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The Consumption of Moose

The majestic moose, a noble creature of the wild, its brown fur and grand antlers atop its proud head. Big innocent eyes gazing deeply out into the forest where it spends its days roaming free, that is until the wild-eyed groups of 3 or more men tramp into the forest to kill the magnificent creature to eat. Some might read this and see no problem in eating a moose, I however was completely shocked when I heard that people in the New England area and most of the northern parts of North America consume not just moose flesh but organs as well.

I come from the Midwest, we do not have wild moose or even domesticated moose. The only moose I have ever seen have been in the Columbus Zoo, where exotic animals are kept. So to me moose are exotic creatures. It would be like eating an elephant or rhino. These are exotic creatures not found in my home environment in abundance and it is heavily frowned upon to consume them. This is how I view consuming moose.

While in Japan I wanted to try horse sushi, some may argue why is it that I would be willing to try horse sushi or deer jerky if I won’t think of consuming a moose. A horse is not an exotic animal, a deer is not an exotic animal, and a moose however is.

Something that shocked me even more is the crazy laws surrounding hunting moose. You have to have three people with you while hunting a moose in order for it to be valid and legal. Such specific laws to murder a majestic beast, plus there is a special season for moose hunting and you can only kill so many per year. Not only hunting moose are there strange laws but if you hit a moose you have to pay to have it cleaned up off the road and butchered. If you hit a deer, you just have to make sure you killed it or you will get charged with negligent or reckless driving, you do not have to pay to get it butchered.

Everything surrounding the consumption of moose bewilders me to no end, people eat the hearts of these creatures, as well as almost every other part. Coming from a non- northern state moose eating is very odd and not something I can easily comprehend. I find it strange and foreign, and not appropriate as moose as exotic animals.