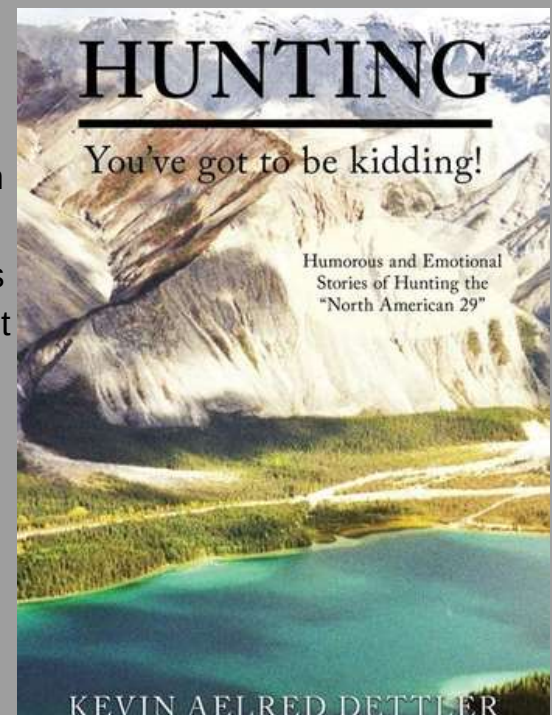


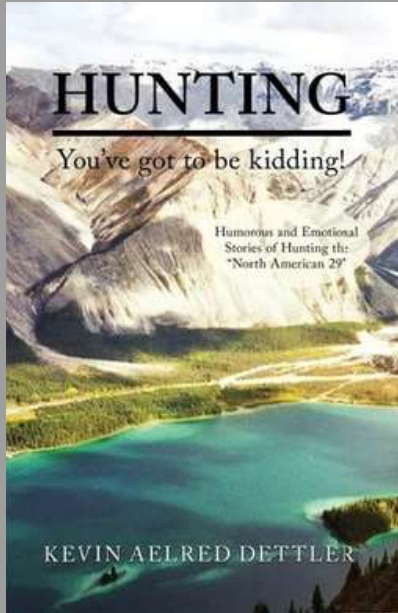
# ABOUT THE BOOK

## HUNTING: YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING!

Hunting: You've got to be kidding! is a wonderful true story about a man with a dream. Written by Kevin A Dettler, it is a humorous and emotional story of his endeavor to achieve what only 120 hunters in the world had accomplished. The book takes you through a chronological order of years as the author hunts all the big game species that call North America home. Readers are captivated as Kevin, in his unique way, relates the emotional, financial, and spiritual aspects required to fulfill the dream. That being one of the 120 (now about 140) worldwide hunters to receive the award from Safari Club international for collecting and registered all 29 species, thus "The North American 29 award". You will be entertained as the books' focus dwells, not on the hunting, but on the mental processes associated with hunting trophy big game animals. Best of all are the many humorous "you've got to be kidding" moments! It really is a story of faith in God and perseverance. Enjoyed by non-hunters also, including men and women.



# Review of "Hunting: You've Got to Be Kidding!" By Clarion Reviews



Kevin Aelred Dettler  
The Ewings Publishing Group  
(252pp)  
979-889031644-8

**Clarion Rating: 3 out of 5**

***Hunting is a good-natured trophy hunter's memoir about crisscrossing North America in pursuit of an exclusive prize.***

Kevin Aelred Dettler's memoir *Hunting* covers dozens of big-game hunting trips around North America.

Beginning with Dettler's initiation into big-game hunting over the course of a grueling sheep hunt in Alaska, *Hunting* recounts a decade-long pursuit of the North American 29 award—an exclusive prize that recognizes hunters who have killed and registered all twenty-nine big-game animals native to North America. In hunting these creatures—the brown bear and polar bear among them—Dettler traversed the continent. He assumed a happy-go-lucky attitude throughout his travels; it, in turn, infuses the book, which is filled with campfire-style, wilderness images, and trophy shots.

Each chapter focuses on a specific animal, recounting the hunts Dettler went on in search of it. The quirks of big-game hunting are mentioned throughout. In Canada's rugged Willmore Wilderness Park, Dettler abandoned all of his possessions in order to carry the horns, hide, and meat of a massive ram back to base camp. Three years later, his clothes were returned in the mail. Another trip took place four days after 9/11; Dettler recalls rearranging his hunting rifles curbside at the Minneapolis–Saint Paul International Airport and boarding the plane without incident, marveling at the near-empty cabin. Multiple hunting trips are narrated in the present tense, resulting in some immediacy; there are exciting details of camping in negative-forty-degree Alaskan winters and sighting a one-and-a-quarter-ton bison.

A good-natured adventure memoir, *Hunting* is about crisscrossing North America, braving extreme climates to kill majestic animals.

Reviewed by Willem Marx

February 14, 2024