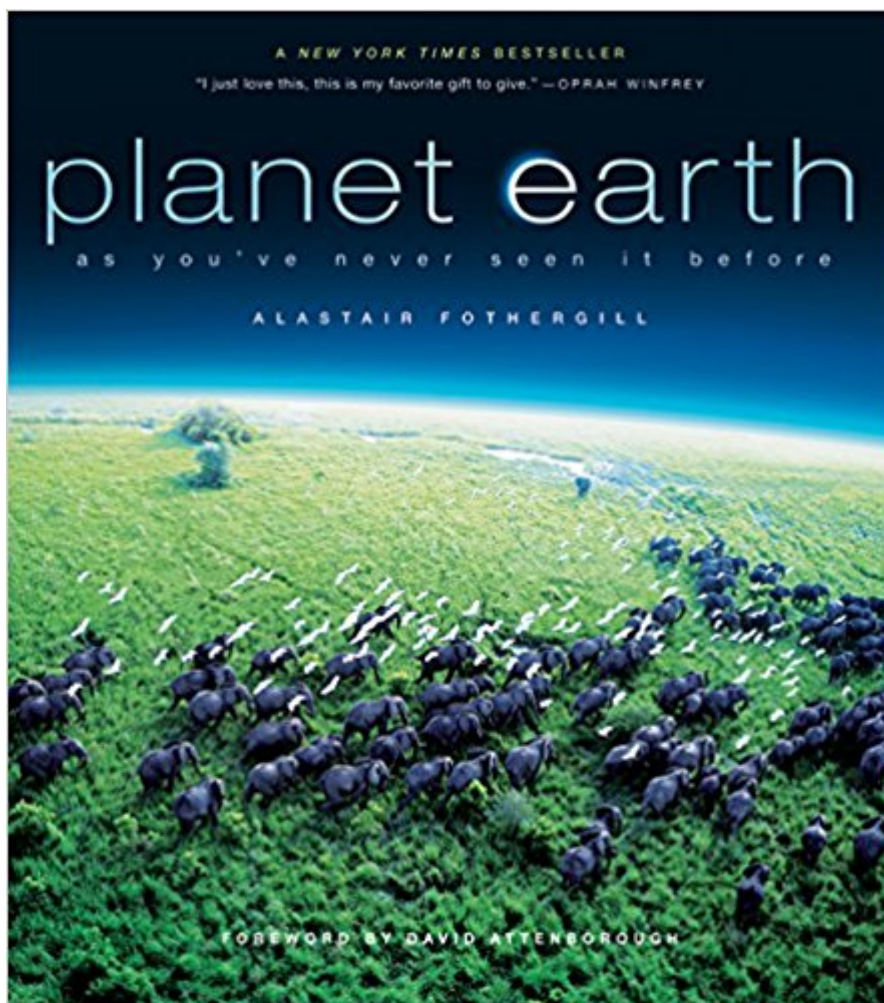




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# Planet Earth: As You've Never Seen It Before



## Synopsis

A visual odyssey that will change the way we see our planet, this remarkable book, companion to the acclaimed Discovery Channel/ BBC series, is an enduring and awe-inspiring record of one of the most ambitious natural history projects ever undertaken. Using the latest aerial surveillance, state-of-the-art cameras, and high definition technology, the creators of Planet Earth have assembled more than 400 stunning photographs of wondrous natural landscapes from around the globe, including incredible footage of the rarely spotted, almost mythical creatures that live in these habitats. Many of the images reveal inaccessible places that few have seen and record animal behavior that has never been filmed or photographed before. With the help of this highly advanced technology and the world's premier wildlife photographers, the book takes us on a spectacular journey from the world's greatest rivers and impressive gorges, to its mightiest mountains, hidden caves and caverns, and vast deserts. Planet Earth captures breathtaking sequences of predators and their prey, lush vistas of forests viewed from the tops of towering trees, the oceans and their mysterious creatures viewed from beneath the surface, and much more—in a magnificent adventure that brings unknown wonders of the natural world into our living rooms. Copub: BBC Worldwide Americas

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## Customer Reviews

In this gorgeous coffee-table book, an offshoot of the Discovery Channel/ BBC series of the same name, zoologist and BBC producer Fothergill takes readers on a kaleidoscopic tour of the flora,

fauna and natural history of the Earth's poles, forests, plains, deserts, mountains and oceans. The series of jaw-dropping photographs starts with a view of Earth from the moon (and pointing out the obvious but shocking fact that no one has been able to see it live since the 1972 Apollo 17 mission). Other images reveal the astonishing variety of geology and life around the globe, including an emperor penguin eyeing an enormous jade-green iceberg; a grove of ancient monkey puzzle trees on the slopes of the Andes; a wild (and endangered) two-humped Bactrian camel strolling with her calf across the Gobi Desert; a long-furred, red-eyed gelada (a kind of primate) perched on a cliff in the Ethiopian highlands; a cave explorer parachuting into Mexico's 1,100-foot-deep Cave of Swallows; a blimplike nerpa (the only known fresh-water seal) swimming through Siberia's Lake Baikal; and the lacy undulations of the Ganges-Brahmaputra delta captured by satellite. The book's only drawback is its large size and heavy weight, which makes for cumbersome reading. (Mar.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

This is the companion volume to the BBC/Discovery Channel series *Planet Earth*, narrated by renowned naturalist and pioneer of the nature documentary Sir David Attenborough and produced by Fothergill. The two paired up to create the series *Planet Earth* and *The Blue Planet*.

The *Planet Earth* series was a groundbreaking HD nature experience, with truly breath-taking detail, colors, and once-in-a-lifetime scenes caught on video. Purchasing this book, I was hoping to have a coffee table companion to the quality of the images seen in the TV series. Opening the book, and looking at the images has left me disappointed with the poor quality of the images. The publisher took almost no steps to correct the images: blurred detail, color shift, pixelization and more. I regret having made this purchase - the Time/Life books my parents purchased in the 1960s were superior in almost every facet of print quality. If you are truly someone that is looking for dazzling picture quality and detail, do not purchase this book. Purchase the BluRay of the series and enjoy.

The first thing that a reader notes, as he or she leafs through the pages of this volume, is the spectacular color photos. This work is a companion to a series on Discovery Channel and BBC. The goal of the series and the book is described by David Attenborough in the Foreword: "So this remarkable and beautiful book should stand not just as a revelation and celebration of the wonders that our planet still retains at the beginning of the twenty-first century. It must surely also be seen as an eloquent rallying call to all of us who care for the Earth's welfare to redouble our efforts to protect those wonders that still survive." The "chapters" of this work include the following: The Whole Earth,

Frozen Poles, The Great Forests, The Great Plains, The Great Sands, Mountain Heights, The Underworld, Fresh Water, Rainforests, Shallow Seas, and Open Ocean Depths. Some wonderful photos. . . . In "Frozen Poles," we see some of those great photos of Emperor Penguins huddled together to protect themselves against the cold, we see the marches from the sea after having filled their bellies with food, and so on. The photos remind us of that great recent movie on the lives of Emperor penguins. On pages 44-45, there are three wonderful photos of a polar bear family. Some stunning satellite photos are included. On pages 160-161, there is a satellite view of rain clouds being pushed across India by monsoon winds. On pages 222-223, there is another wonderful satellite photo of the world's largest river delta. The chapter on rainforests (Chapter 9) is also beautiful. Whether satellite photos or more "up close" pictures, this chapter shows us the lustrous appearance of rainforests. We also see the animals living in the rainforests. And so on. And though the photos are breathtaking, the text itself speaks to the issues raised in each of the chapters. Pages 188-193 combine text of a recent cave discovery (in New Mexico) with some neat pictures of those same caves. The combination of text and photos is compelling. I must confess that this review does not contain much analysis or critique, but this is one of those books where I choose simply to appreciate the artistry of the photos and go from there.

Quality of the photographs wasn't impressive. However, it is a good book to place in a doctor's office or on a coffee table if needed. This is not a good book for someone who loves photography and wants to see photos of nature, because they will criticize the quality. Many of the photos are much less impressive, beauty-wise, than I would have expected (I mean, you'd think they'd choose only "wow" photos, right?).

This book is a masterpiece. It is full of beautiful photography. The text is easy to read and understand. I have it displayed on a table in my living room and when guests are over the book always catches someone's attention. They can't resist picking it up and always exclaim over it and want to know where I found this book! It has even caught the attention of teenagers!

I bought this book under the pretense that the book was new and it most definitely was not. The book's jacket is used and worn in spots. The binding on the book still is good. But the pages have dents in them as it seemed the book was flipped through several times.

This is a BEAUTIFUL book with photos from all over the world and from all sorts of habitats. I

actually bought it as a gift, but think I will order one for myself as well. It looks like there are HOURS of interest here, since it explains the various ecosystems of earth and shares photos of each and how it impacts the flora and fauna of each region.

I really thought that this book would contain eye-popping shots, for being Planet Earth. Rather, it contained some low quality images, which for me personally, was a little disappointing. If you watch Planet Earth on TV, the shots are HD quality and superb, so the images in this book should be able to deliver the same quality. Other than that, it is still a nice book to own.

An absolutely astonishing book. There is no need to go into depth in a review because this is a must have. The picture quality is amazing and the content of this book is simply breathtaking. These are images you will remember for the rest of your life. Even after seeing the entire series in HD on a beautiful television there is nothing that can compare to these unbelievable printed images with full story included. This is the best for a coffee table book or perfect for your den. Your visitors will thank you!

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