



One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual Lives

By Bernd Heinrich

Download now

Read Online →

One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual Lives By Bernd Heinrich

The acclaimed scientist's encounters with individual wild birds, yielding “marvelous, mind-altering” (*Los Angeles Times*) insights and discoveries

In his modern classics *One Man's Owl* and *Mind of the Raven*, Bernd Heinrich has written memorably about his relationships with wild ravens and a great horned owl.

In *One Wild Bird at a Time*, Heinrich returns to his great love: close, day-to-day observations of *individual* wild birds. There are countless books on bird behavior, but Heinrich argues that some of the most amazing bird behaviors fall below the radar of what most birds do in aggregate. Heinrich's “passionate observations [that] superbly mix memoir and science” (*New York Times Book Review*) lead to fascinating questions — and sometimes startling discoveries. A great crested flycatcher, while bringing food to the young in their nest, is attacked by the other flycatcher nearby. Why? A pair of Northern flickers hammering their nest-hole into the side of Heinrich's cabin deliver the opportunity to observe the feeding competition between siblings, and to make a related discovery about nest-cleaning. One of a clutch of redstart warbler babies fledges out of the nest from twenty feet above the ground, and lands on the grass below. It can't fly. What will happen next?

Heinrich “looks closely, with his trademark ‘hands-and-knees science’ at its most engaging, [delivering] what can only be called psychological marvels of knowing” (*Boston Globe*).

An eminent biologist shares the joys of bird-watching and how observing the anomalous behaviors of individual birds has guided his research.

Heinrich (Emeritus, Biology/Univ. of Vermont; *The Homing Instinct: Meaning and Mystery in Animal Migration*, 2014, etc.) smoothly describes how studying the daily lives of birds in their natural environments allows him to experience their world vicariously. Now retired and living in a cabin in the Maine woods, he devotes himself to closely observing “his avian neighbors, visitors, and vagrants,

and keep[ing] daily records throughout spring, summer, fall, and winter.” Every year, he welcomes a pair of broad-wing hawks who feast at a vernal pond populated by frogs, spring peepers, and salamanders while refurbishing their old nest. Unusually, they provide a fern cover on the nest, which they update on a daily basis after their chicks hatch. Heinrich also includes anecdotes from an earlier time when he still lived in Vermont. Awakened one morning by the loud drumming of a male woodpecker on a nearby apple tree, the author wondered if perhaps he was seeking to attract a female. Surprisingly, when a female was drawn to the sound, he stopped drumming and flew away. The same behavior was repeated the following day. The author’s observations led him to conclude that the bird's drumming was not part of a mating ritual but rather a noisy advertisement of his nest-building skills. Vireos nesting near his cabin allowed him to observe how they deliberately reduced the number of eggs they were hatching to accommodate the reduced food supply after an unseasonal freeze. Heinrich explains that bird-watching has been an important part of his life since he was a boy on his family's farm. When he was 6, they moved from Germany to Maine. Finding familiar birds nesting “immediately made this place our home,” he writes.

An engaging memoir of the opportunities for doing scientific research without leaving one's own backyard. (*Kirkus*)

 [Download One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual L ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual ...pdf](#)

One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual Lives

By Bernd Heinrich

One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual Lives By Bernd Heinrich

The acclaimed scientist's encounters with individual wild birds, yielding “marvelous, mind-altering” (*Los Angeles Times*) insights and discoveries

In his modern classics *One Man's Owl* and *Mind of the Raven*, Bernd Heinrich has written memorably about his relationships with wild ravens and a great horned owl.

In *One Wild Bird at a Time*, Heinrich returns to his great love: close, day-to-day observations of *individual* wild birds. There are countless books on bird behavior, but Heinrich argues that some of the most amazing bird behaviors fall below the radar of what most birds do in aggregate. Heinrich's “passionate observations [that] superbly mix memoir and science” (*New York Times Book Review*) lead to fascinating questions — and sometimes startling discoveries. A great crested flycatcher, while bringing food to the young in their nest, is attacked by the other flycatcher nearby. Why? A pair of Northern flickers hammering their nest-hole into the side of Heinrich's cabin deliver the opportunity to observe the feeding competition between siblings, and to make a related discovery about nest-cleaning. One of a clutch of redstart warbler babies fledges out of the nest from twenty feet above the ground, and lands on the grass below. It can't fly. What will happen next?

Heinrich “looks closely, with his trademark ‘hands-and-knees science’ at its most engaging, [delivering] what can only be called psychological marvels of knowing” (*Boston Globe*).

An eminent biologist shares the joys of bird-watching and how observing the anomalous behaviors of individual birds has guided his research.

Heinrich (Emeritus, Biology/Univ. of Vermont; *The Homing Instinct: Meaning and Mystery in Animal Migration*, 2014, etc.) smoothly describes how studying the daily lives of birds in their natural environments allows him to experience their world vicariously. Now retired and living in a cabin in the Maine woods, he devotes himself to closely observing “his avian neighbors, visitors, and vagrants, and keep[ing] daily records throughout spring, summer, fall, and winter.” Every year, he welcomes a pair of broad-wing hawks who feast at a vernal pond populated by frogs, spring peepers, and salamanders while refurbishing their old nest. Unusually, they provide a fern cover on the nest, which they update on a daily basis after their chicks hatch. Heinrich also includes anecdotes from an earlier time when he still lived in Vermont. Awakened one morning by the loud drumming of a male woodpecker on a nearby apple tree, the author wondered if perhaps he was seeking to attract a female. Surprisingly, when a female was drawn to the sound, he stopped drumming and flew away. The same behavior was repeated the following day. The author's observations led him to conclude that the bird's drumming was not part of a mating ritual but rather a noisy advertisement of his nest-building skills. Vireos nesting near his cabin allowed him to observe how they deliberately reduced the number of eggs they were hatching to accommodate the reduced food supply after an unseasonal freeze. Heinrich explains that bird-watching has been an important part of his life since he was a boy on his family's farm. When he was 6, they moved from Germany to Maine. Finding familiar birds nesting “immediately made this place our home,” he writes.

An engaging memoir of the opportunities for doing scientific research without leaving one's own backyard.
(*Kirkus*)

One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual Lives By Bernd Heinrich Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #28449 in Books
- Brand: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
- Published on: 2016-04-12
- Released on: 2016-04-12
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x .89" w x 6.00" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 224 pages

 [Download One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual L ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online *One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual Lives* By Bernd Heinrich

Editorial Review

Review

“He can certainly tell a story when there is one but is often content to retain the meandering form of the journals he culls, supplementing his entries with his own sketches, drawings and paintings.”

From the Inside Flap

The acclaimed scientist's encounters with individual wild birds, yielding marvelous, mind-altering (*Los Angeles Times*) insights and discoveries.

In his modern classic *One Man's Owl* and *Mind of the Raven*, Bernd Heinrich has written memorably about his relationships with wild ravens and a great horned owl.

In *One Wild Bird at a Time*, Heinrich returns to his great love: close, day-by-day observations of individual wild birds. There are countless books on bird behavior, but, writes Heinrich, some of the most amazing bird behaviors fall below the radar of what most birds do in aggregate. Heinrich's passionate observations [that] superbly mix memoir and science (*New York Times*) lead to fascinating questions and sometimes startling discoveries. A great crested flycatcher bringing food to its young acts surreptitiously and is attacked by its mate. Why? A pair of northern flickers hammering their nesthole into the sides of Heinrich's cabin offer the opportunity to observe the feeding competition between siblings, and to make a related discovery about nest-cleaning. One of a clutch of redstart warbler babies fledges out of the nest from twenty feet above the ground and lands on the grass below. It can't fly. What will happen next?

Heinrich looks closely, with his trademark hands-and-knees science at its most engaging, [delivering] what can only be called psychological marvels of knowing (*Boston Globe*).

"

From the Back Cover

Praise for *The Homing Instinct*

Its appeal is multilayered, with many fascinating instances of Heinrich's fabled fieldwork and plenty of hard science. Add to that those moments where the writing nearly attains the lyric poignancy of poetry. *Library Journal*

Praise for *Life Everlasting*

Bernd Heinrich is one of the finest naturalists of our time. *Life Everlasting* shines with the authenticity and originality that are unique to a life dedicated to natural history in the field. Edward O. Wilson, author of *The Future of Life* and *The Social Conquest of Earth*

Praise for Bernd Heinrich

He richly deserves the comparison to Thoreau. *Washington Post Book World*

Passionate observations [that] superbly mix memoir and science. *New York Times Book Review*

"

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Doris Rice:

In this 21st millennium, people become competitive in every single way. By being competitive at this point, people have to do something to make them survive, being in the middle of the particular crowded place and notice simply by surrounding. One thing that oftentimes many people have underestimated the idea for a while is reading. Yes, by reading a guide your ability to survive boost then having chance to remain than other is high. For you personally who want to start reading the book, we give you this particular One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual Lives book as starter and daily reading reserve. Why, because this book is greater than just a book.

Lisa Bates:

Hey guys, do you really want to find a new book to see? Maybe the book with the title One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual Lives suitable to you? The actual book was written by well-known writer in this era. The book entitled One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual Lives is the main of several books in which everyone read now. That book was inspired many men and women in the world. When you read this guide you will enter the new age that you ever know just before. The author explained their plan in the simple way, and so all of people can easily to comprehend the core of this reserve. This book will give you a wide range of information about this world now. So that you can see the represented of the world on this book.

Donald Chen:

That reserve can make you to feel relax. That book One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual Lives was multi-colored and of course has pictures around. As we know that book One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual Lives has many kinds or type. Start from kids until teenagers. For example Naruto or Detective Conan you can read and think you are the character on there. Therefore, not at all of book usually are make you bored, any it offers up you feel happy, fun and unwind. Try to choose the best book for yourself and try to like reading this.

Robert Tanaka:

As a pupil exactly feel bored to reading. If their teacher asked them to go to the library or to make summary for some book, they are complained. Just minor students that has reading's heart and soul or real their leisure activity. They just do what the professor want, like asked to go to the library. They go to right now there but nothing reading seriously. Any students feel that reading through is not important, boring and also can't see colorful pics on there. Yeah, it is to become complicated. Book is very important in your case. As we know that on this era, many ways to get whatever we would like. Likewise word says, ways to reach Chinese's country. Therefore this One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual Lives can make you sense more interested to read.

Download and Read Online One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual Lives By Bernd Heinrich #P7F9G0QNE5M

Read One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual Lives By Bernd Heinrich for online ebook

One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual Lives By Bernd Heinrich Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual Lives By Bernd Heinrich books to read online.

Online One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual Lives By Bernd Heinrich ebook PDF download

One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual Lives By Bernd Heinrich Doc

One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual Lives By Bernd Heinrich Mobipocket

One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual Lives By Bernd Heinrich EPub