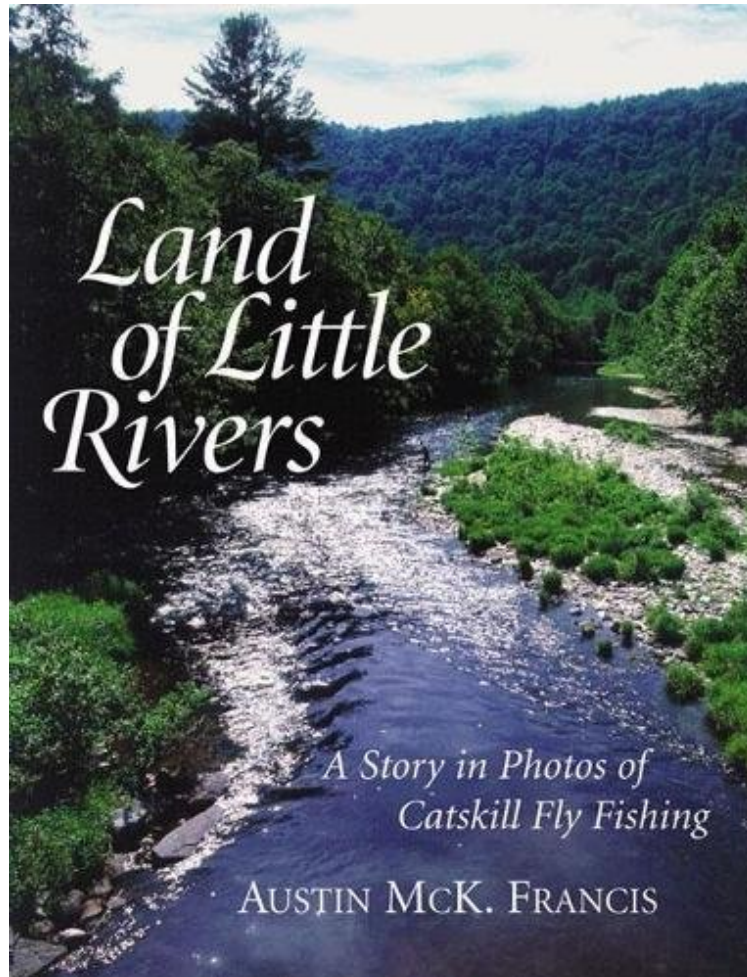


## Land of Little Rivers: A Story in Photos of Catskill Fly Fishing

Austin M. Francis

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**Austin M. Francis : Land of Little Rivers: A Story in Photos of Catskill Fly Fishing** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Land of Little Rivers: A Story in Photos of Catskill Fly Fishing:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Essential reading for people who want to fish the CatskillsBy Howard AldrichHaving never fished in the "Land of Little Rivers," I was delighted to have this great book of photos stories to prepare me. We learn the history of the region, meet the people who developed it, and get tips on where to spend our time today. The author obviously loves spending time there and now I'm looking forward to it, as well.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Awesome! Beautiful !By John G. LudwigAwesome! Beautiful !0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Catskill Fly FishingBy kenneth len brennerIf you fish the Catskills, want to, or just like fly fishing this is one great book to own. Pictures are top notch and worth the price by theirself. Book has it all the history, the rivers, the people, the clubs, the flies, the rods and reels. Well written and makes you feel

good just thumbing through the pages. Makes you remember why you fly fish.

The Beaverkill, Willowemoc, Neversink, Esopus, Schoharie, and Delaware--the rivers of angling pioneers Thaddeus Norris, Robert Barnwell Roosevelt, Theodore Gordon, and many others--are celebrated in this gorgeous book of photographs and text. In three major sections, *Land of Little Rivers* presents historical and physical profiles of the rivers; classic rods, reels, and flies; and engaging stories of the people, events, and developments that constitute the Catskill fly-fishing tradition. Author Austin McK. Francis, noted angling historian and biographer and acknowledged authority on the history of Catskill fly fishing, has a home in the Catskill Mountains and has fished there for more than thirty-five years. Famed photographer and avid fly fisher Enrico Ferorelli, a regular contributor to *National Geographic* and *Smithsonian* magazines, spent five months creating the most evocative portfolio of photos ever made of these historic rivers. Together they have produced an exquisite, museum-quality work, one that captures magnificently the beauty and passion so central to the sport Izaak Walton called "the gentle art."

From *Library Journal* This is an amazing book. It seems as if every page brings another pastoral landscape, sharp portrait, beautifully drawn map, or exceptional fly photograph. Ferorelli, a photographer for *Life* and *National Geographic*, has produced some stunning photographs, and the Catskills and fly fishing seem woven together in his compositions. Although the text could not hope to match the intensity of the photographs and artwork, Francis's prose is easy to read and moves the reader along through descriptions of the major Catskill streams, the tackle and flies originated in the region, and a fine history of the famous Catskill anglers and clubs. The author's previous work, *Catskill Rivers: Birthplace of American Fly Fishing* (Lyons, 1996), covers much of the same historical ground. Fly fishing has produced a number of beautiful books, but this work exceeds any that this reviewer has seen. Although the topic may sound regional, the book has national appeal for anglers and lovers of photography. Highly recommended. DJeff Grossman, *Milwaukee Area Technical Coll.* Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. "A visually stunning achievement...a felicitous blend of illustrations and text." -- Nelson Bryant, *The New York Times* "An engrossing gem...this fly-casting extravaganza is a flip-through delight for anyone caught up in natural history." -- USA Today "LAND OF LITTLE RIVERS is a treasure, a beautiful book, eloquently, wonderfully written, and movingly illustrated. An instant classic." -- Dan Rather, *CBS News* "One of the most beautiful fishing books ever published." -- *Outdoor Life* "This is a beautifully illustrated and exhaustively researched tribute to flyfishing in the Catskill Mountains of New York." -- *Sports Illustrated* From the Inside Flap The Beaverkill, Willowemoc, Neversink, Esopus, Schoharie and Delaware--the rivers of angling pioneers Thaddeus Norris, Robert Barnwell Roosevelt, Theodore Gordon, and many others--are celebrated in this gorgeous book of photographs and text. In three major sections, *LAND OF LITTLE RIVERS* presents historical and physical profiles of the rivers; classic rods, reels and flies; and engaging stories of the people, events, and developments that constitute the Catskill flyfishing tradition. Complementing its photographic beauty, *LAND OF LITTLE RIVERS* is a book of substance, filled with fascinating stories, anecdotes, and nuggety captions, including: \*A profile of the Catskill's awardwinning flyfishing museum and education center. \*How a series of geologic and glacial events gave distinctive character to these rivers. \*The socio-economic forces that defined American flyfishing. \*What motivated wealthy anglers to form exclusive private clubs and fishing preserves. \*The story of Ed Hewitt's Big Bend preserve, home of the Neversink Rods. \*The persistent conservation fight by legions of dedicated anglers to save their beloved rivers. \*The patterns and histories of classic Catskill trout flies. \*A contemporary's view of women anglers in the 1890s who dared to wade into male-dominated streams. \*How the world's first female flyfishing club got started in the Catskills. \*The beginnings of artificial fish propagation to restock barren Catskill streams. \*Extraordinary photos of the moment a trout breaks free of its egg sac. \*Exclusive action photos of the world's only trout-herding dog. \*The epic tale of New York's water system, from the shallow wells of the 1600s to today's billion-gallon Catskill reservoirs. *LAND OF LITTLE RIVERS* is the product of author Francis's 25 years of research and writing about Catskill flyfishing, and of photographer Enrico Ferorelli's more than 13,000 images, from which has been selected the most evocative portfolio of photos ever made of these historic rivers. Together they have produced an exquisite, museum-quality work, one that captures magnificently the beauty and passion so central to the sport Izaak Walton called "the gentle art."