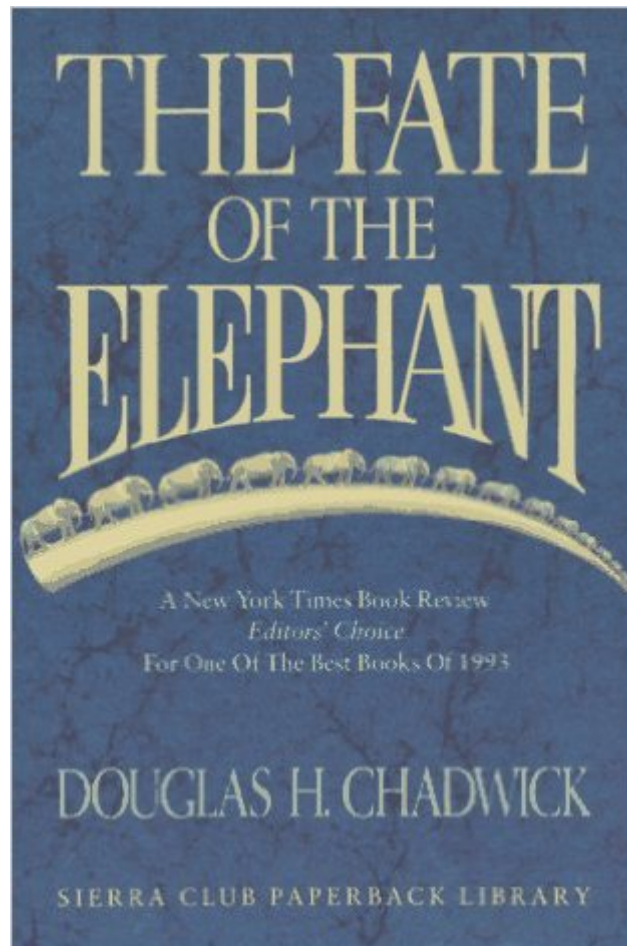


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# The Fate Of The Elephant



## Synopsis

Noted wildlife biologist and author Chadwick provides a comprehensive exploration of the natural history and modern fate of the world's elephants, centered around the theme that "we are discovering a creature greater in many ways--and more like us--than we had ever imagined it to be. Even as we are destroying it". Annotated bibliography. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (4 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

In a mere 475 pages, Douglas Chadwick's *The Fate of the Elephant* manages to thoroughly cover a range of subjects almost as large as the elephants that serve as its focus. Originally assigned by National Geographic as a piece on "elephants of the world," each chapter in the book opens in a new setting, from the elephant enclosure at an American zoo, to the parts of Africa and Asia where elephants can still be found in the wild. From the workshop of Japanese ivory artisans to a Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) conference in Switzerland, he also journeys to elephantless areas where their presence is still felt. Knowing a little about man's history with elephants, I assumed--even daresay expected--that at least some parts of the book would be dedicated to the kind of finger-pointing induction of guilt that has come to be seen as a means to inspire action on the part of the general public. Refreshingly, there is none of that to be found here, yet the final emotions that the reader comes away with are no less strong. Chadwick does not trivialize the fact that, for him, writing *The Fate of the Elephant* was as much a personal exploration of a subject of lifetime interest as a travel adventure undertaken for the sake of National

Geographic. His frankly portrayed moments of sheer joy and of utter frustration become highs and lows for the reader as well. Along these same lines, Chadwick skillfully avoids simplifying those engaged in the struggle over what should be done with elephants into "good guy" and "bad guy" camps. Though having just seen the body of a faceless and bloody young bull elephant lying in the bush, he does not celebrate when reports of killed poachers come across his radio.

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