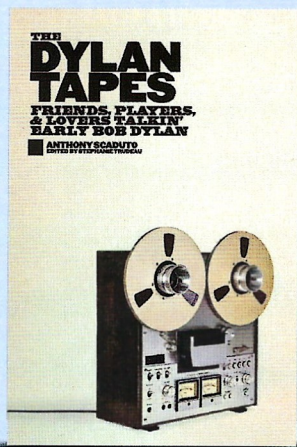


SUPERB GIFT BOOKS



The Dylan Tapes Friends, Players, and Lovers Talkin' Early Bob Dylan

Anthony Scaduto, Stephanie Trudeau (Editor)
University of Minnesota Press (APR 5) Hardcover \$29.95
(400pp), 978-1-5179-0815-7, MUSIC

In 1971, Anthony Scaduto's *Bob Dylan* became the first investigative biography of the greatest modern songwriter, examining his formative years in the New York folk scene and the evolution of his musical style and persona. Scaduto passed away in 2017; the interviews he conducted while researching his book are now transcribed in *The Dylan Tapes*, a book for hardcore Dylan fans.

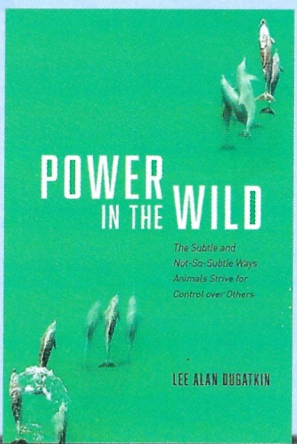
Two dozen of Dylan's contemporaries—and Dylan himself—speak in the book, including his ex-girlfriend, Suze, and her sister, Carla; and fellow musicians, including Phil Ochs, Dave van Ronk, Joan Baez, and the Clancy Brothers. Some discussions focus on

Dylan's music and influences, but most involve what he was like on a personal level as he graduated from an aspiring folk singer to an international star.

Published in full, the transcripts are a window into the reporting process, with Scaduto trying to confirm facts with different sources and verify nebulous timelines. It's also worth noting that several of the interviews include statements that were made off the record or were otherwise not intended for publication. These complications underscore the challenge of defining early-career Bob Dylan, as his own tall tales about his youth and his rapidly changing persona often made it hard to separate facts from fiction.

The Dylan Tapes is a behind-the-scenes view of one of modern music's true legends—and of one of the first long-form pieces of music journalism.

JEFF FLEISCHER



Power in the Wild The Subtle and Not-So-Subtle Ways Animals Strive for Control over Others

Lee Alan Dugatkin, University of Chicago Press (APR 5)
Hardcover \$25 (208pp), 978-0-226-81594-7, NATURE

In *Power in the Wild*, animal behaviorist Lee Alan Dugatkin examines the evolution of social behavior, with a focus on struggles for power within animal societies. From ants to cuttlefish to wolves, this entertaining book surveys various species' strategies for maintaining control.

"Animals are always looking for the chance to force others to relinquish their power," Dugatkin writes. This might take the form of threat displays, fights over quality territory, or the reproductive suppression of subordinates. Raven groups have complex politics and force rivals into retreat, while fairy wrens punish helpers who don't pull their weight. Working together, on the other hand, can

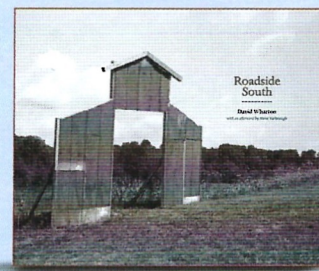
consolidate power: dolphins and chimpanzees form coalitions, and ants build supercolonies.

Each chapter selects an example and bounces between species as varied as hermit crabs and caribou to trace those tactics across the animal kingdom. The spotted hyenas at Kenya's Masai Mara Reserve are a prime case study: individuals are identified by fur pattern, and GPS data is supplemented by following them in Land Rovers. Hyenas are matriarchal; the most powerful females reproduce earlier and give their pups priority access to kills.

Dugatkin's snappy prose enlivens his evolutionary explanations, as of a discussion of how new technology aids in data collection. He is deliberate about highlighting the work of women researchers.

Power in the Wild is a charming tour through the wonderful, sometimes bizarre realities of animal behavior.

REBECCA FOSTER



Roadside South

David Wharton, Steve Yarbrough (Contributor), George F. Thompson Publishing (FEB 28) Hardcover \$50 (184pp)
978-1-938086-82-3, PHOTOGRAPHY

David Wharton's evocative photographs capture defining aspects of the American South, documenting haunting farmlands and wild landscapes and edgy juxtapositions of human-made and natural details, both beautiful and ordinary, "off-kilter and occasionally funny."

Wharton's thoughtful commentary acknowledges the South's complex, "retrograde" view of its history, as well as the enduring effects of racial inequity, poverty, and the removal of Native American people. His images depict this "gap between the ideal and the actual," as with an ironic shot of a kudzu control sign in Mississippi, itself overrun by the relentless invasive. The boldness of the sun-bleached sign in Perry, Florida, advertising Gun World is diminished by peeling paint and adjacent weed-choked train tracks.

Wharton's rich visual iconography is festooned with pigs, fake lawn deer, hand-lettered signs, churches, and abandoned vehicles. A singular sense of place forms; Wharton's view of an eclectic rural Southern identity is conveyed with aplomb. Many of these black-and-white photographs highlight texture and play with strong shadows and light, as with images of hay, cotton bales, weathered armchairs, and a decapitated deer head viewed against stark empty fields and packed dirt lanes.

Mississippi native Steve Yarbrough's concluding essay shares his dichotomous, nuanced appreciation for Southern culture, too, rhapsodizing about its neighborliness, insect "music," tasty food, and vernacular architecture and rejecting its culture wars, evangelism, and "willful ignorance."

Roadside South encapsulates a personal vision of the rural South; it is an engaging armchair road trip through the region's unique byways.

RACHEL JAGARESKI