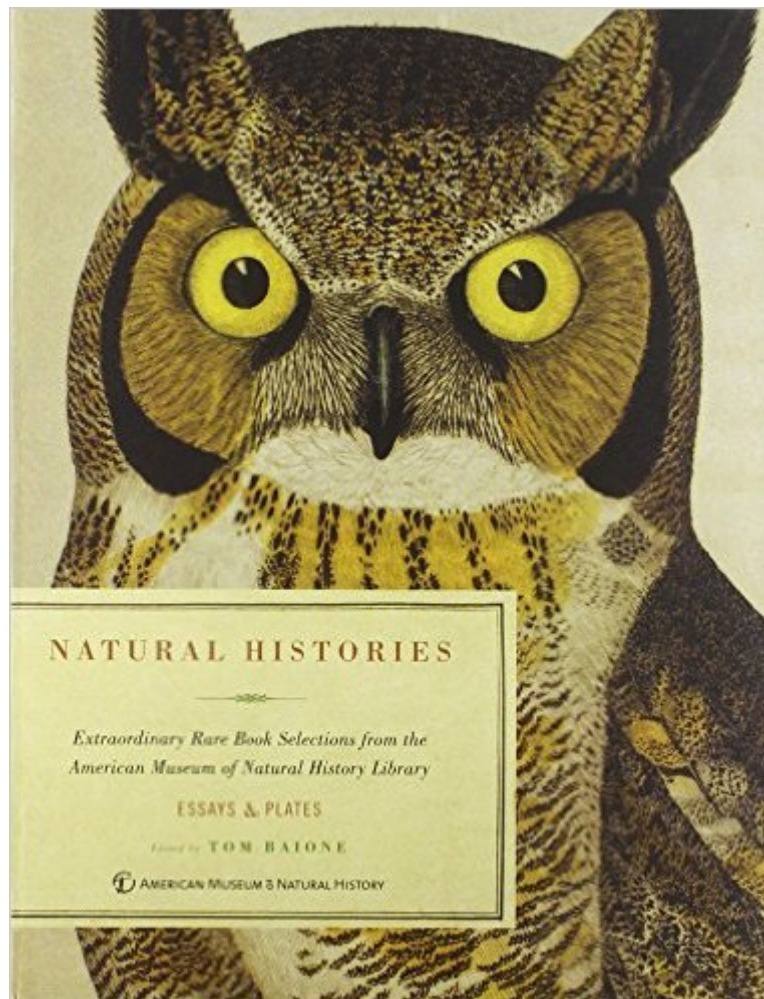


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Natural Histories: Extraordinary Rare Book Selections From The American Museum Of Natural History Library



Synopsis

For the first time, *Natural Histories* allows readers a privileged glimpse of seldom-seen, fully illustrated scientific tomes from the American Museum of Natural History's Rare Book Collection. Forty essays from the museum's top experts in a variety of natural science disciplines, from anthropology to zoology, enhance and discuss each rare work's unique qualities and scientific contribution. Packaged with 40 extraordinary prints suitable for framing, this deluxe edition will fascinate both natural science and art lovers alike.

Book Information

Series: *Natural Histories*

Hardcover: 176 pages

Publisher: Sterling Signature; Clamshell Box with Book & Art Prints edition (October 2, 2012)

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (33 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

As I have told my students in the past (I am now retired), knowledge of the workings of our universe does not come easily or without error. We live in a quite remarkable world and those not totally jaded by the misery of the daily news are aware of it. Now the American Museum of Natural History has published illustrations from their extensive library of rare natural history books in a rough chronology that covers much of the history of the emergence of our modern concepts of the natural world. "*Natural Histories: Extraordinary Rare Book Selections from the American Museum of Natural History Library*" is, as noted in the title, quite extraordinary, including the 40 prints taken from the 40 texts reviewed by the multiple authors (each chapter is written by a different authority). The illustrations range from Gesner's natural history of 1563 to the designs of Seguy in the first half of the Twentieth Century. More and more accuracy in the depiction of nature (for the most part)

reflects the increasing empirical understanding of the workings of the natural world. For the most part botanical illustration is neglected, but the zoological and astronomical parts of natural history illustration are magnificently reproduced. Each of the 40 prints, included separate from the book, would serve as a neat framed example of the art. For the price this is a wonderful introduction to the work of numerous researchers and compilers of knowledge and a great review of the development of natural history illustration. I recommend it without reservation.

This gorgeous cover is actually the front of a big textured box that contains a paperback book that has selections and essays from some of the rare books from the American Museum of Natural History's Rare Book Collection. As if that weren't wonderful enough, you will also find included in the box 40 separate prints that show some of the rare and beautiful illustrations - and honestly they are so beautiful you could frame each and every one of them. The enclosed book is 176 pages and has over two hundred illustrations and has essays from such notables as Neil deGrasse Tyson. The scope and variety of selected books is impressive, and the subjects vary from every kind of flora and fauna to stories about people and places. And more. Highly recommended. I would've thought I would've had to pay way more than this to get something of this quality. It's that nice.

Wow! If i could give this book six stars, definitely i would give it. The book is a must have for every natural history collection in your bookshelf. It's not only the book, it comes with 40 beautiful prints, and i already framed a few for my room. The essays and the selection of the drawings for each great book is perfect. This is an amazing value! This book can cost about three times more and still be worth it (i think i shouldn't have said that) If you love natural history, and by the way, natural history art like me, then don't think twice and buy this book.

High-quality printmaking, for a STEAL. This will make you put down your Kindle/iPod/phone for a bit, and peruse the beautiful prints of animals, fish, insects and so much more.

Awesome, amazing collectable! The box cover contains numerous prints, (that my husband and I framed) as well as a beautiful book inside. All nature related, whether by land or sea. Don't pass on this one!

Some of these images are on display at the American Museum of Natural History; the exhibit runs

through September 2015, but can be visited online at

amnh.org/exhibitions/current-exhibitions/natural-histories . And, I remember a gallery where a few of them are on display, perhaps rotating? Near the large auditorium if memory serves. The book has 40 informative essays, pictures of many of the books on display, and 40 prints suitable for framing. I visit this book in a friend's apartment at least once a month -- a coffee table book often checked out and admired. Robert C. Ross April 2015

A fabulous book with great illustrations and incredible pictures that deserve to be framed. There are more in the series too.

The prints are amazing. We framed a bunch of them for my sons room. The book is also great. Highly recommended.

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