

Aug. 16, 1932

Mr. Wilfrid E. Chase  
2009 Adams Street  
Madison, Wis.

Dear Mr. Chase:

I am indebted to you for letting me read "King of the Bad Lands," which I am returning by mail under separate cover.

I heartily share your opinion that this is an exceptionally vivid piece of descriptive writing. I wish I could do as well.

The only possible criticism I can think of is the unnecessary personification of the birds and the imputation to them of a "wicked" character. I never could see why an eagle catching a lamb is any more cruel or wicked than a quail pulling a grasshopper to pieces. The story has plenty of color and action even if this particular part were entirely omitted.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

ALDO LEOPOLD

AL/vh

Paul: If you want to see a sample of good writing on life history subjects, look up this article by Henry G. Lamond in the Atlantic Monthly for February, 1932. It is a character sketch of a pair of the Australian wedge-tailed eagles.

A.L.