

- 1) Impression: what (if anything) in this book “struck” you - impressed you or annoyed you? Why? Read us a quote that stayed with you.
- 2) The dust jacket calls Davis "one of the foremost thinkers of our time". Do you agree with this?
- 3) What new things did you learn from reading these essays?
- 4) Which short story/essay did you like best? Which short story/essay did you like least?
- 5) What questions do you still have?
- 6) What else have you read on this topic, and would you recommend these books to others?
- 7) What do you think about the author’s research? Was it easy to see where the author got his or her information? Were the sources credible?
- 8) Was there a specific passage that had left an impression, good or bad? Share the passage and its effect.
- 9) Was the purpose of the book to bring to light an issue? If so, did it make the group more aware and knowledgeable about the particular issue? How did earlier opinions about the issue change after reading this book?
- 10) Did the author cover both sides of the topic fairly and thoroughly or did the book appear to be biased, solely written to promote the author's own agenda?
- 11) The way a non-fiction book is written can impact a reader's enjoyment and understanding of it. Was the book written in a way that was easily accessible? Did the language make the group lose interest in something that would have otherwise been an exciting subject? Were unfamiliar terms and concepts explained?
- 12) What does the title mean? What is this book’s “theme“? What central themes stood out to you in this collection of essays? How do these themes resonate with contemporary global or local issues?
- 13) Is any part of the author’s life reflected in this book? Who was the author writing for? Who was the author overlooking? If a writer wants to write beyond their own experience/gender/culture/etc, what advice would you give them?
- 14) How does this book compare to others by this author? To similar books by other authors?
- 15) Wade Davis often explores different cultures in his work. Which essay gave you a new perspective on a culture or worldview? How does Davis help us see the world differently?

- 16) How does Davis present the relationship between humans and the natural world? Were there moments that shifted your understanding of environmental issues?
- 17) Davis often references historical events and figures. How does his blending of history with personal narrative enhance the essays? Which historical figure or event did you find most compelling?
- 18) Were there any essays that you personally connected with or found particularly moving? What aspects of the writing created that connection?
- 19) How does Davis address global challenges like climate change, cultural loss, or geopolitical tensions? What solutions or insights does he offer, if any?
- 20) Wade Davis is known for his vivid, often poetic writing. How did his writing style impact your reading experience? Did it make certain ideas more or less accessible?
- 21) Each essay is a self-contained piece, yet there's a thematic thread throughout the book. How do the essays complement one another, and did you notice any shifts in tone or focus as the book progressed?
- 22) Do any of the essays leave you feeling inspired to take action or reconsider your own life choices or worldview? What actions do you think Davis hopes readers will take?
- 23) If you could ask Wade Davis one question about the book or any particular essay, what would it be?