



# Wildfire

**A READER**

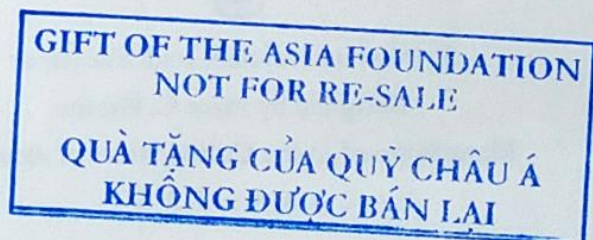
**Edited by ALIANOR TRUE**

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*edited by*

**ALIANOR TRUE**



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By forces seemingly antagonistic and destructive Nature accomplishes her beneficent designs—now a flood of fire, now a flood of ice, now a flood of water; and again in the fullness of time an outburst of organic life.

— John Muir, *Mt. Shasta*

Sometimes fire is totally devastating, but sometimes it is beneficial in cleaning out diseased trees, clearing out the forest floor, aiding bacteria in decomposition, providing light and space for new forest growth.

— Ann Zwinger, *Beyond the Aspen Grove*

The train went up on the track out of sight, around one of the hills of burnt timber... There was no town, nothing but the rails and the burned over country.

— Ernest Hemingway, *The Big Two Hearted River*