

This episode's review includes a tape, a help book and a biographical novel

My first entry will be **Fly Fishing through the Midlife Crisis by Howell Raines**. It is a paperback with 341 pages.

Let me start with an observation by my wife. Having seen me reading this book she asked a simple harmless question as to what was the title of the book. After responding with the name of the book her comment was succinct "You haven't seen midlife in a long while." This is very true but this book is not just for those of the midlife persuasion.

Howell Raines grew up in the south as a self-described redneck to later become a more reflective Fly Fisherman [although a little of the redneck never leaves.]. He talks about his relationships with his father, sons, and wife and of course his fishing buddies. Don't be misled this book is about fishing. Whether it be in his younger years as a meat fisherman in the south or in later years as a catch and release aficionado. Hey, it even includes a few fish recipes and some tips.

Intertwined with the fish stories is a little insight as to his relationships with his friends and families that maybe we can see in some of our own relationships.

Overall I found the book enjoyable and easy to read. There might have been a few instances that I would have used editorial discretion and omitted parts of it but generally it is a good book that you will enjoy and maybe have you reflecting on your own life's journey

The next item that I reviewed was **1001 Fly Fishing Tips by Jay Nichols** – paperback 209 pages.

This book is exactly what you would expect. It has a lot of ideas and tips about fishing, mostly for trout. It is a series of short one liner's or one or two paragraphs with hints to improve your fishing skills. The book is set up in 4 Parts, Techniques and Presentation,

Equipment, Hatches & Seasons and finally Travel, Destinations and Species other than Trout.

This may not have all the tips that are out there but it certainly hits a lot of the highlights. You will see tips you knew already, some you didn't and some you may not find fits your needs.

Whether the tip is about casting into the wind of finding fish in different types of water you will find tips that will help.

This is a quick read but you may find yourself going back to review a tip or two. After all who can't use a little help in being a better fisherman?

The final review is a VHS tape called **Fishing the Midge by Gary Borger**.

This is part of the Skills of Fly Fishing series created by Borger. This tape was created in 1991 but still has relevance today. This is a short tape of 35 minutes that covers the types and sizes of midges and the flies that mimic them. It covers the size of the flies and the colors. It includes methods to fish the flies on both moving and still waters. Gary is not what I would call a vibrant speaker and this does not have the finished look of today's videos but it does get the job done because he is very knowledgeable. I hope you find the reviews useful and will read some of the books and watch some of the tapes and DVD's

Tight lines

Professor Ernie