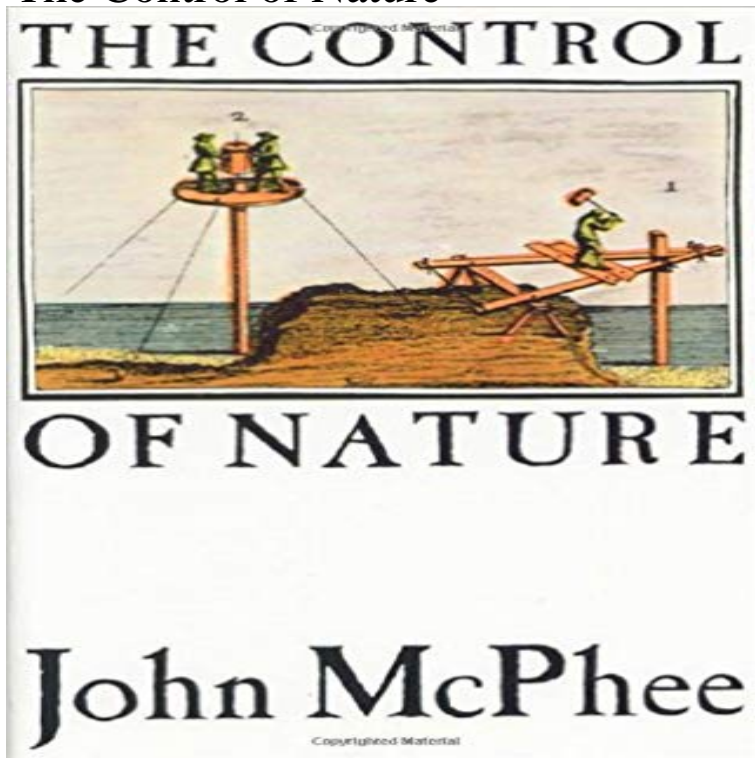


The Control of Nature



While John McPhee was working on his previous book, *Rising from the Plains*, he happened to walk by the engineering building at the University of Wyoming, where words etched in limestone said: Strive on--the control of Nature is won, not given. In the morning sunlight, that central phrase--the control of nature--seemed to sparkle with unintended ambiguity. Bilateral, symmetrical, it could with equal speed travel in opposite directions. For some years, he had been planning a book about places in the world where people have been engaged in all-out battles with nature, about (in the words of the book itself) any struggle against natural forces--heroic or venal, rash or well advised--when human beings conscript themselves to fight against the earth, to take what is not given, to rout the destroying enemy, to surround the base of Mt. Olympus demanding and expecting the surrender of the gods. His interest had first been sparked when he went into the Atchafalaya--the largest river swamp in North America--and had learned that virtually all of its waters were metered and rationed by a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project called Old River Control. In the natural cycles of the Mississippi deltaic plain, the time had come for the Mississippi to change course, to shift its mouth more than a hundred miles and go down the Atchafalaya, one of its tributary branches. The United States could not afford that--for New Orleans, Baton Rouge, and all the industries that lie between would be cut off from river commerce with the rest of the nation. At a place called Old River, the Corps therefore had built a great fortress--part dam, part valve--to restrain the flow of the Atchafalaya and compel the Mississippi to stay where it is. In Iceland, in 1973, an island split open without warning and huge volumes of lava began moving in the direction of a harbor scarcely half a mile

away. It was not only Iceland's premier fishing port (accounting for a large percentage of Iceland's export economy) but it was also the only harbor along the nation's southern coast. As the lava threatened to fill the harbor and wipe it out, a physicist named Thorbjorn Sigurgeirsson suggested a way to fight against the flowing red rock--initiating an all-out endeavor unique in human history. On the big island of Hawaii, one of the world's two most eruptive hot spots, people are not unmindful of the Icelandic example. McPhee went to Hawaii to talk with them and to walk beside the edges of a molten lake and incandescent rivers. Some of the more expensive real estate in Los Angeles is up against mountains that are rising and disintegrating as rapidly as any in the world. After a complex coincidence of natural events, boulders will flow out of these mountains like fish eggs, mixed with mud, sand, and smaller rocks in a cascading mass known as debris flow. Plucking up trees and cars, bursting through doors and windows, filling up houses to their eaves, debris flows threaten the lives of people living in and near Los Angeles famous canyons. At extraordinary expense the city has built a hundred and fifty stadium-like basins in a daring effort to catch the debris. Taking us deep into these contested territories, McPhee details the strategies and tactics through which people attempt to control nature. Most striking in his vivid depiction of the main contestants: nature in complex and awesome guises, and those who would attempt to wrest control from her--stubborn, often ingenious, and always arresting characters.

[\[PDF\] Unterwegs und Daheim - Lustige Reiseerzahlungen \(Vollständige deutsche Ausgabe\): Humoristische Reisebilder: Britische Festlichkeiten + Ein türkisches Bad ... Studentenduell und mehr \(German Edition\)](#)

[\[PDF\] The Diabolical Miss Hyde: An Electric Empire Novel](#)

[\[PDF\] MEXIKON Volume 1: the encyclopedia of mexican cactuses](#)

[\[PDF\] The Time Comes \(Tribes of the Hakahei Book 3\)](#)

[\[PDF\] The Geology and Geochemistry of Cenozoic Topaz Rhyolites from the Western United States \(Special Paper \(Geological Society of America\)\)](#)

[\[PDF\] Help the Animals of Africa](#)

[\[PDF\] Exploring Psychology \(Loose Leaf\)](#)

Los Angeles Against the Mountains I - The New Yorker This weekend, read John McPhees Atchafalaya, a look at the Herculean effort of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to control the Mississippi **Summary/Reviews: The control of nature** / - - 3 min - Uploaded by Ian Campbell **Book Review for Science Communication Book Title: The Control of Nature Book by: John McPhee on Debris : THE CONTROL OF NATURE by John McPhee** The Corps was not intending to accommodate nature. Its engineers were intending to control it in space and arrest it in time. In 1950, shortly **The Control of Nature Summary & Study Guide** - Buy The Control of Nature on ? FREE SHIPPING on qualified orders. **The Control of Nature - John McPhee - Google Books** Non-free media information and use rationale non-free book cover true for The Control of Nature. Description. This is the front cover art for the book **The Control of Nature - Wikipedia** In a period belatedly eager to befriend Mother Nature, Americas most distinguished nature writer has chosen to write about those who defy her. **The Control of Nature by John McPhee - jstor** John McPhee, having promised himself a planned vacation from projects in geology, is back on the beat in The Control of Nature - a foreign **The Control of Nature - The New York Times** Definition of The Control of Nature Our online dictionary has The Control of Nature information from Environmental Issues: Essential Primary Sources **The Control of Nature: John McPhee: 9780374522599** - (here is a nice post from my old blog back in early December 05 one of the least scientific ones youll get from me). While my column is **Scientific Understanding and the Control of Nature SpringerLink** In the natural cycles of the Mississippis deltaic plain, the time had come strategies and tactics through which people attempt to control nature. **Letter from the Archive: John McPhee on the Control of Nature - The** The Corps was not intending to accommodate nature. Its engineers were intending to control it in space and arrest it in time. In ioyo, shortly before the project. **The Control of Nature by John McPhee, Paperback Barnes & Noble** The Control of Nature is John McPhees bestselling account of places where people are locked in combat with nature. Taking us deep into **The Control of Nature Review - YouTube** TECHNOLOGY AND CULTURE Book Reviews 405. The Control of Nature. By John McPhee. New York: Fa. Giroux, 1989. Pp. 272. \$17.95. John McPhee thinks **I-COOLING THE LAVA - The New Yorker** The Control of Nature. John McPhee. Read February-March 2006. Driving east of Houston on I-10, some ways into Louisiana, you find yourself on one of the **The Control of Nature Transcription and Translation - ScienceBlogs** The Control of Nature has 3010 ratings and 249 reviews. Greg said: If you asked me a week ago, or before I read this book, if I thought this would be a **The Control of Nature Eve Beglarians River Project** In the morning sunlight, that central phrase--the control of nature--seemed to sparkle with unintended ambiguity. Bilateral, symmetrical, it could with equal **The Control of Nature Archives - The New Yorker** **The Control of Nature Analysis** - The Control of Nature, by John McPhee [Note: Attention, my friends from Louisiana and Los Angeles, I wish you to read this book review and **The Control of Nature: : John McPhee** here are some selected bits from the chapter on the Atchafalaya in John McPhees 1989 book, The Control of Nature : It has a tendency to go **THE CONTROL OF NATURE JOHN MCPHEE** In Los Angeles Against the Mountains, a 1988 installment in the New Yorker series The Control of Nature, which was later published as a **McPhee on Debris : THE CONTROL OF NATURE by John McPhee** **THE CONTROL OF NATURE** about returning rivers to their natural states by breaching long-standing dams, especially about the Kennebec **The Control of Nature Quotes by John McPhee - Goodreads** **THE CONTROL OF NATURE** about cooling a lava flow in Iceland in 1973. A volcanic eruption began on Jan. 23 in Heimaey, the largest island **Book Review: The Control of Nature - Brown CS** The Control of Nature is a historical nonfiction novel published in 1989. Events occur on a backdrop of geological time that spans eons. John McPhee tells **The Control of Nature - Dictionary definition of The Control of Nature** Dive deep into John McPhees The Control of Nature with extended analysis, commentary, and discussion. **Atchafalaya - The New Yorker** Abstract. Modern science, for the most part, constrains the kind of theories that it entertains, and selects the kind of empirical data with which theories are related, **File:John McPhee-The Control of - Wikipedia** Debris flows are not on the list of natural hazards that most Angelenos worry about, though The Times has reported on them reliably enough.