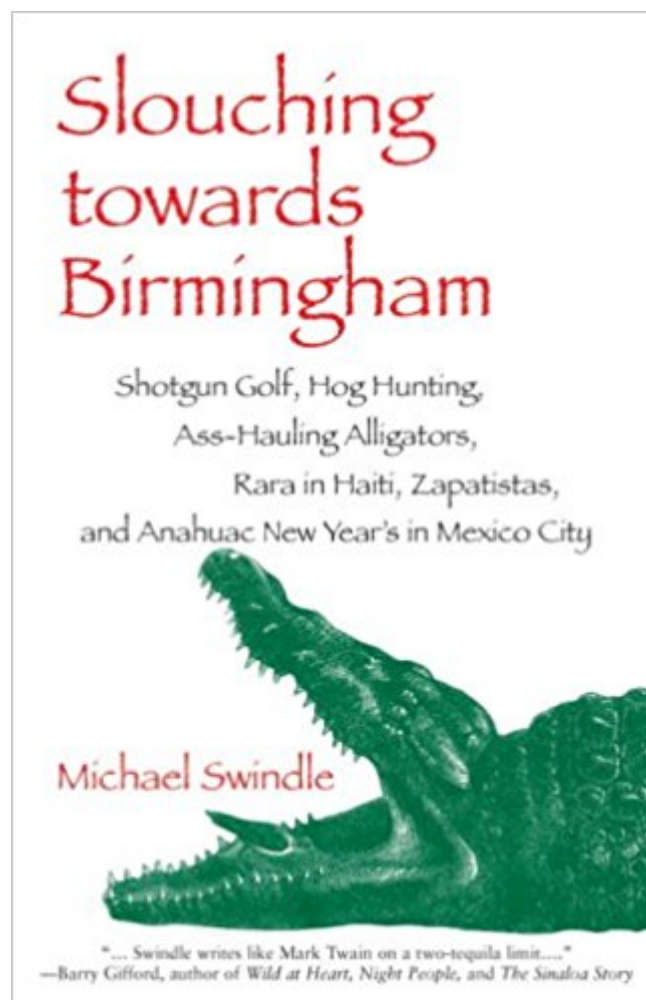




The book was found

Slouching Towards Birmingham: Shotgun Golf, Hog Hunting, Ass-Hauling Alligators, Rara In Haiti, Zapatistas, And Anahuac New Year's In Mexico City





Synopsis

In the vivid and outlandish tradition of Hunter S. Thompson, journalist Michael Swindle shares his most bizarre, laugh out loud accounts of his travels: cockfights in Cajun country and wild boar hunts in the Everglades; "hog dog" rodeo in northern Louisiana and ass-hauling alligators in southern Louisiana; state to state fish throws in Florida to Alabama; and hollerin' contests in North Carolina. Other pieces explore a Haitian military dictatorship involved in voodoo and a story that starts with a Zapatista march on Mexico City and ends with an Anahuac Indian New Year's ceremony for the year 5722. Always entertaining, Swindle has a gift for bringing to life a folksy array of coastal characters, and shows a willingness to unflinchingly examine some controversial subject matter as well.

Book Information

Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: Frog Books (March 10, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1583941169

ISBN-13: 978-1583941164

Product Dimensions: 5.8 x 0.5 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.9 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 3 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #3,821,667 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #83 in [Books > Travel > Caribbean > Haiti](#) #10070 in [Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Writing > Travel](#) #13873 in [Books > Travel > Travel Writing](#)

Customer Reviews

"Slouching towards Birmingham reads like a collaboration between Hunter S. Thompson and Roy Blount, Jr., edited by Willie Morris. Read it through, then read it aloud for full affect."-Allen Barra, Wall Street Journal
"These are wonderful stories by a man who grew wise and fearless enough to let his roots show. Mike Swindle comes from a real place and he makes it real in words like only the very best Southern writers can."-Andrei Codrescu
"Swindle writes like Mark Twain on a two-tequila limit."-Barry Gifford

Michael Swindle is an author, freelance writer, poet, actor, art curator, and aficionado of the chile picante. His feature articles and reviews have appeared in numerous national magazines and

newspapers, including Details, Entertainment Weekly, The New York Times Book Review, The Washington Post, and The Los Angeles Times. In addition, Swindle is the author of Mullethead (Crane Hill Publishers, 1998) and editor of Sequin Artists of Haiti (Contemporary Arts Center, 1994). Born in Alabama, and raised there and in Mississippi, he now lives and works in New Orleans.

I just discovered Michael Swindle's *Slouching Towards Birmingham*. I was raised in Birmingham, Alabama, so parts of this book were somewhat nostalgic for me. It is kind of a "coming of (middle) age" epic. Swindle sets out to do all the things and see all the places he missed, or maybe just passed up, in his sometimes misspent youth. One of the most charming things about all these tales is his love and respect for the people he meets. Without exception, he accepts them as they are, and leaps right in with them in whatever adventure awaits. His tales have a Plimptonian feel. Ever wonder what it's like to hunt wild boars in the Florida swamps? He wondered. Now he knows. Now I do too! Through Swindle's telling, I not only "saw" Yella, the old hog-hunting hound, I heard him, and might have even petted him. I dragged my tired, aching, sleep-deprived, foggy-brained ass through that godforsaken hog farm with them. Swindle's easy, yet vivid descriptions, put me directly into the swamps and bayous of Louisiana, the backwoods of Mississippi, the NASCAR races of North Carolina, and the Florida Everglades. In each of his vignettes, the scene is so richly described I could not only see, but feel it. From the auction-like roar of the Cormier's Cockpit "croupier" to the serenity of the Mississippi lakes, he swept me into the action, so I was no longer a voyeur, but a participant. Each story brought the thought to me, "This is my favorite!" In the end, I can't choose one. I'm exhausted, though. I've wrestled alligators, hunted wild boars, partied at NASCAR races, revisited Legion Field in Birmingham, AL for the legendary Alabama/Auburn football competition, and finally nestled in Gene Crutcher's Bookstore basement again, where Gene introduced me to probably the same books to which he introduced Michael Swindle. One of the most enjoyable aspects of reading these stories is the dry humor. Written in easy conversational tone, it's like I'm listening to him tell the stories, and smiling throughout. My cheeks were sore when I finished. I feel like I know Michael Swindle; like I just had a long conversation with him. So how can I summarize? Nostalgic, fun, adventurous, funny, picturesque, parade of real people, a treasure of Americana... is a start.

You may go to college, you may go to school, you may drive a black Cadillac, don't be nobody's fool. -Elvis Presley '55 I've been trying to write this for the past 2 mos. It's really a crime our southern culture has been packaged and sold. It's like buying red-hots at Wal-Mart. The Hot-Shots finally did

it. They bought our sports,music,food and writers.Our damned culture for Christ-sake. Wrapped it up, in a neat package, sold man. Lock- stock and barrel for the allmighty dollar. Thank God, for one of the last,outlaw southern writers. A gentleman, and reporter.A man that brings us the essence of the dying breed.Michael D.Swindle, will always be a true original. I love him. When it,s gone it,s gone.

But I read the whole book, and thoroughly enjoyed every chapter in it. Swindle reveals some good and bad attributes about living in the South, and finding political refuge in literary and other hard-drinking circles. Having lived and worked in Louisiana, Texas, Alabama, and Georgia, I couldn't agree more with his prognosis and descriptions. I'll have to find some more of his work. This is a great read.And the chapter on hog hunting was pretty decent.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Slouching towards Birmingham: Shotgun Golf, Hog Hunting, Ass-Hauling Alligators, Rara in Haiti, Zapatistas, and Anahuac New Year's in Mexico City Golf: Golf At 60: A Complete Beginners Guide for Senior Golfers to Take Care of Health, Fitness & Play Golf Like a Pro (Golf, Golf Swing, Golf For Dummies, ... Golf Etiquettes, Golf like a pro, Golfer) Bow Hunting For Beginners: The Ultimate Bow Hunting Tactics - Learn How To Use Bow And Arrow And Become A Bow Hunting Pro (Crossbow Hunting, Deer Hunting, Bow Hunter) Bow Hunting: The Ultimate Guide to Mastering Bow hunting for Life! (deer hunting, bow hunter, bowhunting, bow hunting for beginners, archery, bow hunting tips, bow & arrow) Birmingham: Where To Go, What To See - A Birmingham Travel Guide (Great Britain,London,Birmingham,Glasgow,Liverpool,Bristol,Manchester Book 3) Birmingham: Where To Go, What To See - A Birmingham Travel Guide (Great Britain,London,Birmingham,Glasgow,Liverpool,Bristol,Manchester) (Volume 3) Dominikanische Republik, Haiti = Dominican Republic, Haiti = Republique Dominicaine, Haiti = Republica Dominicana, Haiti = Dominikanskaia Respublika, Gaiti The 15-Minute Shotgun: A LEGAL 12-GA. SHOTGUN YOU CAN BUILD FOR LESS THAN \$10.00 IN LESS THAN 15 MINUTES Mexico: Mexico Travel Guide: The 30 Best Tips For Your Trip To Mexico - The Places You Have To See (Mexico Travel, Cancun, Mexico City, Los Cabos, Oaxaca Book 1) Slouching Towards Bethlehem Slouching Towards Bethlehem: Essays (FSG Classics) Stretching For Golfers - the complete 15 minute stretching and warm up routine that will help you improve your golf swing, score, and game (golf instruction, back pain, golf books, golf) Fascinating Golf Stories and More Hilarious Adult Golf Jokes: Another Golfwell Treasury of the Absolute Best in Golf Stories, and Golf Jokes (Golfwell's Adult Joke Book Series 2) When You're Up to Your Ass in Alligators: More Urban Folklore from the

Paperwork Empire Mexico: Mexico Travel Guide: 101 Coolest Things to Do in Mexico (Mexico City, Yucatan, Los Cabos, Oaxaca, Cancun, Guanajuato, Guadalajara, Puebla) Bow Hunting For Beginners: How To Choose The Best Bow For You, Plus Amazing Target Shooting Tips And Tricks To Improve Your Aim! (Crossbow Hunting, Deer Hunting, Bow Hunter) The Foxfire Book: Hog Dressing, Log Cabin Building, Mountain Crafts and Foods, Planting by the Signs, Snake Lore, Hunting Tales, Faith Healing, Moonshining, and Other Affairs of Plain Living Fight: Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Ass-Kicking but Were Afraid You'd Get Your Ass Kicked for Asking The Fat Ass Guide to Hiking: Yellowstone National Park (Fat Ass Guides Book 1) Absolutely Hilarious Adult Golf Joke Book: A Treasury of the Best Golf Jokes Ever Causing Loud Guffaws and Laughing Convulsions - Hilarious Golf Jokes ... Adult Joke Book Series) (Volume 1)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)