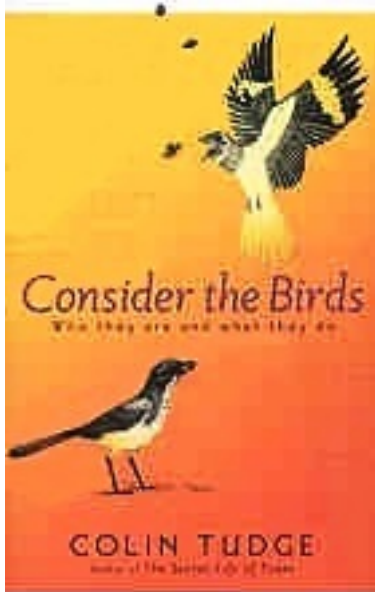

Colin Tudge

Consider the Birds: Who They are and What They Do



Title: Consider the Birds: Who They are and What They Do

Author: Colin Tudge

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Description

All animals are equal - but some, as George Orwell said, are more equal than others, and birds, most people would surely agree, are in the very first rank. They can do almost everything that mammals can do - and more besides. By mastering flight, they have a way of living that encompasses the whole world. In *Consider The Birds*, Colin Tudge explores the life of birds, all around the globe. From the secrets of migration to their complicated family lives, their differing habitats and survival techniques to the secrets of flight, this is a fascinating account of how birds live, why they matter, and whether they really are dinosaurs. Featuring birds who navigate using star-maps, tool-making crows and the great co-operation of the penguins, Colin Tudge shows how birds - who are like us in the general sense but very different in the particulars - live and think. For birds have minds: they feel, they are aware, they work things out. And so, by considering the birds, asking how and why it is possible for them to be so different, we gain insight into ourselves. Birds are beautiful, lively, intriguing - and all around us. This rich and endlessly absorbing book opens up their lives to everyone.

Insightful reviews

Patricia: This book calls for a slow reading and then a rereading. It's packed with wide-ranging detail that takes some time to start to sink in. All that detail conveys wonder and delight, though, in author's personal, personable style. One of the most wonderful chapters explores how birds might think.

James: Not a guide to birds, but an introduction and discussion of what birds are, including extensive glances back into the fossil record as well as assessments of current (often grim) bird habitats, populations, and prognoses.

Since the book deals with the fossil record, it also of necessity discusses the entire evolutionary development of bird phylogeny as currently understood. Tudge fearlessly leaps into the world of DNA phylogeny and highlights major portions of the current structure that likely will shift, fall, move, or otherwise change dramatically in response to new evolutionary data derived from DNA studies.

Long sections on bird feeding, reproduction (including sex), nesting, environment, intelligence, mind, conservation efforts, and more.

Extremely well written, and not nearly as technical as I have made it sound. Quite pleasant and conversational, actually.

I highly recommend this to anyone with a remote interest not only in birds, but science in general and biological sciences in particular.

Debra: A nice overview of the bird families, but much too spare--I would have liked more details. I enjoyed his tree book more, perhaps because I've read so many bird books already.

Troy: a whole lot fabric in here, tough to only take a seat and read, more uncomplicated to take it in slightly at a time. As a finished learn of birds, this booklet is great. Thorough and detailed, Tudge seems in any respect points of this animal and provides it in a transparent way. As a non-fiction book, it used to be a piece boring and dull at times, sometimes repetitive, and total simply a ways too lengthy to entice the layperson.

J. D.: it is a fascinatng survey of present wisdom approximately birds. Tudge is an capable ornithologist, a able recommend for avains, and a fine, interesting writer.

Eva: i am having fun with to this point

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