

# Guidelines for Mountain Lion Safety

POE BALLANTINE

"I explained to Tom that dealing with the bully was no different than dealing with the mountain lion. They were both predators looking for easy prey."

Poe Ballantine visits his dying Grandfather Bing, receives free rent in return for evicting difficult tenants from the Totalitarian Hotel, models nude for budding artists, reconnects with his parents, befriends a lonely Austrian tourist on the Greyhound bus, cooks and gambles in Vegas, falls in love, returns to his wife's homeland of Mexico to baptize his son, and discovers the true meaning of Guidelines for Mountain Lion Safety.

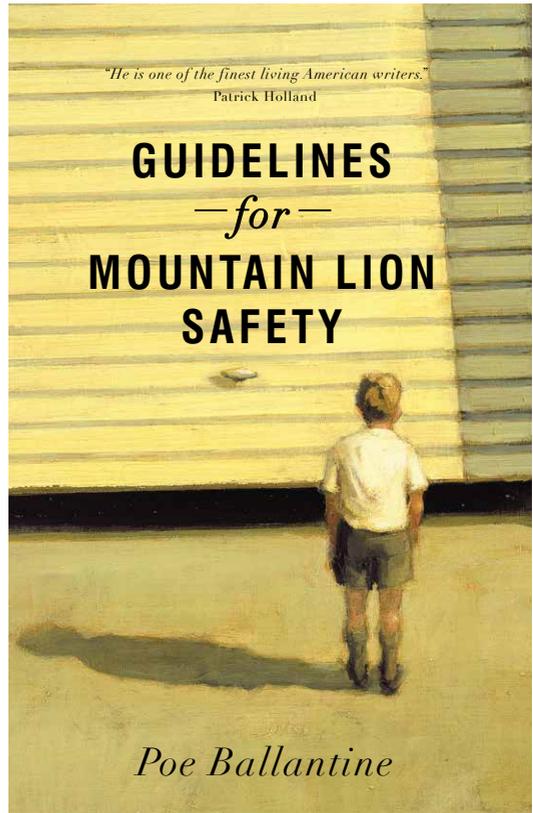
In this new collection of essays, Ballantine is at his soulful and penetrating best. At once hilarious and heart wrenching, the author recounts the trajectory of his own journey from reckless adolescence to the responsibilities of parenthood with disarming honesty, always fearlessly confronting those bullies and demons that threaten to blow us all off course.

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HE IS ONE OF THE  
FINEST LIVING  
AMERICAN WRITERS,  
AND THIS IS MY  
FAVOURITE OF HIS  
WORKS.

PATRICK HOLLAND,  
AUTHOR OF NAVIGATIO AND  
THE MARY SMOKES BOYS



### **Praise for *Guidelines for Mountain Lion Safety***

Poe Ballantine is building fine body of work, in particular his tragicomic nonfiction in which he explores and chronicles his own and America's frailties, absurdities and shortcomings. *Guidelines for Mountain Lion Safety* is Ballantine's new collection of essays, and it is his most emotionally honest work to date. Ballantine is never short of self-commentary, but here he achieves a lighter touch that better balances his often brutal self-deprecation with openness and tenderness ... Thank goodness for Poe Ballantine, for while he is around we have someone wise and perceptive paying attention for us. *Readings Monthly*



Poe Ballantine is the author of the cult classic *Things I Like About America* and the acclaimed memoir *Love and Terror on the Howling Plains of Nowhere*, which was made into a documentary and is currently rated 8.0 on IMDb. He lives in Chadron, Nebraska, with his wife, Cristina, his son, Tom, and his notoriously slow dog, Lightnin'.