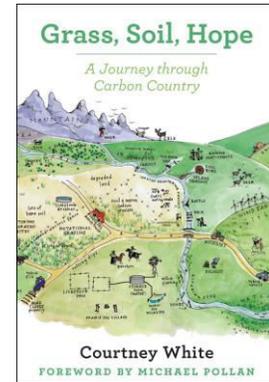
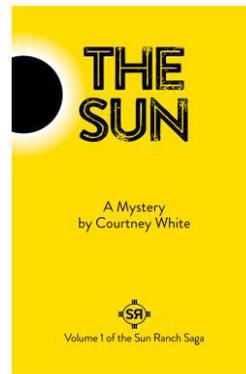
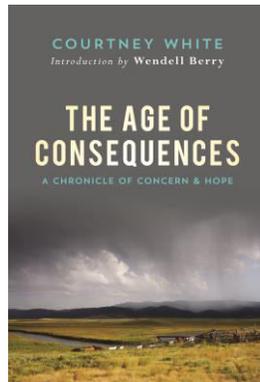


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A former archaeologist and Sierra Club activist, **Courtney White** dropped out of the ‘conflict industry’ to cofound the Quivira Coalition, a nonprofit conservation organization dedicated to building a radical center among ranchers, conservationists, and public land managers, around practices that improve resilience in western working landscapes. In 2005, Wendell Berry included Courtney’s essay *The Working Wilderness* in his collection *The Way of Ignorance*. He is the author of *Revolution on the Range*; *Grass, Soil, Hope*; *The Age of Consequences*; *2% Solutions for the Planet*; and co-author of *Fibersheds: a New Textile Economy* (2019). He is author of *The Sun*, a mystery novel set on a working cattle ranch in northern New Mexico. He lives in Santa Fe.

### ***What Is Earth For?* / a talk by Courtney White**

I have worked on the front lines of collaborative conservation, regenerative agriculture, and ecological restoration for two decades, sharing innovative, on-the-ground solutions that bring people together in what we call the *radical center*. These solutions include progressive cattle management, land health, local food production, and atmospheric carbon sequestration in soils. I have advocated for these hopeful solutions both in my writing and nonprofit work.

The presentation covers my unique journey through conservation and regenerative agriculture and is designed to provoke thoughtful questions about the future. At each step, I found a great deal of hope to a variety of global concerns – hope that I would like to share. Topics covered:

- The Conservation Movement
- Sustainable Ranching
- Ecological Restoration
- The Radical Center
- Carbon Sequestration in Soil
- Resilience

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### ***How To Tell A Good Story:* a workshop by Courtney White**

I have been writing stories about land and people for nearly thirty years. I have written articles, profiles, essays, columns, a play, a history, a blog, a book about soil carbon, a time-travel novel, and the first installment of a mystery series. Wendell Berry and Michael Pollan wrote Forewords

for two of my nonfiction books. Mystery writer Anne Hillerman loved *The Sun*, as did best-selling author Deborah Madison. I have coauthored books with farmers, ranchers, and nonprofit directors, helping them tell their stories in compelling ways.

I have written about cows, creeks, food, murder, love, beauty, resilience, consilience, open space, adobe bricks, soil microbes, fibersheds, family trips, radical centers, bicycle shops, heat waves, solar panels, bunch grasses, electric fences, public lands, grassbanks, handshakes, ranches, Venice, one rock dams, quantum teleportation, abundance thinking, young agrarians, and a missing Sasquatch hunter.

Through sheer experience, I have become an effective storyteller and I would like to share what I have learned. I also believe good stories are the essential missing link in the pressing work confronting us today.

*How To Tell a Good Story* is a one-to-four hour workshop (depending on need) that is designed to help anyone write a more effective story. Good writing is good writing, I've learned, whether it is nonfiction or fiction. Every genre operates by the same basic rules: Think Like Your Reader; Have A Clear Goal; Open With a Hook; and above all Don't Be Boring! Whether it is a story about the merits of regenerative agriculture or the discovery of dead body in a cattle tank you want every reader to ask the same question: "What Happens Next?!"

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### **Praise for Courtney's writing:**

#### **Michael Pollan:**

"Hope in a book about the environmental challenges we face in the 21<sup>st</sup> century is an audacious thing to promise, so I'm pleased to report that Courtney White delivers on it."

#### **Wendell Berry:**

"Courtney White's experience with the Quivira Coalition has made him master of two indispensable truths: People of different and apparently opposing interests can work together in good will for their mutual good; and, granted their good will and good work, a similar reciprocity can be made, in use, between humans and their land."

"In a time when environmental reporting has become justifiably gloomy, this book is a refreshing breath of pragmatic optimism. White's vision of stewardship, openness to new ideas, giving as well as taking, and flexibility will inspire anyone who loves humanity or the great outdoors."

– *Publishers Weekly*

"White strikes a refreshing tone that will resonate with readers turned off by the superior or condescending attitudes of some environmentalist writers... Throughout, he balances abstract questions and ideas with tangible life experiences... [R]eaders will be engaged by his frank and thoughtful discussion of our modern environment." – *Kirkus*

For more information see: [www.jcourtneywhite.com](http://www.jcourtneywhite.com)