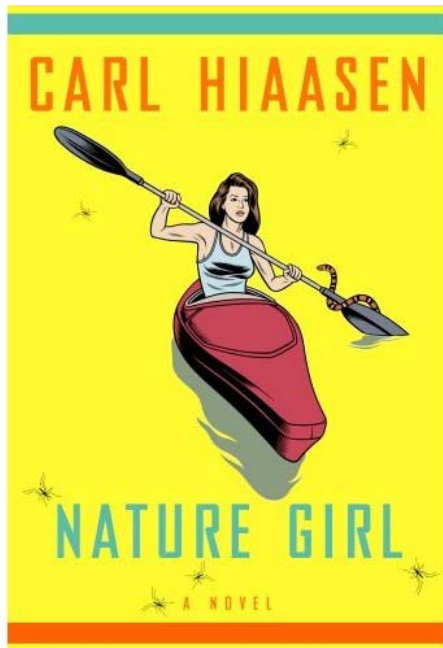


Nature Girl

by Carl Hiaasen (2006)

Review by Jules McLeland



Nature Girl is a story filled with unique characters who together tell a tall tale about a trip to the Everglades. The first character is a young Seminole- named Sammy Tigertail whose early years was spent in the white culture as Chad McQueen until his dad died. His step mom shipped him off to the reservation to live with his mother, where he was embraced by his family and he got his new name. He was taking a tourist out on the water and the guy dies and he is scared he will be accused of murder so he leaves his body in the Everglades. He was raised by the fishing docks and not far away from them lived a woman named Honey Santana & her son Fry in a trailer park. She worked at a fish market for a lecherous man named Mr. Piejack who lusted after her.

More than a thousand miles away lived a married telemarketer named Boyd Shreauve. His life sucked and he was lazy. He was having an affair with a woman in the next cubicle and her name was Miss Fonda. During his day as a telemarketer he happens to call Honey Santana and to sell her some worthless land. She took medication for her mental condition. She took a personal offense against the caller plotting a plan. Now is when Boyd's life became complicated as he got fired. Lily Boyd's wife hires a private investigator named Dealey to follow him and bring her proof of his infidelities. Money is no object for Lily as her interest grows on what she expects the private investigator to share with her. He follows Boyd in his suit into the Everglades.

Back in the Everglades called Dismal Key we met Perry Skinner the ex-husband of Honey and father of Fry. Next we met a young coed named Gillian St. Croix. Mix all the people up and you have a woman off her medication seeking revenge. This cast of lunatic men, desperate women, skateboarding teen and a restless ghost make this a fun and quirky quick read for someone looking for an easy read.

Nature Girl is located in the library's Fiction section under "HIA."