Beyond Words: What Animals Think And Feel
Synopsis

Weaving decades of field observations with exciting new discoveries about the brain, Carl Safina’s landmark book offers an intimate view of animal behavior to challenge the fixed boundary between humans and nonhuman animals. In Beyond Words listeners travel to Amboseli National Park in the threatened landscape of Kenya and witness struggling elephant families work out how to survive poaching and drought, then to Yellowstone National Park to observe wolves sort out the aftermath of one pack’s personal tragedy and finally plunge into the astonishingly peaceful society of killer whales living in the crystalline waters of the Pacific Northwest. Beyond Words brings forth powerful and illuminating insight into the unique personalities of animals through extraordinary stories of animal joy, grief, jealousy, anger, and love. The similarity between human and nonhuman consciousness, self-awareness, and empathy calls us to reevaluate how we interact with animals. Wise, passionate, and eye opening at every turn, Beyond Words is ultimately a graceful examination of humanity’s place in the world.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition
Listening Length: 16 hours and 5 minutes
Program Type: Audiobook
Version: Unabridged
Publisher: Tantor Audio
Audible.com Release Date: July 14, 2015
Language: English
ASIN: B010R58MZW


Customer Reviews

Interesting examples, more anecdote than scientific (but enough data to lend it credibility). Perfect title -- as you read, you come to realize just how inadequate language can be to illustrate experience.

Mr. Safina offers a close look at the lives of several different species of animals. Through personal observations and anecdotal reports, he proves that animals are intelligent, conscious beings who
deserve a place in our world.

Safina’s torrent of amazing stories about animals doing things that seem intelligent is entertaining and convincing for the lay reader. Scientists may feel the book isn’t rigorous in the right ways, but the author is out to make a point. If you have any experience with animals, you’ll instinctively agree with Safina’s argument that there is an animal intelligentsia out there -- primates, wolves, elephants, dolphins, whales, magpies/crows, and more -- and that the search for intelligent life in the universe should start at home.

My son used this book when he was in 2nd year college. He said it’s a nice and fun book to read.

One of the most interesting and informative books I’ve read in a while. I highly recommend it.

really interesting. Safina gets off on a couple of soap boxes, which while I appreciate the stance, I think would have been better left off the topic at hand.

Takes you into the real world of several highly organized species (like elephants and wolves). Gives insight into what it is these animals do and why.

Very well written book that will make you think and mad at the same time.

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