

**Home Essay Project: the Heart of the Hunter.**

The Home Essay project is designed to foster a sense of place. Part of this is knowing something about the geography and the natural environment of where we live, but it is also about recognizing and accounting for the ways in which the landscapes, communities, and relationships around us makes us who we are.

Read the brief account about the Bushmen by Laurens van der Post. Use it as a starting point to reflect on your relationship to the natural world experienced through hunting. Then read Roger Squire's "The Boy Who Laughed" and Jim Harrison's "Hunting, Fishing (and Dogs)," to address what happened to the young Aldo Leopold in his essay "Thinking Like a Mountain," on pages 137 - 141 of his Sand County Almanac.

Think about Little Elk's steps in learning to become a hunter. Relying on your understanding of relationships, vulnerability, and change, think about what happened to Leopold on the bank of that river, and on how this was a powerful turning point in his life.

You can use Squire's and Harrison's ideas to help you understand how Leopold's changes led him to become a renowned teacher, writer, and conservation leader; a voice that has influenced millions. What changes are in store for you and your relationship with the natural environment, and how might this reflect what is happening throughout our society? About the role of hunting in our society?

Please get this to me in three weeks. Five pages, maximum. Typed responses are required. Late papers will not be accepted.