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The best books on what animals feel and think

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By Maddalena Bearzi

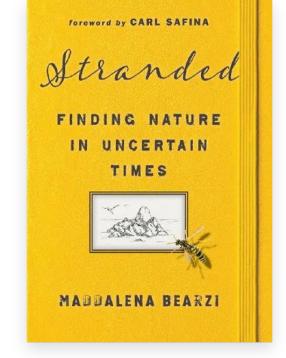
Who am I?

I have been passionate about nature since childhood. In my youth, I spent many summers on a pristine shore in Sardinia, snorkeling in a sea full of life. Later on, I became a scientist, conservationist, and author. My research on dolphins in California represents one of the longest studies worldwide. I co-wrote *Beautiful Minds: The Parallel Lives of Great Apes and Dolphins,* authored *Dolphin Confidential,* and *Stranded,* and written for many media, including National Geographic. My goal is to share my love for nature and what I have learned from it, with the hope to instill a deeper appreciation for wildlife and involve others in the protection of our planet.

l wrote...

Stranded: Finding Nature in Uncertain Times

By Maddalena Bearzi



What is my book about?

When pandemic lockdowns stopped the world on a dime, seafaring scientist Maddalena Bearzi went from exploring the mysteries of the marine mammals teeming off the shore of the City of Angels to a life marooned on land. Having fought to save our imperiled seas for over twenty years, Bearzi knows the burnout of constant battle. When the pandemic's paralysis took her out of action, she returned to the curiosity that drove her into ecology. She charts this journey back to daily wonder at the natural world with warmth, charisma, and an activist undercurrent in *Stranded: Finding Nature in Uncertain Times*.

As Sylvia Earle, author of *Sea Change* wrote "Every dog, every dolphin and every human should read this book!"

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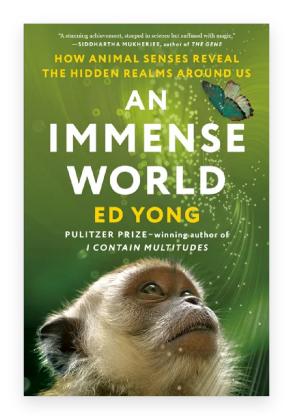
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The books I picked & why

An Immense World: How Animal Senses Reveal the Hidden Realms Around Us

By Ed Yong



Why this book?

I truly believe this book is a must-read for anyone interested in better understanding how other non-human animals see the world with their own senses.

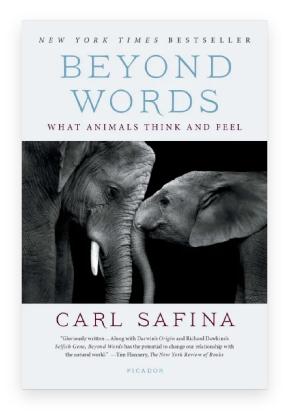
It's not a quick read for sure, but the author excels in explaining how we can grasp how dogs, cats, flies, elephants, seals, and mice live by just looking outside our own "sensory bubble" and stretching the boundaries of what we believe to be true.

Young is certainly a master at revealing the magnificence and the secrets of other creatures. And he shares some amusing stories too! I loved it.

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Beyond Words: What Animals Think and Feel

By Carl Safina



Why this book?

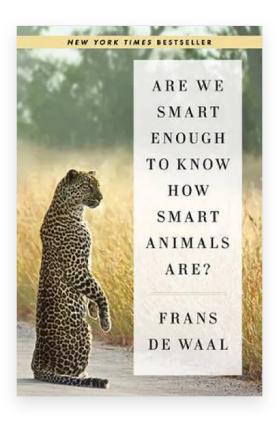
This is another amazing nonfiction book by ecologist and *New York Times* bestselling author Carl Safina.

With his usual exquisite prose, the author delves deep into the lives and feelings of other beings, from elephants to dolphins. And once again, Safina does an outstanding job in uncovering the secrets of the natural world that surrounds us using many of his personal experiences in the wild and his wonderful ability to tell stories to the general public.

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Are We Smart Enough to Know How Smart Animals Are?

By Frans de Waal



Why this book?

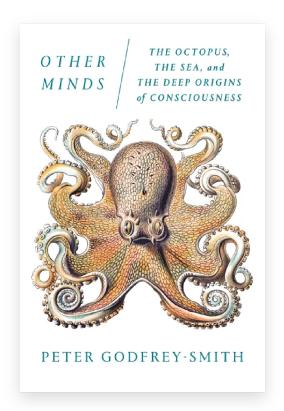
Many people still believe that we are the only intelligent species on this planet, but every single day other non-human animals are showing us differently.

Thought-provoking, compelling, scientifically sound, and backed up by evidence, this book is a journey into the fascinating world of animal problem-solving. As Carl Safina, renowned biologist Frans de Waal is a fantastic (and funny) storyteller and one of my favorite authors of popular science books.

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Other Minds: The Octopus, the Sea, and the Deep Origins of Consciousness

By Peter Godfrey-Smith



Why this book?

When we think about brainpower, we (even scientists!) usually think of ourselves, other terrestrial or marine mammals like elephants, chimps, dolphins, and whales, and perhaps a few birds like magpies and crows.

Not too many believe that cephalopods (which include cuttlefish, octopuses, and squids) can be smart in their own way! In this book, the author crafts a very persuasive case for intelligence outside our own species, including alien-looking species such as octopuses.

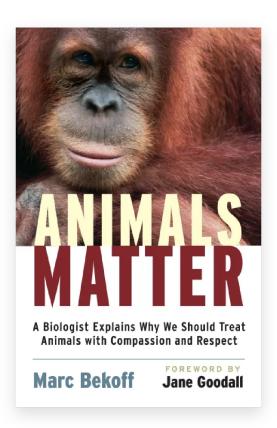
I enjoy that Peter Godfrey-Smith draws on both, the latest and most accurate scientific research and his adventures as an avid scuba diver to make his case for consciousness

and cleverness in the ocean.

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Animals Matter: A Biologist Explains Why We Should Treat Animals with Compassion and Respect

By Marc Bekoff



Why this book?

I couldn't conclude this selection without citing this book by Marc Bekoff.

Marc has dedicated most of his life to teaching others animal compassion and respect. In *Animals Matter,* this Colorado-based author and renowned scientist, explains how nonhuman animals have many of the same feelings we do. And he teaches us how to respect and love other beings we share the planet with. The author is informative and at the same time easy to understand for the general public. Icing on the cake, Jane Goodall wrote the foreword of this book. So, read, enjoy, and share!

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The best natural history books that take you on a journey

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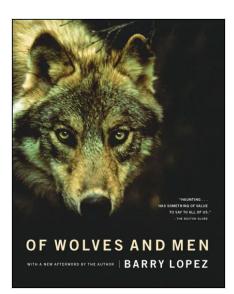
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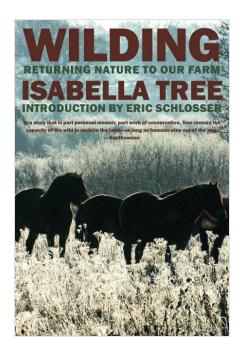
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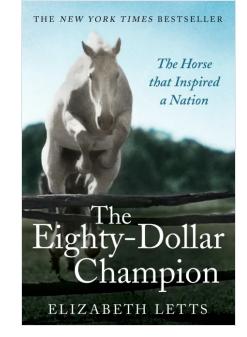
<u>Ethology</u> \rightarrow Explore 24 books about Ethology

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We think you will like *Of Wolves and Men*, *Wilding*, and *The Eighty-Dollar Champion* if you like this list.







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