

Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : John Gierach on Fly fishing in PA

Re: John Gierach on Fly fishing in PA

Author: : pcray1231

Date: : 2013/3/25 10:41:39

URL:

I'm sure the guy is plenty skilled. He probably qualifies as an "expert" in my book. But his books are not at all about expertizing. Even if he could fit that mold, I struggle to see him that way. And that's his intent. He does not want us to see him as "above us", he wants us to see him as "one of us". And he does it well.

He's a talented writer, with a good sense of humor, who speaks our language fluently. And as such, we can relate very well. It's not about reading something that could teach us something. It's about reading a story and seeing ourselves in his shoes. When I read one of his stories, I am not learning from him, I am him. Even when I can't be physically on the water, I can read one of his books and be there in spirit.

And for that, he sells a lot of books. I'll happily keep buying them. But it's hard to play the role of "expert" while allowing all of your readers to imagine they are you.