

Download free The peregrine ja baker (2023)

j a baker s extraordinary classic of british nature writing reissue of j a baker s extraordinary classic of british nature writing with an exclusive new afterword by robert macfarlane

first book on the enigmatic author j a baker author of the peregrine

a sweeping history of how ecological challenges have shaped english society over the last sixty years england s green explores how environmental concerns have shaped and reflected english national identity since the 1960s from agriculture to leisure climate change folklore archaeology and religion david matless shows how national environmental debates connect to the local regional global and postcolonial worlds moving across a breadth of material including government policy popular music ecological polemic and television comedy england s green shows the richness and complexity of english environmental culture along the way matless tracks how today s debates over climate and nature land and culture have been molded by events over the past sixty years a powerful exploration of how we pay attention that will transform the ways we connect with one another at home at work and beyond paying attention is a crucial human skill yet many of us have forgotten how to listen carefully and observe intentionally deluged by social media and hobbled by the increasing social isolation it fosters we need to rediscover the deeply human ways we connect with others christian madsbjerg a philosopher and entrepreneur understands this dilemma to counteract it he began a course at the new school in new york city called human observation which lays out the ways that we can learn to pay attention more effectively the course has been hugely popular since its inception with hundreds of students filling waiting lists in look madsbjerg sets out the key observational skills needed to show how we can recapture our ability to pay attention drawing from philosophy science the visual arts and his own life he offers both practical insights and a range of tools for experiencing the world with greater richness and texture the result is a dynamic approach to rethinking observation that helps all of us to see with more empathy accuracy and connection to others

succeed in the exam with this revision guide designed specifically for the brand new common entrance english syllabus it breaks down the content into manageable and straightforward chunks with easy to use step by step instructions that should take away the fear of ce and guide you through all aspects of the exam gives you step by step guidance on how to recognise various types of comprehension questions and answer them shows you how to write creatively

as well as for a purpose for the section b questions reinforces and consolidates learning with tips guidance and exercises throughout makes it easy to navigate and find specific revision topics with short clear sections in the nature essay ecocritical explorations simone schröder offers the first extended account of the nature essay her ecocritical readings of essays engage with the genre s central epistemological and poetic paradigms revealing its unique capacity to serve as a platform for environmental discourse stem in the nature essay ecocritical explorations simone schröder offers the first extended account of the nature essay her ecocritical readings of essays engage with the genre s central epistemological and poetic paradigms revealing its unique capacity to serve as a platform for environmental discourse whether as sources of joy and pleasure to be fed counted and watched as objects of sport to be hunted and killed or as food to be harvested wild birds evoke strong feelings sean nixon traces the transformation of these human passions for wild birds from the early twentieth century through the 1970s detailing humans close encounters with wild birds in britain and the wider north atlantic world drawing on a rich range of written sources passions for birds reveals how emotional subjective and material attachments to wild birds were forged through a period of pronounced social and cultural change nixon demonstrates how for all their differences new traditions in birdwatching and conservation field sports and bird harvesting mobilized remarkably similar feelings towards birds striking similarities also emerged in the material forms that each of these practices used to bring birds closer to people hides and traps nets and ropes and binoculars wide ranging in scope passions for birds sheds new light on the ways in which wild birds helped shape humans throughout the twentieth century as well as how birds themselves became burdened with multiple cultural meanings and social anxieties over time after reading j a baker s fifty year old british nature classic the peregrine john lane found himself an ocean away stalking resident red shouldered hawks in his neighborhood in spartanburg south carolina what he observed was very different from what baker deduced from a decade of chronicling the lives of those brooding migratory raptors baker imagined a species on the brink of extinction because of the use of agricultural chemicals on european farms a half century later in america lane found the red shouldered hawks to be a stable anthropocene species adapted to life along the waterways of a suburban nation lane watched the hawks for a full year and along the way made a pledge to himself anytime he heard or saw the noisy nonmigratory hawks in his neighborhood he would drop whatever he was doing and follow them on foot on bike or in his truck the almanac that results from this discipline considers many questions any practiced amateur naturalist would ask such as where and when will the hawks nest what do they eat what are their greatest threats and what

exactly are they communicating through those constant multicolored cries lane s year following the hawks also led him to try to answer what would become the most complex question of all why his heart like baker s goes out so fully to wild things what is this thing called literature why study it and how relating literature to topics such as dreams politics life death the ordinary and the uncanny this thing called literature establishes a sense of why and how literature is an exciting and rewarding subject to study andrew bennett and nicholas royle expertly weave an essential love of literature into an account of what literary texts do how they work and the sort of questions and ideas they provoke the book s three parts reflect the fundamental components of studying literature reading thinking and writing the authors use helpful and wide ranging examples and summaries offering rich reflections on the question what is literature and on what they term creative reading the new edition has been revised throughout with extensive updates to the further reading and a new chapter on creative non fiction bennett and royle s accessible and thought provoking style encourages a deep engagement with literary texts this essential guide to the study of literature is an eloquent celebration of the value and pleasure of reading this volume traces transitions in british literature from 1960 to 1980 illuminating a diverse range of authors texts genres and movements it considers innovations in form emergent identities changes in attitudes preoccupations and in the mind itself local and regional developments and shifts within the oeuvres of individual authors the peregrine the fastest bird in the world has made a remarkable recovery over the past 30 years as the species re establishes itself around the world it is becoming a familiar sight in towns and cities this beautifully illustrated book is the first in depth focus on the lives of peregrines in towns and cities in words and stunning photographs ed drewitt reveals the latest information on peregrine behaviour including how they are adapting to and taking advantage of the urban environment the book is also a how to guide with information on finding peregrines studying their diet ringing individuals for research putting up nest boxes and enabling people to learn more about them through public viewing points or web cameras ed also discusses what makes a peregrine urban their contemporary relationship with people and helps dispel some myths and reveal some truths about this agile predator beyond the brash modern stereotypes of essex there exists a landscape that has inspired some of england s finest writing this book tracks the paths of those literary figures who have ventured into the wilder parts of essex some are illustrious names shakespeare defoe john clare joseph conrad h g wells arthur ransome others may be lesser known but here are well remembered samuel purchas sabine baring gould margery allingham j a baker in ten chapters james canton crosses five centuries into the furthest reaches of the county in search of writers and what can be seen of their work today j a baker follows the peregrines along the chelmer valley to the blackwater estuary at maldon john clare wanders the hidden pathways of epping forest scribbling poetry while arthur ransome sails around the islands of the hamford waters william shakespeare appears in the woody glades beside castle hedingham joseph conrad stares across the essex marshes at tilbury to the thames while sabine baring gould s gothic heroine mehalah lives upon a lone muddy stretch beside mersea island where margery allingham sets her first tale of

smuggling and murder daniel defoe recounts the horror of the ague on the dengie peninsula h g wells writes a tale of the first world war from his home at little easton samuel purchas tells such seafaring tales from his southend vicarage as to inspire samuel taylor coleridge to write kubla khan combining detailed literary detective work with personal responses to landscapes and their meanings james canton offers a fresh vision of essex its cultural history and its living legacy of wilderness and imagination drawing on modern responses to scotus made by heidegger peirce arendt leibniz hume reid derrida and deleuze john llewelyn explores scotus influence on 19th century poet and philosopher gerard manley hopkins the very best of british and irish nature writing selected by the natural history writer patrick barkham the landscapes of britain and ireland together with the creatures and plants that inhabit them have penetrated deep in our collective imagination from gilbert white and dorothy wordsworth to laurie lee and nan shepherd literature inspired by the natural world has become an integral part of our shared identity and shaped our relationship with the islands we call home in the wild isles patrick barkham has gathered together a wide array of the very best of british and irish nature writing characterized by an arresting diversity of moods and voices his choices are arranged under themes that range from birds woods and coastlines to childhood the seasons and urban nature and juxtapose extracts from much loved classics with passages by contemporary writers such as robert macfarlane james rebanks and helen macdonald here the reader will find joyful celebrations of landscape and the wildlife it nurtures probing explorations of the environmental problems facing us today as well as the fresh and vital perspectives of writers from underrepresented backgrounds if british and irish nature writing is to grow and endure writes barkham in his introduction it must be diverse complex multi faceted and dynamic and relevant to everyone who lives on this land encompassing the bleak heights of the cairngorms the ancient woodlands of essex the storm lashed islands of ireland s west coast and the lush fields of devon the wild isles highlights nature s capacity to terrify and to delight to soothe and to heal to surprise inspire and bring wonder the powerful beautiful and chilling sequel to the bestselling straw dogs john gray draws on an extraordinary array of memoirs poems fiction and philosophy to make us re imagine our place in the world writers as varied as ballard borges freud and conrad are mesmerised by forms of human extremity experiences on the outer edge of the possible or which tip into fantasy and myth what happens to us when we starve when we fight when we are imprisoned and how do our imaginations leap into worlds way beyond our real experience the silence of animals is consistently fascinating filled with unforgettable images and a delight in the conundrum of our existence an existence which we decorate with countless myths and ideas where we twist and turn to avoid acknowledging that we too are animals separated from the others perhaps only by our self conceit in the babel we have created for ourselves it is the silence of animals that both reproaches and bewitches us reviews the silence of animals is a new kind of book from gray a sort of poetic reverie on the human state on the state that is of the human animal he blends lyricism with wisdom humour with admonition nay saying with affirmation making in the process a marvellous statement of what it is to be both an animal and a human in the strange terrifying and exquisite world into which we straw dogs find

ourselves thrown john banville guardian interesting original and memorable the silence of animals is a beautifully written book the product of a strongly questioning mind it is effectively an anthology with detailed commentary setting out one rich and suggestive episode after another philip hensher spectator about the author john gray has been professor of politics at oxford university visiting professor at harvard and yale and professor of european thought at the london school of economics he now writes full time his books include false dawn the delusions of global capitalism straw dogs thoughts on humans and other animals and the immortalization commission the strange quest to cheat death his selected writings gray s anatomy was published in 2009 a provocative call for architects to remember and embrace the nonhuman lives that share our spaces a spider spinning its web in a dark corner wasps building a nest under a roof there s hardly any part of the built environment that can t be inhabited by nonhumans and yet we are extremely selective about which animals we keep in or out this book imagines new ways of thinking about architecture and the more than human and asks how we might design with animals and the other lives that share our spaces in mind animal architecture is a provocative exploration of how to think about building in a world where humans and other animals are already entangled whether we acknowledge it or not delightful an original look at the literature inspired by britain s birdlife the guardian best nature books of 2017 the pages light up with feathered magic evening standard when alex preston was 15 he stopped being a birdwatcher adolescence and the scorn of his peers made him put away his binoculars leave behind the nature reserves and the quiet companionship of his fellow birders his love of birds didn t disappear though rather it went underground and he began birdwatching in the books that he read creating his own personal anthology of nature writing that brought the birds of his childhood back to brilliant life looking for moments when heart and bird are one preston weaves the very best writing about birds into a personal narrative that is as much about the joy of reading and writing as it is about the thrill of wildlife beautifully illustrated and illuminated by the celebrated graphic artist neil gower as kingfishers catch fire is a book to love and to hold to return to again and again to marvel at the way that authors across the centuries have captured the endless grace and variety of birds it will make you look at birds at the world in a newer richer light a joyful and a wondrous book each bird illustrated by gower in a mixture of gouache and watercolour that brings to mind both william morris and eric ravilious the observer i can see it under the christmas tree of every family with a bird feeder and a copy of the rspb handbook preston captures his birds beautifully the times this study investigates the figure of haunting in the new nature writing it begins with a historical survey of nature writing and traces how it came to represent an ideal of natural space as empty of human history and social conflict building on a theoretical framework which combines insights from ecocriticism and spatial theory the author explores the spatial dimensions of haunting and hauntology and shows how 21st century writers draw on a gothic repertoire of seemingly supernatural occurrences and spectral imagery to portray natural space as disturbed uncanny and socially contested iain sinclair and robert macfarlane are revealed to apply psychogeography s interest in hidden histories and haunted places to spaces associated with

wilderness and the countryside kathleen jamie s allusions to the gothic are put in relation to her feminist re writing of the outdoors and john burnside s use of haunting is shown to dismantle fictions of the far north this book provides not only a discussion of a wide range of factual and fictional narratives of the present but also an analysis of the intertextual dialogue with the romantic tradition which enfolds in these texts before best selling author helen macdonald told the story of the goshawk in h is for hawk she told the story of the falcon in a cultural history of the masterful creature that can cut the sky in two with the perfectly aerodynamic profile of a raindrop as she so incisively puts it in talon sharp prose she explores the spell the falcon has had over her and by extension all of us whether we ve seen them through binoculars framed on gallery walls versified by poets flown as hunting birds through manhattan windows sewn on flags stamped on badges or winnowing through the clouds over abandoned arctic radar stations macdonald dives through centuries and careens around the globe to tell the story of the falcon as it has flown in the wild skies of the natural world and those of our imagination mixing history myth and legend she explores the long history of the sport of falconry in many human cultures from japan to abu dhabi to oxford she analyzes the falcon s talismanic power as a symbol in art politics and business and she addresses the ways we have both endangered and protected it along the way we discover how falcons were mobilized in secret military projects their links with espionage the third reich the holy roman empire and space programs and how they have figured in countless stories of heroism and of course the erotic best of all macdonald has given us something fresh a new introduction that draws on all her experience to even further invigorate her cherished subject the result is a deeply informed book written with the same astonishing lyrical grace that has captivated readers and had everyone talking about this writer cum falconer jane austen and the ethics of description demonstrates that elizabeth bennet and her creator are misunderstood and often unrecognized geniuses of moral philosophy but not simply because of their virtue or wit or natural skills in game theory the engine driving the moral judgement and growth of austen s protagonists consists of a particular and not well understood ability to reason by description a skill which we moderns must recover and remaster in order to negotiate the complexities of contemporary life the forms of rational description this book derives from austen will be of great interest not only to literary critics and theorists but also to philosophers and anyone interested in ethics the dynamics of power and practical reasoning written in a clear style the book is for those who love austen and for those who want to understand how we should reason about our lives how we should understand power social conflict and our own motives and prejudices it is a literary analysis a philosophical argument and a practical guide to ethical thinking for readers of rachel cusk and maggie nelson the rapturous memoir of a soon to be mother whose obsession with the reclusive painter agnes martin threatens to upend her life five months pregnant and struggling with a creative block joanna novak becomes obsessed with the enigmatic abstract expressionist painter agnes martin she is drawn to the contradictions in martin s life as well as her art the soft and exacting brushstrokes she employs for grid like compositions that are both rigid and dreamy but what most calls to joanna is martin s

dedication to her work in the face of paranoid schizophrenia uneasy with the changes her pregnant body is undergoing joanna relapses into damaging old habits and thought patterns when she confides in her doctor that she is struggling with depression and suicidal ideation he tells her she must stop being so selfish given she has a baby on the way and start taking antidepressants appalled by his patronizing tone and disregard of her mental health history joanna instead turns to martin for guidance adopting the artist's doctrine of joyful solitude and isolation joanna heads to taos where martin lived for decades and gives herself three weeks to model her hermetic existence phone off email off no talking to her husband no touching the dog out of a deep solitary engagement with a remarkable artist's body of work emerges an entirely new way for joanna to relate to the contradictions of her own body and face up to the joys and challenges of impending motherhood this book explores representations of animals and animality across the span of literary history from the middle ages to the present adventure memoir storytelling and celebration of all things maritime meet in waypoints a beautifully written account of sea journeys from scotland's west coast in the book ian stephen reveals a lifetime's love affair with sailing each voyage honours a seagoing vessel and each adventure is accompanied by a spell binding retelling of a traditional tale about the sea his writing is enchanting and lyrical gentle but searching and is accompanied by beautiful illustrations of each vessel drawn by his wife artist christine morrison ian stephen is a scottish writer artist and storyteller from the remote and bewitching isle of lewis in the outer hebrides he fell in love with boats and sailing as a boy pairing this love affair with a passion for the beautiful but merciless scottish coastline an inspiration and motivating force behind his poems stories plays radio broadcasts and visual arts projects for many years this book will be a delightful and absorbing read for anyone with a passion for sailing and the seas scotland's landscape and coastlines stories and the origins of language and literature from jim crumley the pre eminent scottish nature writer guardian this landmark volume documents the extraordinary natural life of the scottish highlands and bears witness to the toll climate chaos is taking on its wildlife habitats and biodiversity laying bare what is at stake for future generations in this landmark volume jim crumley brings together a sweeping five year quest to document the seasons and how he has seen them change it explores the damage to the earth's natural rhythms but also relishes the enduring beauty and wonder of nature itself drawing on his studies of each season over more than thirty years and reworking the volumes in his best selling seasons quartet crumley has created this unique account of our natural world today after a lifetime of immersing himself in the landscapes of scotland and a handful of other northern countries crumley has amassed a body of knowledge and insight and a bank of memorable imagery combining lyrical prose and passionate eloquence he lays bare the impact of an increasingly chaotic climate and urges us all towards a more daring conservation vision that embraces everything from the mountain treeline to a second spring for the wolf spring is nature's season of rebirth and rejuvenation earth's northern hemisphere tilts towards the sun winter yields to intensifying light and warmth and a wild elemental beauty transforms the highland landscape and a repertoire of islands from colonsay to lindisfarne jim crumley chronicles the wonder tumult and spectacle

of that transformation but he shows too that it is no wordsworthian idyll that unfolds climate chaos brings unwanted drama to the lives of badger and fox seal and seabird and raptor pine marten and sand martin jim lays bare the impact of global warming and urges us all towards a more daring conservation vision that embraces everything from the mountain treeline to a second spring for the wolf

brooding migratory raptors baker imagined a species on the brink of extinction because of the use of agricultural chemicals on european farms a half century later in america lane found the red shouldered hawks to be a stable anthropocene species adapted to life along the waterways of a suburban nation lane watched the hawks for a full year and along the way made a pledge to himself anytime he heard or saw the noisy nonmigratory hawks in his neighborhood he would drop whatever he was doing and follow them on foot on bike or in his truck the almanac that results from this discipline considers many questions any practiced amateur naturalist would ask such as where and when will the hawks nest what do they eat what are their greatest threats and what exactly are they communicating through those constant multintoned cries lane s year following the hawks also led him to try to answer what would become the most complex question of all why his heart like baker s goes out so fully to wild things

Neighborhood Hawks 2019-04-01

what is this thing called literature why study it and how relating literature to topics such as dreams politics life death the ordinary and the uncanny this thing called literature establishes a sense of why and how literature is an exciting and rewarding subject to study andrew bennett and nicholas royle expertly weave an essential love of literature into an account of what literary texts do how they work and the sort of questions and ideas they provoke the book s three parts reflect the fundamental components of studying literature reading thinking and writing the authors use helpful and wide ranging examples and summaries offering rich reflections on the question what is literature and on what they term creative reading the new edition has been revised throughout with extensive updates to the further reading and a new chapter on creative non fiction bennett and royle s accessible and thought provoking style encourages a deep engagement with literary texts this essential guide to the study of literature is an eloquent celebration of the value and pleasure of reading

This Thing Called Literature 2024-01-22

this volume traces transitions in british literature from 1960 to 1980 illuminating a diverse range of authors texts genres and movements it considers innovations in form emergent identities changes in attitudes preoccupations and in the mind itself local and regional developments and shifts within the oeuvres of individual authors

British Literature in Transition, 1960-1980: Flower Power 2018-12-20

the peregrine the fastest bird in the world has made a remarkable recovery over the past 30 years as the species re establishes itself around the world it is becoming a familiar sight in towns and cities this beautifully illustrated book is the first in depth focus on the lives of peregrines in towns and cities in words and stunning photographs ed drewitt reveals the latest information on peregrine behaviour including how they are adapting to and taking advantage of the urban environment the book is also a how to guide with information on finding peregrines studying their diet ringing individuals for research putting up nest boxes and enabling people to learn more about them through public viewing points or web cameras ed also discusses what makes a peregrine urban their contemporary relationship with people and helps dispel some myths and reveal some truths about this agile predator

Urban Peregrines 2014-06-16

beyond the brash modern stereotypes of essex there exists a landscape that has inspired some of england s finest writing this book tracks the paths of those literary figures who have ventured into the wilder parts of essex some are illustrious names shakespeare defoe john clare joseph conrad h g wells arthur ransome others may be lesser known but here are well remembered samuel purchas sabine baring gould margery allingham j a baker in ten chapters james canton crosses five centuries into the furthest reaches of the county in search of writers and what can be seen of their work today j a baker follows the peregrines along the chelmer valley to the blackwater estuary at maldon john clare wanders the hidden pathways of epping forest scribbling poetry while arthur ransome sails around the islands of the hamford waters william shakespeare appears in the woody glades beside castle hedingham joseph conrad stares across the essex marshes at tilbury to the thames while sabine baring gould s gothic heroine mehalah lives upon a lone muddy stretch beside mersea island where margery allingham sets her first tale of smuggling and murder daniel defoe recounts the horror of the ague on the dengie peninsula h g wells writes a tale of the first world war from his home at little easton samuel purchas tells such seafaring tales from his southend vicarage as to inspire samuel taylor coleridge to write kubla khan combining detailed literary detective work with personal responses to landscapes and their meanings james canton offers a fresh vision of essex its cultural history and its living legacy of wilderness and imagination

Out of Essex 2013-07-23

drawing on modern responses to scotus made by heidegger peirce arendt leibniz hume reid derrida and deleuze john llewelyn explores scotus influence on 19th century poet and philosopher gerard manley
 2023-10-06 14/21 mcgraw hill understanding business 10th edition

hopkins

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the very best of british and irish nature writing selected by the natural history writer patrick barkham the landscapes of britain and ireland together with the creatures and plants that inhabit them have penetrated deep in our collective imagination from gilbert white and dorothy wordsworth to laurie lee and nan shepherd literature inspired by the natural world has become an integral part of our shared identity and shaped our relationship with the islands we call home in the wild isles patrick barkham has gathered together a wide array of the very best of british and irish nature writing characterized by an arresting diversity of moods and voices his choices are arranged under themes that range from birds woods and coastlines to childhood the seasons and urban nature and juxtapose extracts from much loved classics with passages by contemporary writers such as robert macfarlane james rebanks and helen macdonald here the reader will find joyful celebrations of landscape and the wildlife it nurtures probing explorations of the environmental problems facing us today as well as the fresh and vital perspectives of writers from underrepresented backgrounds if british and irish nature writing is to grow and endure writes barkham in his introduction it must be diverse complex multi faceted and dynamic and relevant to everyone who lives on this land encompassing the bleak heights of the cairngorms the ancient woodlands of essex the storm lashed islands of ireland s west coast and the lush fields of devon the wild isles highlights nature s capacity to terrify and to delight to soothe and to heal to surprise inspire and bring wonder

Gerard Manley Hopkins and the Spell of John Duns Scotus 2015-10-09

the powerful beautiful and chilling sequel to the bestselling straw dogs john gray draws on an extraordinary array of memoirs poems fiction and philosophy to make us re imagine our place in the world writers as varied as ballard borges freud and conrad are mesmerised by forms of human extremity experiences on the outer edge of the possible or which tip into fantasy and myth what happens to us when we starve when we fight when we are imprisoned and how do our imaginations leap into worlds way beyond our real experience the silence of animals is consistently fascinating filled with unforgettable images and a delight in the conundrum of our existence an existence which we decorate with countless myths and ideas where we twist and turn to avoid acknowledging that we too are animals separated from the others perhaps only by our self conceit in the babel we have created for ourselves it is the silence of animals that both reproaches and bewitches us reviews the silence of animals is a new kind of book from gray a sort of poetic reverie on the human state on the state that is of the human animal he blends lyricism with wisdom humour with admonition nay saying with affirmation making in the process a marvellous

2023-10-06

15/21

statement of what it is to be both an animal and a human in the strange terrifying and exquisite world into which we straw dogs find ourselves thrown john banville guardian interesting original and memorable the silence of animals is a beautifully written book the product of a strongly questioning mind it is effectively an anthology with detailed commentary setting out one rich and suggestive episode after another philip hensher spectator about the author john gray has been professor of politics at oxford university visiting professor at harvard and yale and professor of european thought at the london school of economics he now writes full time his books include false dawn the delusions of global capitalism straw dogs thoughts on humans and other animals and the immortalization commission the strange quest to cheat death his selected writings gray s anatomy was published in 2009

The Wild Isles 2021-03-04

a provocative call for architects to remember and embrace the nonhuman lives that share our spaces a spider spinning its web in a dark corner wasps building a nest under a roof there s hardly any part of the built environment that can t be inhabited by nonhumans and yet we are extremely selective about which animals we keep in or out this book imagines new ways of thinking about architecture and the more than human and asks how we might design with animals and the other lives that share our spaces in mind animal architecture is a provocative exploration of how to think about building in a world where humans and other animals are already entangled whether we acknowledge it or not

The Silence of Animals 2013-02-28

delightful an original look at the literature inspired by britain s birdlife the guardian best nature books of 2017 the pages light up with feathered magic evening standard when alex preston was 15 he stopped being a birdwatcher adolescence and the scorn of his peers made him put away his binoculars leave behind the nature reserves and the quiet companionship of his fellow birders his love of birds didn t disappear though rather it went underground and he began birdwatching in the books that he read creating his own personal anthology of nature writing that brought the birds of his childhood back to brilliant life looking for moments when heart and bird are one preston weaves the very best writing about birds into a personal narrative that is as much about the joy of reading and writing as it is about the thrill of wildlife beautifully illustrated and illuminated by the celebrated graphic artist neil gower as kingfishers catch fire is a book to love and to hold to return to again and again to marvel at the way that authors across the centuries have captured the endless grace and variety of birds it will make you look at birds at the world in a newer richer light a joyful and a wondrous book each bird illustrated by gower in a mixture of gouache and watercolour that brings to mind both william morris and eric ravilious

the observer i can see it under the christmas tree of every family with a bird feeder and a copy of the rspb handbook preston captures his birds beautifully the times

Animal Architecture 2023-05-17

this study investigates the figure of haunting in the new nature writing it begins with a historical survey of nature writing and traces how it came to represent an ideal of natural space as empty of human history and social conflict building on a theoretical framework which combines insights from ecocriticism and spatial theory the author explores the spatial dimensions of haunting and hauntology and shows how 21st century writers draw on a gothic repertoire of seemingly supernatural occurrences and spectral imagery to portray natural space as disturbed uncanny and socially contested iain sinclair and robert macfarlane are revealed to apply psychogeography s interest in hidden histories and haunted places to spaces associated with wilderness and the countryside kathleen jamie s allusions to the gothic are put in relation to her feminist re writing of the outdoors and john burnside s use of haunting is shown to dismantle fictions of the far north this book provides not only a discussion of a wide range of factual and fictional narratives of the present but also an analysis of the intertextual dialogue with the romantic tradition which enfolds in these texts

As Kingfishers Catch Fire 2017-07-13

before best selling author helen macdonald told the story of the goshawk in h is for hawk she told the story of the falcon in a cultural history of the masterful creature that can cut the sky in two with the perfectly aerodynamic profile of a raindrop as she so incisively puts it in talon sharp prose she explores the spell the falcon has had over her and by extension all of us whether we ve seen them through binoculars framed on gallery walls versified by poets flown as hunting birds through manhattan windows sewn on flags stamped on badges or winnowing through the clouds over abandoned arctic radar stations macdonald dives through centuries and careens around the globe to tell the story of the falcon as it has flown in the wild skies of the natural world and those of our imagination mixing history myth and legend she explores the long history of the sport of falconry in many human cultures from japan to abu dhabi to oxford she analyzes the falcon s talismanic power as a symbol in art politics and business and she addresses the ways we have both endangered and protected it along the way we discover how falcons were mobilized in secret military projects their links with espionage the third reich the holy roman empire and space programs and how they have figured in countless stories of heroism and of course the erotic best of all macdonald has given us something fresh a new introduction that draws on all her experience to even further invigorate her cherished subject the result is a deeply informed book written with the same

astonishing lyrical grace that has captivated readers and had everyone talking about this writer cum falconer

Haunted Spaces in Twenty-First Century British Nature Writing **2020-06-08**

jane austen and the ethics of description demonstrates that elizabeth bennet and her creator are misunderstood and often unrecognized geniuses of moral philosophy but not simply because of their virtue or wit or natural skills in game theory the engine driving the moral judgement and growth of austen s protagonists consists of a particular and not well understood ability to reason by description a skill which we moderns must recover and remaster in order to negotiate the complexities of contemporary life the forms of rational description this book derives from austen will be of great interest not only to literary critics and theorists but also to philosophers and anyone interested in ethics the dynamics of power and practical reasoning written in a clear style the book is for those who love austen and for those who want to understand how we should reason about our lives how we should understand power social conflict and our own motives and prejudices it is a literary analysis a philosophical argument and a practical guide to ethical thinking

Falcon 2016-11-15

for readers of rachel cusk and maggie nelson the rapturous memoir of a soon to be mother whose obsession with the reclusive painter agnes martin threatens to upend her life five months pregnant and struggling with a creative block joanna novak becomes obsessed with the enigmatic abstract expressionist painter agnes martin she is drawn to the contradictions in martin s life as well as her art the soft and exacting brushstrokes she employs for grid like compositions that are both rigid and dreamy but what most calls to joanna is martin s dedication to her work in the face of paranoid schizophrenia uneasy with the changes her pregnant body is undergoing joanna relapses into damaging old habits and thought patterns when she confides in her doctor that she s struggling with depression and suicidal ideation he tells her she must stop being so selfish given she has a baby on the way and start taking antidepressants appalled by his patronizing tone and disregard of her mental health history joanna instead turns to martin for guidance adopting the artist s doctrine of joyful solitude and isolation joanna heads to taos where martin lived for decades and gives herself three weeks to model her hermetic existence phone off email off no talking to her husband no touching the dog out of a deep solitary engagement with a remarkable artist s body of work emerges an entirely new way for joanna to relate to the contradictions of her own body and face up to the joys and challenges of impending motherhood

2023-10-06

18/21

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Jane Austen and the Ethics of Description 2022-11-30

this book explores representations of animals and animality across the span of literary history from the middle ages to the present

Contradiction Days 2023-07-25

adventure memoir storytelling and celebration of all things maritime meet in waypoints a beautifully written account of sea journeys from scotland s west coast in the book ian stephen reveals a lifetime s love affair with sailing each voyage honours a seagoing vessel and each adventure is accompanied by a spell binding retelling of a traditional tale about the sea his writing is enchanting and lyrical gentle but searching and is accompanied by beautiful illustrations of each vessel drawn by his wife artist christine morrison ian stephen is a scottish writer artist and storyteller from the remote and bewitching isle of lewis in the outer hebrides he fell in love with boats and sailing as a boy pairing this love affair with a passion for the beautiful but merciless scottish coastline an inspiration and motivating force behind his poems stories plays radio broadcasts and visual arts projects for many years this book will be a delightful and absorbing read for anyone with a passion for sailing and the seas scotland s landscape and coastlines stories and the origins of language and literature

The Cambridge Companion to Literature and Animals 2023-08-31

from jim crumley the pre eminent scottish nature writer guardian this landmark volume documents the extraordinary natural life of the scottish highlands and bears witness to the toll climate chaos is taking on its wildlife habitats and biodiversity laying bare what is at stake for future generations in this landmark volume jim crumley brings together a sweeping five year quest to document the seasons and how he has seen them change it explores the damage to the earth s natural rhythms but also relishes the enduring beauty and wonder of nature itself drawing on his studies of each season over more than thirty years and reworking the volumes in his best selling seasons quartet crumley has created this unique account of our natural world today after a lifetime of immersing himself in the landscapes of scotland and a handful of other northern countries crumley has amassed a body of knowledge and insight and a bank of memorable imagery combining lyrical prose and passionate eloquence he lays bare the impact of an increasingly chaotic climate and urges us all towards a more daring conservation vision that embraces everything from the mountain treeline to a second spring for the wolf

Waypoints 2017-02-23

spring is nature s season of rebirth and rejuvenation earth s northern hemisphere tilts towards the sun winter yields to intensifying light and warmth and a wild elemental beauty transforms the highland landscape and a repertoire of islands from colonsay to lindisfarne jim crumley chronicles the wonder tumult and spectacle of that transformation but he shows too that it is no wordsworthian idyll that unfolds climate chaos brings unwanted drama to the lives of badger and fox seal and seabird and raptor pine marten and sand martin jim lays bare the impact of global warming and urges us all towards a more daring conservation vision that embraces everything from the mountain treeline to a second spring for the wolf

Seasons of Storm and Wonder 2022-09-08

The Nature of Spring 2019-04-04

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