



## The Passenger Pigeon

By John Audubon

American Roots. Hardcover. Condition: New. 32 pages.  
Dimensions: 6.6in. x 4.2in. x 0.3in. The great American naturalist John James Audubon is best known for his beautiful drawings of birds, collected in *The Birds of America* (1827-1838). The five-volume *Ornithological Biography*, a companion to the collection of drawings, was published in 1831 and includes this essay on the now-extinct passenger pigeon. In it, Audubon describes the birds remarkable power of flight, power of vision, and hard-to-believe abundance. As he writes of a flock numbering more than one billion birds, a flock so large it darkens the noonday sky, Audubon says, The multitudes of Wild Pigeons in our woods are astonishing. Indeed, after having viewed them so often, and under so many circumstances, I even now feel inclined to pause, and assure myself that what I am going to relate is fact. Most astonishing of all is the fact that the passenger pigeon became extinct in the wild by 1900. The last known individual was a female named Martha, who died in the Cincinnati Zoo in 1914. This short work is part of *Applewoods American Roots* series, tactile mementos of American passions by some of Americas most famous writers and thinkers. This item...



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