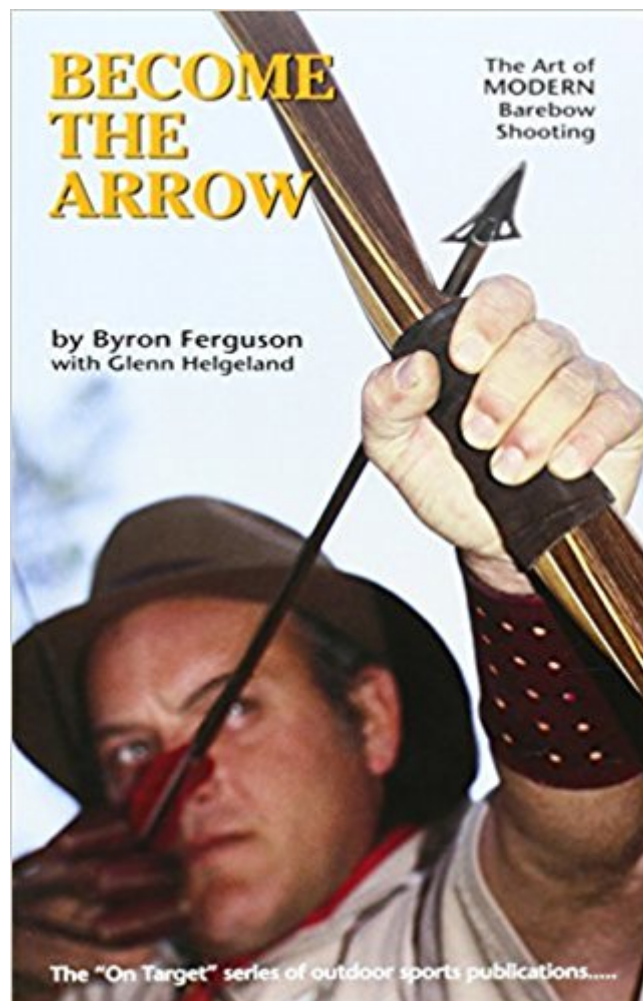




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# Become The Arrow (On Target Series)



## Synopsis

Learn about the modern bare bow aiming and shooting system called Become the Arrow developed by Byron Ferguson. Includes material on bowhunting. 112 page Paperback.K1-17217

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Learn about the modern bare bow aiming and shooting system called Become the Arrow developed by Byron Ferguson. Includes material on bowhunting. 112 page Paperback.K1-17217

This little book is only 110 pages long, of which only 40 really concentrate on bow and arrow setup, tuning, and shooting; the rest is devoted to hunting, bow construction, and a bit of biographical info on Ferguson. And truthfully, it's not terribly well written. Ferguson's strength is as a bowman and teacher, not a writer. But those 40 pages contain a wealth of useful information distilled into almost everything the beginning barebow shooter needs to know. More experienced bare bow archers may find a lot to disagree with here. For instance, Ferguson shoots only aluminum arrows, and thinks wood is just too variable and inconsistent. That alone will raise more than a few hackles. (Since this book was published, he's brought out his own line of carbon fiber arrows.) But even the most experienced archer will admit that there's a lot to be learned from an archer who can consistently place his shots the way Ferguson does day in and day out. I have a few bones to pick with Ferguson over his conception of instinctive shooting. He claims that since people are very bad at a task requiring them to estimate distance in yards, it must therefore be impossible to shoot purely

"instinctively." As anyone who has read Fred Asbell's books can tell you, that's a bit of a straw man argument. Instinctive shooters don't say to themselves. "Gee, that looks like about 27 yards..." any more than an outfielder thinks "that looks like about 30, maybe 35 yards" before throwing to second base. They just do it, relying on practice and instinct to throw the ball with a high enough trajectory to reach the baseman's glove. When Ferguson says the archer should "become the arrow," he's saying the archer has to internalize the the arrow's trajectory, just as the outfielder has to internalize the ball's trajectory. And obviously, that's exactly what proponents of instinctive archery a saying. In effect, Ferguson's technique is exactly the same as Asbell's or Sorrell's; he's just giving it a different name. I'm returning to archery, having done a fair bit of recurve shooting with aluminum shafts and sights in the 1970s, and with a longbow and wooden shafts in the 1990s. I bought this book as a refresher in technique and tuning, and while thought I knew a fair bit about shooting barebow, I picked up more useful info from this book than I expected. I'd still recommend that the newcomer to barebow shooting start with G. Fred Asbell's *Instinctive Shooting*; Ferguson's book adds a different viewpoint, and a number of useful tips on tuning and shooting that complement the Asbell book.

This is an excellent book for archers whose skills are just starting to move beyond those of a novice. Byron Ferguson probably does the best job of any person writing about traditional archery in explaining the basic form to be used in order to shoot consistently and accurately. Byron's explanation of how to anchor your bow hand and draw hand and aligning your eyes and body are concise and effective - if you follow the instructions you will shoot well. This is a book that any traditional archer should own and read from time to time. Criticisms are limited to the quality of the paper and photos. The book has been around since 1994, but my copy is from the 14th printing. So, it is time to upgrade the paper and update the photos in the next edition.

If you are new to traditional archery **• READ THIS BOOK FIRST •** I grew up shooting longbow and was considered very good. Then I didn't pick up a bow for 30 years. at 56 I bought a Bear longbow and tried to return to my former skill level. After 6 Months of frustration I ordered *Become the Arrow*, which was on my wish list the whole time. With in a half an hour of reading Byron's book my groups were in the bullseye.

This book is a short and enjoyable read by a master that some would say is today's Howard Hill. Fellow Alabamian Byron Ferguson provides a clear description of his techniques of shooting the

bare bow, as well as some excellent hunting tips. He relays a few good stories along the way. The book is not very long, but Ferguson covers all necessary topics from equipment, technique, practice strategy, bow tuning, bow design, hunting equipment and hunting tips. In a few places, I would have liked just a bit more detail, and the black and white photos leave something to be desired. Those are the only reason I didn't give it the full 5 stars.

Ok it is amazing when I see reviews like this; "Ferguson is hardly spiritual guy, he seems to see big game as sport and food and pays no respect to the animal. This is fine and well for most hunters, it just wasn't what I expected." That being said what do people think what archery was intended for?!?! WTF! Don't read something and become offended because he hunts animals to eat... I found his book very informative and Mr. Ferguson did a excellent job explaining it..

I received this book for Christmas. I wish I'd gotten this book 5 years ago. I have struggled for five long years on improving my target accuracy. This book in one days worth of reading improved my target accuracy by 50%. It was easily understandable and enjoyable to read. I recommend this book to anyone who wants to improve their target accuracy.

Byron Ferguson is a master of traditional archery and this little volume tells the aspiring archer, or one seeking to return to the roots of the art, how to become proficient with a longbow or recurve bow without the aid of artificial sights or gadgets. A must read in you want to shoot arrows the traditional way!

I already owned the book. It was the first one I read on the subject of traditional archery, and it was and remains the foundation of my knowledge base for the sport. I think it would be helpful and a pleasure to read for anyone interested in traditional archery, at any level, so I purchased a copy from as a gift for a relative who was already versed in traditional archery. He has thoroughly enjoyed it. Of course, anyone familiar with the amazing Byron Ferguson would like this book. I haven't reached the point of becoming the arrow, and I don't know if I get that part, yet. Nevertheless, I highly recommend the book.

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