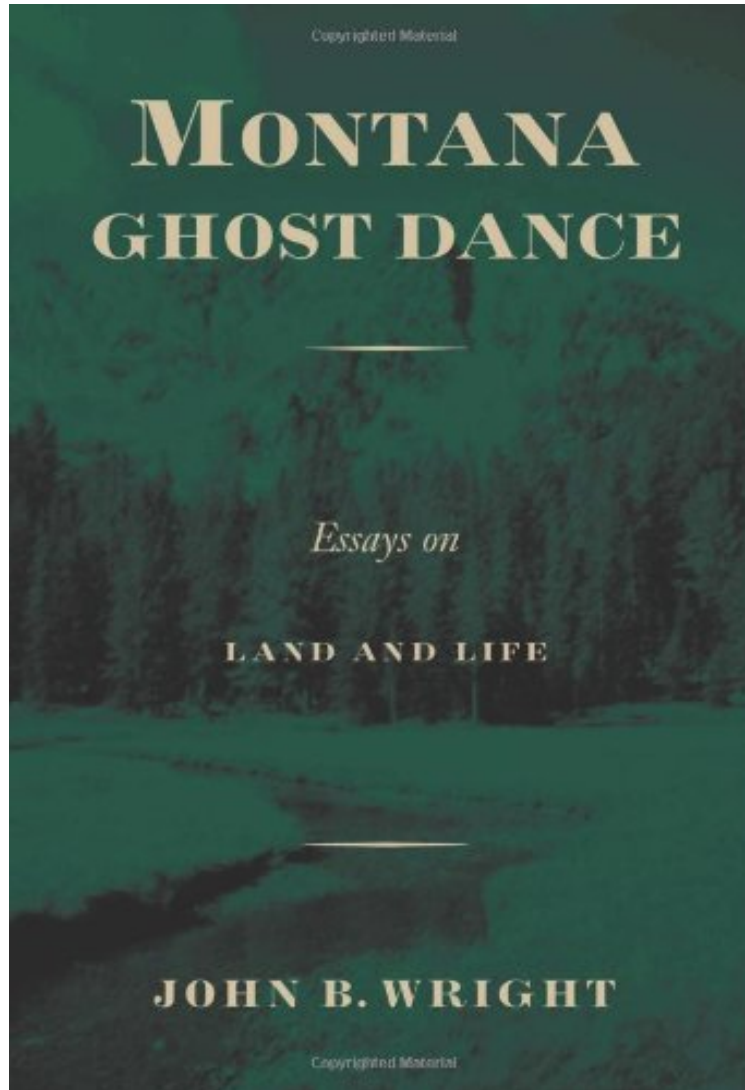


(Read free) Montana Ghost Dance: Essays on Land and Life

## Montana Ghost Dance: Essays on Land and Life

*John B. Wright*

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**John B. Wright : Montana Ghost Dance: Essays on Land and Life** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Montana Ghost Dance: Essays on Land and Life:

Montana has been the "last best place" for so many people. A century ago, Native Americans gathered here to perform the Ghost Dance, a last, doomed attempt to make white settlers vanish and bring back the old ways of life. Today, people are still pouring into Montana, looking for the pristine wilderness they saw in A River Runs through It. The

reality of Montana indeed, of all the West has never matched the myths, but this book eloquently explores how the search for a perfect place is driving growth, development, and resource exploitation in Big Sky country. In ten personal essays, John Wright looks at such things as Montana myths; old-timers; immigrants; elk; ways of seeing the landscape; land conservation and land trusts; the fate of the Blackfoot, Bitterroot, and Paradise valleys; and some means of preserving the last, best places. These reflections offer a way of understanding Montana that goes far beyond the headlines about militia groups and celebrities' ranches. Montana never was or will be a pristine wilderness, but Wright believes that much can be saved if natives and newcomers alike see what stands to be lost. His book is a wake-up call, not a ghost dance.

About the Author John B. Wright, of Missoula, is a conservationist with twenty-five years of experience in Montana.