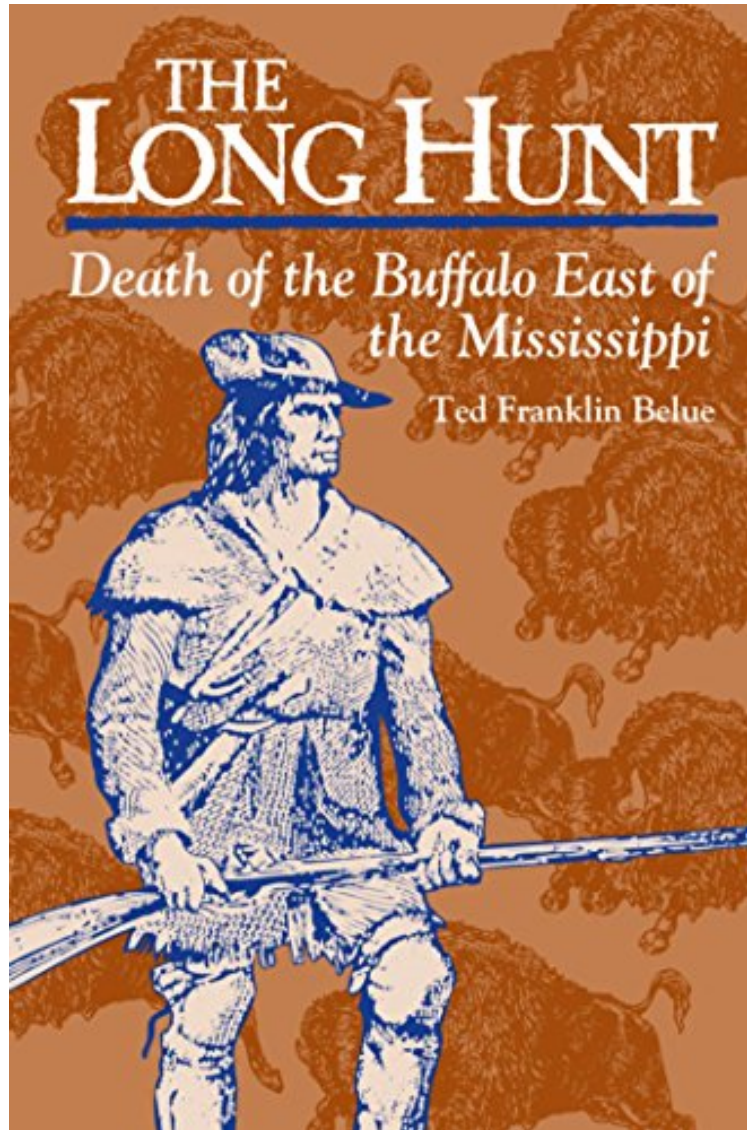


(Free download) The Long Hunt: Death of the Buffalo East of the Mississippi

## The Long Hunt: Death of the Buffalo East of the Mississippi

Von Ted Franklin Belue

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**Von Ted Franklin Belue : The Long Hunt: Death of the Buffalo East of the Mississippi** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Long Hunt: Death of the Buffalo East of the Mississippi:

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Belue takes us out of the classroom and into the woods! Von Ein Kunde By the time of Daniel Boone's death in 1820 the last buffalo had disappeared from the hunter's paradise of Kentucky where it had thrived since its forebears migrated to North America from Asia during one of the Ice Age's last interglaciations. Folsom man hunted the now extinct bison

antiquus from the Pacific Ocean to Kentucky. One of its descendant is the North American bison, or buffalo, the largest animal on the continent at the time of European incursion into North America. Most attention given to the buffalo has previously centered on the vast herds that sustained the nomadic culture of the Plains Indians. In his narrative Ted Franklin Belue traces the decimation of the smaller herds that had migrated east of the Mississippi in the 1500s. His intent is to tell the earlier story of buffalo hunting in the East, emphasizing the hunters and their skills as well as the significance of the buffalo's tragic annihilation in the larger setting of the exploration and settling of eastern North America. These purposes are largely fulfilled in a narrative history that encompasses much of America's frontier past. The author's knowledge of border life and the lore of buffalo, especially the skills and accoutrements of those who hunted them, are combined with an exhaustive survey of existing sources. Using contemporary accounts of the naturalists, explorers, hunters, surveyors, and trappers who encountered the buffalo firsthand, Belue details the steady attrition of these wild cattle, drawing on memoirs, letters, travel accounts, diaries, journals, and the rich materials of the Draper and Shane papers. Andre Michaux, Nicholas Cresswell, John Filson, John Floyd, and Daniel Trabue are among the informants that chronicle the slaughter. After only a few decades, the sizable herds east of the Mississippi were reduced to a few pitiful survivors. Beginning with Native Americans, Belue documents the intrusion of successive waves of Spanish conquistadors, then French explorers and Black Robes, devoting much attention to the English traders and Long Hunters active in Kentucky and Tennessee just prior to settlement. Though the entire eastern range of the buffalo is covered, most of the accounts originate west of the mountains, especially in the Kentucky and Tennessee country. References to buffalo east of the mountains are scant, but the author is able to document their presence as far east as Tidewater Virginia. The final chapter, "Requiem," contains accounts of last sightings, when the pressures of settlement and over-hunting displaced and finally annihilated the isolated survivors of the larger herds. As the sources indicate, buffalo were too often killed for merely a tongue or a hump steak, their carcasses left to rot where they fell. The numerous testimonials to their destruction become an elegy for lost American innocence. Belue's recital of the particulars, a chronicle of waste, also provides insight into the minds and lives of those who killed the buffalo. In addition to describing the processes by which they were hunted, butchered, and tanned, he provides fresh insights into attitudes about the natural abundance the newcomers found on the frontier and squandered. Examining the buffalo from a variety of perspectives, he includes accounts of buffalo attacks and early efforts by George Washington and others to crossbreed buffalo with domesticated cattle....Though the author does not editorialize, questions about man's often thoughtless exploitation of the natural worlds are implicit throughout. This book fills a significant gap in frontier history, examining the effects of settlement upon an animal that embodied the natural abundance of the lands upon the "western waters." Belue adds a selected annotated bibliography and a very useful glossary. Readable and richly documented, with a text that will appeal to popular and scholarly readers alike, *The Long Hunt* dispassionately chronicles the extermination of one of America's noblest creatures. Dr. Richard Taylor Department of English Kentucky State University0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A must read!--Western Writers of AmericaVon Ein KundeSeveral good books about the American bison are available in today's marketplace. Among the best are David Dary's *The Buffalo Book*, and Tom McHugh's *The Time of the Buffalo*. Now comes Ted Franklin Belue's *The Long Hunt* to make a threesome of outstanding volumes on this most recognizable of American wildlife. But Belue's book is different. Now, for the first time (that I know of) the eastern variety of the species is chronicled. Drawing upon archaeological evidence and utilizing first-hand accounts of early explorers, pioneers, and settlers along the Eastern seaboard and in the vast trans-Appalachian country, Belue follows the buffalo's saga from its earliest confrontation with American Indians, through the first European impact, and all the way down to the animal's extinction east of the Mississippi River. A valuable part of this book (aside, of course, from the invaluable information about the buffalo itself) is the huge amount of data that Belue imparts to his reader about the long-hunter, the eastern forerunner of the mountain man. Complete with extensive notes, illustrations, appendices, and bibliography, *The Long Hunt* is a volume to be read and intensely studied by any student of America's first West. One of the finest tributes to this book that I have read came from Dr. Richard Taylor of Kentucky State University, who wrote, "What David Dary has done in his study of buffalo west of the Mississippi, Belue has done for those east of it."--Jim Crutchfield, *Western Writers of America*, April 1998, *Roundup Magazine*0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. "A welcome addition!"--Beth Rengstorf, *Bison World*Von Ein KundeBuffalo history enthusiasts will find that Ted Belue's book is written just for them. While there are a number of effective historical, nonfiction books on the American buffalo available, this one has the advantage of focusing attention specifically on the death of the buffalo east of the Mississippi. This noteworthy recounting of buffalo and their gruesome end gives a realistic picture of what occurred. Belue provides readers with enough information to gain both insight and comprehension. By the 1820s, the eastern buffalo herds were gone. The author uses many quotes from early chronicles to illustrate a vivid account of the hardships hunters encountered as well as the plight of the buffalo east of the Mississippi. Belue's careful research is evident and reinforced by the excellent selection of black-and-white photographs and old maps. The glossary, index, and selected annotated bibliography are very helpful to the reader. This book is written on a slightly higher reading level and is very comprehensive. This title will fill a gap in most collections and will appeal particularly to readers of

American buffalo history. This book would be a welcome addition to any "buffalo/bison" book shelf.

KurzbeschreibungFolklore, archaeological data, and first-person narratives contrast the wanton destruction of the eastern buffalo with the spirit and heroism of the early frontier.KurzbeschreibungFolklore, archaeological data, and first-person narratives contrast the wanton destruction of the eastern buffalo with the spirit and heroism of the early frontier.ber den Autor und weitere MitwirkendeTed Franklin Belue teaches at Murray State University in Kentucky. He is also the author of *The Long Hunt* and *Hunters of Kentucky*.