

The Enchanted Canopy by Andrew W. Mitchell. Macmillan publishing Co., New York. 255 pp. (1986). \$29.95.

Andrew Mitchell has compiled a fascinating book filled with information about the tropical rain forest canopies around the world bordering the equator. He has used his own experiences and observations as well as those of others to detail the lives and habits of both animals and plants. His facts are drawn from a multitude of sources, but he lists only 20 references in his bibliography which is really books for further reading rather than a list of references from which he took his information. This book is arranged in ten sections or chapters under the headings: 1. Reaching into the rainforest roof. 2. Highways in the trees. 3. The hanging gardens. 4. A place to live. 5. Tree top voices. 6. The flowering of the forest. 7. Feasting in the tree crowns. 8. Killers in the canopy. 9. Tree people. 10. A future above the tree tops. In each chapter he discusses plants and animals that participate under this topic; their idiosyncracies, manner of life, and underlining all he declares their vulnerability to civilizations and economy's destructive forces. As with Perry in "Life above the jungle floor" he is deeply concerned about the survival of rain forest creatures and cries out for more rational and sustained use and preservation.

There are a number of current books on this subject available for the interested reader as Mitchell's bibliography suggests. This beautiful and well written book may be your only chance to visit the rain forest. Like those of William Leigh, Carl Akeley, Osa and Martin Johnson and Carveth Wells, it will soon be telling the way it *was*. Buy this book and browse in it. Its wealth of facts will overwhelm you and let you marvel at what is known of the tropical forest and what is yet to be known.

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