boots frozen solid.” Thus, with perceptive eye for detail, the American naturalist, John Muir, describes life on a pioneer Wisconsin farm in the 1850's. Muir was only eleven years old when his father uprooted the family from a relatively comfortable life in Dunbar, Scotland, to settle in the backwoods of North America.

How John Muir made his way from that Wisconsin farm to become the great American naturalist, spokesman for Yosemite and the California redwoods, is the stuff of legend: which makes Muir's autobiographical account of his early boyhood a fascinating read.

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Read by Sue Anderson

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Mechanical projects designed by Muir as a youth,  
from first edition



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