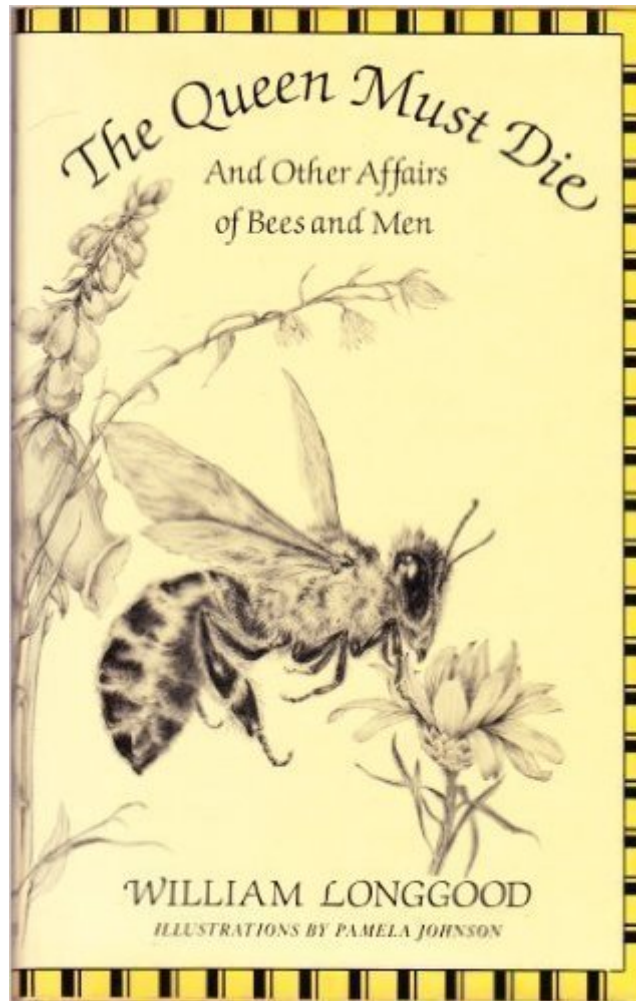


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# The Queen Must Die: And Other Affairs Of Bees And Men



## Synopsis

"An engaging collection of observations about honeybees and their activities." •Publishers Weekly  
--This text refers to the Paperback edition.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 234 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (41 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,950,304 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #40 in [Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Field Guides > Insects & Spiders](#) #2423 in [Books > Science & Math > Agricultural Sciences > Animal Husbandry](#) #72306 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors](#)

## Customer Reviews

I LOVED this book. As Joanne Lauck in her book *The Voice of the Infinite in the Small* says, "The affinity of beekeepers for their bees is called 'bee fever.' Its onset might be slow or fast, but the end result is the same. You fall in love with honeybees and get your first hive. Later as puzzled friends and relatives ask you why, you try to explain, calling the malady a blessing." William Longgood caught his bee fever after he got his first hive, and this is the story of its manifestation. I have discovered something in the reading of his book... "bee fever" is contagious. I think I have caught it. Mr. Longgood, a Pulitzer Prize winner, brings his deep observational skills to bear in this delightful book. I recommend it to anyone who has an affinity for other forms of life on our planet. I HIGHLY recommend it for someone who is afraid of bees as I was before I read this book. I still have a bit of the shadow of my former fear, but much of it has been replaced by respect and curiosity. I truly believe that affinity and compassion is the best defense against fear, and certainly Mr. Longgood's book aides the development of both for the honeybee. I was very sorry to discover that Mr. Longgood has passed into the Infinite in August of 2000, but I cannot imagine he would need a better legacy than this wonderful book.

A warm-hearted and touching look into the life of bees. Through the eyes of the author, the

personality, social culture and care of bees are explored with love and wit. While scientifically sound, this book reads more like a novel than a text book. I highly recommend this book. Thoroughly enjoyable.

What a great read about all things bees - and our interaction with them. I discovered this gem on a search at the library and recognizing it as the book frequently quoted in "The Secret Life of Bees", and thought it might be interesting. Well it was much more than interesting. Mr. Longwood presents his insights and information in a delightful, informal manner. Even if you have little interest in bees or their "affairs", you will still be entertained and enlightened. I highly recommend this book.

Without being highly educated in scientific terms or history, this book was a wonderful and entertaining read. I have always been fascinated by insects, especially bees and ants, and this book fulfilled every question I had on bees. Longgood has written it so well that it is like reading a novel rather than nonfiction. This book makes one want to go out in the hills and study the nearest colony of insects all day long.

I read this book two years ago and continue to savor it. Longgood spins a yarn of the four seasons of the bees, telling about his beginnings as a beekeeper and the changing "persona" of the hive. And the rare but inevitable times the Queen bee must die to save the hive. I continue to recommend this book to anyone who is even remotely interested in beekeeping, nature, gardening, or just contemplating life. His gardening book "Voices from the Earth" is also a treasure

MR LONGGOOD HAS TAKEN THE SEEMINGLY MUNDANE CHORES OF LIFE WITHIN THE BEE HIVE AND GIVEN THEM A PERSPECTIVE THAT EVEN THE MOST STAUNCH INSECT HATER WILL FIND FACINATING. THIS BOOK BRINGS YOU TO A LEVEL OF FASCINATION WITH LITTLE CREATURES WHICH WILL FOSTER AN APPRECIATION FOR BEES THAT YOU NEVER COULD HAVE IMAGAGINED.

This author speaks to the scientist, philosopher and naturalist in all of us! My family bought this book to determine whether we wanted to start a beekeeping hobby but received much more from it. It's brilliant and not only guides and instructs but encourages one to reflect on the mysteries, miracles and humor in nature, one's own life and society. This is one author I'd love to invite to a dinner party!

This book is the most complete and accurate book about honey bees. I raise Honey Bees just for the love of bees and have read hundreds of books on this topic. William Longgood is the expert on bees. I wish more bee keepers would follow his sound advice and his practices then we may have more healthy bees on our planet. I use Top Bar hives not Langstroth but this book looks at the bees not the type of equipment used. A definite must read.

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