



Wildlife Book Club:

Red-tails in Love by Marie Winn

Tuesday, April 7, 2015

Comment From Elaine Va VB

Ready for book Club with my book in my lap.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Congo is here for book club!



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

Well it was about feathers



Congowings:

:-) I enjoyed reading the book again. One of my favorites. And yes - all about feathers.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

True. Although she didn't come to our Silence of the Songbirds one ...



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Must like raptor feathers. :)

Congowings:

I know. I like all feathers. I just couldn't be here for that one.

Comment From barb in nj

Made it to class on time, whew!

Comment From Mrs. Matheson

Present and accounted for! Good thing I live only 7 miles from school! (Time to switch from teacher hat to CN hat)

Comment From Lynda in AZA

And here is my CN hat!! lol

Comment From CK in Pa

Hi, Chapin, Amanda, Congo & CN..Ready for book club.



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Hi all!

Comment From BarbG

Hi everyone

Comment From rejoyce

Hi Raina!

Comment From rejoyce

Ready for book club!

Comment From Kathy in NM ♥

Ready and waiting in NM...



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Ready for book club?

Comment From Lynda in AZA

Good afternoon, Raina (well, evening for you, afternoon for me!0



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

Ready!



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

What is this ... our fifth?



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Not sure. I'm bad at math. :)



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

It's our fifth!

Comment From rejoyce

I think so.....

Comment From rejoyce

Hi Amanda and Chapin!

Comment From Lynda in AZA

I believe it is the fifth - I've read 4 (couldn't find the wolf one)

Comment From Becky in SoCal

I missed one I guess.



Raina Krasner, WCV:

I do know that our promoter for this month was an awesome hawk ...



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

Smiling Bears, Silence of the Songbirds, Never Cry Wolf, Winter World, and now Red-tails in Love



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

Yay Ruby!



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Miss Ruby! The red-tailed hawk.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Fun! I like that our shelf is growing so much.

Comment From Becky in SoCal

I loved this book. Very awesome hawk.

Comment From rejoyce

Oh yes, our very own red tail!!



Congowings:

Hi Raina! Nice to see you. And everyone too.



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Hi Congo!

Comment From Pat, NJ

Evening Congo and Raina.



Raina Krasner, WCV:

I do think our shelf is pretty diverse, isn't it?

Comment From Jay

Hi! Just got here! Looking forward to it! Sorry to be late!



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Hi, Jay!



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Wolves, bears, birds ...



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

Oh My!



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Wait, didn't GN say he'd be here too this month?

Comment From Pat, NJ

We know he's out there lurking.

Comment From rejoyce

Yes, he did!



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Probably. But he's kind of a delinquent.

Comment From Jay

Hi again! Thank you! I'll read back a few comments to catch up.

Comment From GN

Yes he did.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Hey!



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

Shall we get started?

Comment From GN

Hey!

Comment From Pat, NJ

Yo GN!



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Look at that! Did you actually read it all the way through?

Comment From Becky in SoCal

Where our my manners.....Hello Amanda, Raina, Chapin, Congo and all.

Comment From rejoyce

GN, were you out monkeying around???



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

So ... shall we kick things off? What did everyone thing of "Red-tails in Love"?



Congowings:

I loved the book. I think many people related to the 'characters' in this book. I know I chuckled when I read some of the human comments.

Comment From rejoyce

It was very different from our other books!

Comment From Jay

It was a fantastic book, by the way, tons of great stuff about other birds, even great stuff about humans.

Comment From Kali - TX

i thought it was hard to get into... 40 pages of introduction

Comment From rejoyce

This book was very different from the others we've read.

Comment From Mary E in NC

I really enjoyed this book - it was so cool to read about wildlife in the big city!! The hawk watchers reminded me of CN!

Comment From TerryMI

I liked the book a lot. I liked how The Central Park birds brought so many people together.

Comment From BarbG

I loved the book-not as much on the hawks as I thought there would be

Comment From Becky in SoCal

I loved the hawks, but also loved all of the "bird watchers" in the park.

Comment From Lynda in AZA

I enjoyed Red Tails in Love, but I do have to say (Congo won't like this) but Smiling Bears has been my favoritest so far. Red Tails would be second. I think it's the writer's style that I connected to.

Comment From TerryMI

I liked the book a lot. I liked how The Central Park birds brought so many people together.

**Raina Krasner, WCV:**

Becky - I agree. I thought there would be more hawk talk. But I think a big theme was the fact that the hawks brought people together.

**Amanda Nicholson, WCV:**

So ... I see some themes: the Red-tails themselves, the community of birdwatchers that surrounded them ... let's hit on some of those themes. Although I'm curious for those who said "this was different" -- what made it different?

Comment From CK in Pa

I loved this book.

Comment From Jay

This is only my second book club book. It was much different from Winter World. Great selections so far. I appreciate the diversity w/in the wildlife theme.

Comment From rejoyce

I thought it was different because although it did have specific information, it had much more of the human element and emotions than some of the others.

Comment From Lynda in AZA

I thought it rather interesting in how the author set the book up as a 'drama' with Acts and Scenes (and intermission) just like a play you would see on stage - only this stage was real life in Central Park

Comment From Jay

Bernd Heinrich is much different (more analytical) than Marie Winn, but very similar - bone deep appreciation for nature.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Well, let's delve into the human element, since many people mentioned that --



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

It sounds like many agree that this wasn't just about Red-tails in Love!



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

What did you guys think of that? Did you like it? Not like it?

Comment From TerryMI

Central Park brought together bird people, but also people that had an interest in plants, insects, reptiles, and trees

Comment From rejoyce

The nest watch reminded me SO much of the NBG days :)



Congowings:

I recognized quite a few people in that book. I think bird watchers are rather universal. ;-)



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

I have to say -- the storyline of the watchers and worriers and people who came to love these birds -- it all reminded me of you guys!



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

Yes, I think anyone who has watched a Critter Cam or a nest cam can relate to the Hawkwatchers.

Comment From Becky in SoCal

Who, us?

Comment From rejoyce

I laughed out loud at some of their comments, their concerns, and the actions they took. I could see us doing all of that!



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Yes, I'm sure you all see the similarities between nest watchers and Critter Cam watchers. Emotionally invested, caring ... Worried :)

Comment From Jay

I certainly recognized my own outdoor obsessions in the writer and many of the characters.

Comment From susan from nj

I identified very strongly with the author.

Comment From rejoyce

Worried? Us????

Comment From Kali - TX

i liked some of the human elements, but i had been expecting more about the hawks



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

I had read a couple of comments like that prior to reading the book, so I wondered if I'd be disappointed ... but I wasn't at all! This is more than just about the hawks (wow, that sounds familiar too!)

Comment From Lydia, PA ♥ ♡•••? ♥

I love Winn's quote: "Marie Winn; Red -Tails in Love ---and a pair of hawks that captured our hearts This book tells the story of a faithful band of birdwatchers and nature lovers—the Regulars. It is about the park. I say the story went on for six years, because that is when I stopped to write it all down. But the story hadn't really ended then, only one exciting part of it. It's still going on as I write and may go on forever. You can go to Central Park and see for yourself"

Comment From GN

Who knew the birders outnumbered the criminals in Central Park?

Comment From Jay

I hike ~4 or 5x/week in a park similar to (but less urban than) Central Park here in Richmond. There are a LOT of characters very similar to the ones in the book.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

People sure do love their birds, huh? :)

Comment From Lynda in AZ

The birding people were always willing to share with anyone who was interested. I found the "bird book" as a way to communicate the sightings fascinating. (even the April Fool's sightings)



Raina Krasner, WCV:

What about the bird register? I see a strong connection between that and the moderated discussion. Anyone else agree?

Comment From rejoyce

Oh yes!!!Definitely!



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Ooh yes!



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

Hit the nail on the head Raina!

Comment From Kali - TX

i hadn't thought about that, Raina, but yes, in a way that's true

Comment From Jay

Yes, the register was very similar to a moderated discussion. Just happening at a slower pace. A more analog pace.

Comment From Pat, NJ

Yes definitely. Everyone shares the excitement of viewing different birds in their own back yards and we are as enthused as they are.

Comment From Kathy in NM ♥

Scrolling back is our bird register!

Comment From Peggy from Pungo (VA Beach)

Yes, the bird register is very much like the moderated discussion. It brought many people together.

Comment From Kathryn in Mi

Besides the story of Pale Male, I really liked how all these diverse people became a community.

**Amanda Nicholson, WCV:**

Ah yes -- Peggy hit on something else -- how it brought people together! Winn had a great comment in there about events binding the community together too. Reminds me of moderated discussion events!

**Congowings:**

I think everyone should have a Bird Register - even if it is just their own backyard.

Comment From CK in Pa

The human element...Marie Winn shares a deep yearning to learn about the natural world even in New York City. This is an interest many of us who spend time together on this site share.

**Amanda Nicholson, WCV:**

Oooh, fun idea, Congo!

Comment From rejoyce

Great idea Congo!!

Comment From rejoyce

Their devotion to the birds reminded me of us, too.

Comment From Jay

The story of Pale Male was in many ways the nucleus for many side-stories. Herons and other birds, wealthy people, less wealthy people, all levels of education, etc.

Comment From rejoyce

I loved the comments in that book! It did remind me of the excitement and humor here.

Comment From BarbG

Especially if something fun on cam and we comment on it

Comment From Lynda in AZ

Now adays, they would probably text their sightings to each other. . .

Comment From Peggy from Pungo (VA Beach)

Or use Facebook to post photos

Comment From rejoyce

Calling the celebrities and tracking down the higher powers reminded me of when we blew up the phone lines at WCV when the Rock Stars arrived :)



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Right -- and they were more than just fans and worries, weren't they? They really became advocates for the birds -- and affected change!



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

Shows how if enough people care, positive changes can be made.

Comment From bobbim777

personally I agree with what some have said. Too much about humans and not enough about the hawks



Congowings:

I personally loved the human factor in this book. It really spoke to the heart of those who enjoy wildlife.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

I enjoyed it too. After all ... the people are a HUGE part of this story!

Comment From rejoyce

It proved that we will go to just about any lengths once we have become attached to critters :)

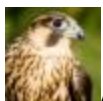
Comment From Becky in SoCal

The organization to get the hawk nest protected reminded me of the determination of the group to protect the nest in the Norfolk Botanical Gardens.



Congowings:

I saw you in the book too Bobbim777. ;-)



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Ha!

Comment From Jay

I think birders also love being outdoors. At weird hours of the day and in weird weather. They also seem drawn to other birders. You can always pick out them/us by their clothes and binoculars.

Comment From Becky in SoCal

I think the people in the park was a big a part of the story as the hawks.

Comment From Jay

Here's a quote I loved: "...entomologist Vincent Dernier's astute observation: 'Lack of knowledge is a vacuum that must be filled.'"

Comment From SharonShneyer, Philadelphia

I loved the book! Bring on the sequel! Sorry I'm late, technical problems getting on.

Comment From Becky in SoCal

So true, Jay.

Comment From Lynda in AZ

It's like I tell my students, we have to speak up for the wild animals. They don't have a voice, but we do!

Comment From Becky in SoCal

Love you, Lynda in AZ.

Comment From rejoyce

There was a "renew your faith in humanity" element about this book. It was heartwarming to see how devoted these people were and to realize that there are people like CN everywhere!

Comment From Jay

The people in the park (in my opinion) were an equal part of the story to the humans. It was entirely about the intersection between nature and humans. On a micro scale (Pale male) and on a macro scale (Central park and any other urban park).

Comment From Becky in SoCal

Yes rejoice. We knew we were normal all along, and that there were many of us out there.

**Amanda Nicholson, WCV:**

A few people have commented on the hawks themselves -- so let's chat about those incredibly famous birds. Pale Male ... most famous RTHA in the world? :)

Comment From SEK in CO

Enjoyed it very much - would like to know if they are still there or not?!



Congowings:

Have any of you visited the website that was shared in the book?

<http://www.palemale.com/>

Comment From Lynda in AZ

According to my class, the most famous RTHA in the world would be Ruby!



Raina Krasner, WCV:

I like how they think!



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

I was just looking at that today! Wonderful photos and videos.

Comment From rejoyce

Yes, I have!

Comment From Jay

To determine if PM is the most famous RTH in the world, we need only determine the 2nd most famous one - there isn't one!

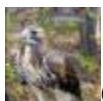
Comment From BarbG

Never give up is his motto



Congowings:

Stunning photos on that link.



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

Yes, Pale Male is still around and is on his eighth mate, Octavia.

Comment From Becky in SoCal

I just took a brief look. They are beautiful photos.

Comment From Lydia, PA ♥ ٩•٩•? ♥

Yes Congo....I have looked at that site--love it

Comment From rejoyce

I loved looking at the website and seeing the beautiful pictures of him!



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

That's what kept blowing my mind -- here s this book written in the 90's, about a bird in the early 90's ... and he's still here in 2015!!



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

He's near 25 now, right?

Comment From sue in Maine

i enjoyed the book very much. Pale Male has a site you can look at and they post updated pics almost every day. and right now Pale Male and Octavia have eggs in their next. thank you WCV for this book club night.

Comment From Lynda in AZ

Does anyone know if there is a children's version of Pale Male's story? I would be interested to share with my class (they did learn a lot from the fiction book "We Can't All Be Rattlesnakes)



Raina Krasner, WCV:

There is! Pale Male: Citizen Hawk.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Yes. And can you imagine being the rehabber who cared for him and his early mates? Celebrity ...

Comment From Lydia, PA ♥ ♡••? ♥

I actually bought the kids version of this book for my grandkids and read it ti them. They loved it. The kids version is GREAT!

Comment From rejoyce

He is quite a Romeo!! lol



Amanda Nicholson, WCV



Photo: Wikipedia



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Susan Freedman actually went into the city just the other week -- and sent along some photos! These are from just last week, I think!!



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Such an interesting looking bird ...



Amanda Nicholson, WCV



5th Ave. Nest, photo by Susan Freedman



Amanda Nicholson, WCV



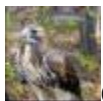
Azalea Pond; photo by Susan Freedman



Amanda Nicholson, WCV



In the Ramble; photo by Susan Freedman



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

So cool!



Amanda Nicholson, WCV



In the Ramble; photo by Susan Freedman



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

I feel like she was on a movie set. I want to go back to NYC to walk around that area!

Comment From BarbG

So cool, Susan



Congowings:

Love these photos!!

Comment From Becky in SoCal

Love those photos in the park. Thanks Susan.



Raina Krasner, WCV:

So cool.

Comment From Jay

Woody Allen and Mary Tyler Moore. Totally did not see that coming.

Comment From Kali - TX

for raina - some links <http://www.nyc-architecture.com/UES/UES055.htm>

photo showing the nest <http://www.thecityreview.com/ues/fifave/fif927.htm>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pale_Male

<http://thewildlife.wbur.org/2014/11/06/spying-on-the-worlds-most-famous-hawk/>

Comment From susan from nj

It was from last week. It was a thrill to walk around and see all the places in the book!



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

Hi Susan! Thanks for the photos!



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

So cool!



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Thank you!

Comment From Lynda in AZA

Raina, there was a comment made in the book about showing the hawks to a family visiting from Kentucky (?) and they were simply amazed to see 'wild animals' in NYC.

Comment From Jay

Looking at Cornell Lab of Ornithology in another window. It says "The oldest known Red-tailed Hawk was 28 years 10 months old."

Comment From Kathy in NM ♥

I was so happy to see that Pale male is still around with his 8th mate, Octavia, but it sure was sad to see how many of his previous mates died from human causes.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

That was definitely upsetting.

Comment From rejoyce

Thank you Susan!

Comment From BarbG

Now we all want to go to NY and walk around



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

The poison was the most upsetting to me.

Comment From rejoyce

Yes, the negative human effects on wildlife always upsets me :(



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Poison is so terrible. Talk about an indiscriminate killer ... there's no way to target what you are killing (and it's a terrible way to die too).

Comment From Jay

The poison was upsetting. That's how DDT almost did away w/Bald Eagles.

Comment From Jay

If there were more hawks eating rats there would be less need for rat poison.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Exactly. As Winn said, they managed to poison their best rat control out there ...



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

I was just typing that!



Raina Krasner, WCV:

And I thought it was interesting that Woody Allen said he wasn't a huge fan of wildlife, but liked the hawks because they were on 'pigeon patrol'.

Comment From rejoyce

Yes, if humans don't interfere, a lot of wildlife "problems" take care of themselves!

Comment From Kali - TX

and people in NYC complain about pigeons and their poop, then complained that the hawks were killing pigeons! huh?



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Oh, I must've missed that part ... I don't remember people being upset about pigeons!

Comment From Guest

Okay stopping in for a seconded. Can say I loved the book and I will read back soon. I have to go finish my science fair project. Hope you have a great book club.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Pale male is SO famous that he's been the subject of multiple books ... and a few movies too! I have two clips from the PBS Nature documentary.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9glyi3LA_d4



Amanda Nicholson, WCV

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7M8JU8EezjE>



Congowings:

Love the video clip!!

Comment From rejoyce

Love the videos!

Comment From CK in Pa

Love those videos!

Comment From Becky in SoCal

Such a treasure for NYC.

Comment From BarbG

great videos

Comment From Sally in SoCal

Awww, love the video's!

Comment From Peggy from Pungo (VA Beach)

Videos show the adaptability of wildlife to urban settings.

Comment From Pat, NJ

Will have to look for the full episodes on PBS site.

Comment From Pat, NJ

Beautiful eyasses

Comment From Kandis-Renee Chesterfield VA.

Great video! I am really going to go no ENJOY!



Congowings:

Oh my goodness. They are just precious!!



Congowings:

Those are some gorgeous birds. And they had so much privacy. ;-)



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Oh, SO much ...

Comment From SEK in CO

Thank you for the update(s) on the birds! Thrilled he continues to add to his legacy!

Comment From rejoyce

Wish I had known about all this when I was in NY ten years ago!

Comment From Becky in SoCal

Me too, rejoice. I would have looked for them.

Comment From Kali - TX

and the nest was actually removed in 2002? because people were complaining about dead pigeons.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

He's certainly been through a lot. Nest removals, eight mates (two lost to poison, one disappeared after 9/11 attacks -- can you imagine?) ... but there is an article that states he likely reared 38 chicks!



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

<http://thewildlife.wbur.org/2014/11/06/spying-on-the-worlds-most-famous-hawk/>

Comment From Jay

That's a nice link - I just bookmarked it & am going to look at it later. Great picture of him when it comes up.

Comment From rejoyce

He is quite a dad! He has overcome so many obstacles. Reminded me a lot of Dad Norfolk.

Comment From Kathy in NM ♥

It's upsetting to me that even after all the wonderful attention that Pale Male's story has brought NYC, the nest was still removed a second time and the pigeons are still being poisoned.

Comment From rejoyce

Me too, Kathy.

**Raina Krasner, WCV:**

So another thing I see people commenting on is the fact that Central Park is a rather surprising birding locale ... and home for a rich world of wildlife!

Comment From susan from nj

I have been in Central Park a bunch of times, but I saw it in a totally different light this time.

Comment From Lydia, PA ♥ ٩•٩•? ♥

so agree, would love to go to NYC with that map of "The Ramble"---have never been there but now I am interested

Comment From Lydia, PA ♥ ٩•٩•? ♥

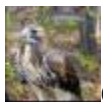
Loved this quote too: The scene of this enchanting (and true) story is the Ramble, an unknown wilderness deep in the heart of New York's fabled Central Park. There an odd and amiable band of nature lovers devote themselves to observing and protecting the park's rich wildlife. When a pair of red-tailed hawks builds a nest atop a Fifth Avenue apartment house across the street from the model-boat pond, Marie Winn and her fellow "Regulars" are soon transformed into obsessed hawkwatchers. The hilarious and occasionally heartbreaking saga of Pale Male and his mate as they struggle to raise a family in their unprecedented nest site, and the affectionate portrait of the humans who fall under their spell will delight and inspire readers for years to come.

Comment From Becky in SoCal

I loved learning about the diversity of wildlife in the park.

**Raina Krasner, WCV:**

Right? The Ramble sounds awesome! It's like this magical location that brings people and wildlife together.

**Chapin Hardy, WCV:**

You just have to know where to look.

Raina Krasner, WCV:

And it's in the middle of a major city!

Comment From Becky in SoCal

Field trip to NYC!



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

I can't believe I was just there last fall ... darn it all. Should've spent some time there!



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Who knew? I feel like the most I remember about Central Park is the Balto statue and the popcorn vendors. I definitely never looked for rare birds ... or a secret bird feeding station!



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

They see saw-whet owls there!!

Comment From Jay

NYC will still be there - you can go back any time!

Comment From rejoyce

I really want to go there!

Comment From rejoyce

Good idea Becky!!

Comment From GN

843 acres, 275 bird species.

Comment From Kali - TX

back in the early 50's, my grandparents lived near central park... my grandmother was a huge bird lover, wish i could ask her if she watched the birds in central park.

Comment From Lydia, PA ♥ ♡•••? ♥

I love the map called at "Birders View of the Bramble" at the beginning of the book. Makes me want to go to Central Park and look. Also loved the info about the Bird Register: The Bird Book



Congowings:

I agree, Lydia. The map really helped to put things in perspective. And I loved knowing that people took that map and went to Central Park to see for themselves all the wildlife shared in the book.

Comment From Mary E in NC

I want to go on a bird tour of Central Park! It's so heartwarming to see how much the people there care about them!

Comment From rejoyce

I loved the map too :)

Comment From Pat, NJ

I think that being here at WCV has opened all of our eyes to wildlife more than we can imagine.

**Raina Krasner, WCV:**

Oh, going back to the saw-whet owl really quickly. I loved her explanation about the name of the saw-whet. How it may have come to be called a saw-whet - either it sounds like a saw being sharpened, OR it's based on a french word for little owl. I had never heard the latter explanation!

Comment From TerryMI

Yes Pat, very true

Comment From Jay

It's astounding how many birds are there - just remarkable. Cornell Lab of Ornithology sends out an ongoing spring migration update. Lists Central Park as a top bird watching spot.

Comment From Kali - TX

i hadn't either, raina, but it does make sense

Comment From Kathy in NM ♥

It was gratifying to read of all the diverse wildlife Central Park contains - birds, mammals, insects, plants (some edible!) It reminds me that if humans were to disappear, nature would do just fine without us. If we were to lose nature, however, we'd wouldn't last very long...

Comment From rejoyce

There is always so much more to learn about wildlife!

Comment From Kali - TX

oh yes, Kathy in NM! so true!

Comment From GN

The folks at WCV have to love wildlife to put up with us. And by us, I mean me.

**Raina Krasner, WCV:**

Something else some of you are commenting on is the anthropomorphism when it comes to the wildlife.

Comment From Jay

Part of what she (and other naturalists) emphasize is that a distinction between us and nature is a false one - we are nature and nature is us. We're just fancy mammals. Got these awesome opposable thumbs.



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Ah - true. We're animals, too!



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Where is Dave in Missouri ...



Raina Krasner, WCV:

(especially that GN)

Comment From rejoyce

LOL, GN!!



Congowings:

I also enjoyed the little side stories that talked about other bird's unique personalities. I related to the one about the Tufted Titmouse. And it happened just yesterday.



Congowings:

I thought it was interesting about the Tufted Titmouse that plucked the fur from the raccoon – since it happened to me yesterday. My husband and I were sitting on the deck when I heard a whir of wings and felt a little breeze before a bird flew to the back of my head. For about 15 minutes this Tufted Titmouse tried to pull my hair out to use as nesting material. And I can tell you that he was yanking hard, lol. I was glad my husband was there because I didn't think anyone would believe me.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Ha!! That's incredible!



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Bold little bird!

Comment From Becky in SoCal

That is so cool, Congo.

Comment From Jay

All raptors look serious all the time. Chickadees and bluebirds never look serious. I think that's a human perspective. Perhaps it's just THIS human.

Comment From Jay

Remarkable a bird pulling your hair out! They're building nests!

**Raina Krasner, WCV:**

One point Marie made was that individual birds can be very difficult to distinguish within a species. Unless they have a unique behavior or physical feature. Which is actually why Pale Male became so famous! People noticed him because he was unusually colored.

Comment From Kali - TX

i loved the paragraph about anthropomorphism "that malignant yet unavoidable practice of attributing human emotions.. unavoidable, at least for those who spend time closely observing wildlife. it's not that animals have emotions.... it's that our emotions resemble those of other animals."

**Congowings:**

Yes, very bold. I went upstairs and got him some hair from my brush.

Comment From BarbG

WOW so interesting Congo

Comment From Viki

Even the little titmouse knew you loved feathers!

**Amanda Nicholson, WCV:**

You could go into business Congo ... you know they sell nesting material at some bird stores ...

Comment From SAH

That is so funny Congo! I would have loved to see that!!

Comment From Pat, NJ

He could have built several nests with your hair Congo, as long as it is, ha ha.

Comment From Becky in SoCal

Such a good bird Mom, Congo.

Comment From rejoyce

WOW Congo!!



Congowings:

My husband recorded it, but you know that will never see the light of day.

Comment From Jay

I brush my dogs outside and leave the hair floating around. I'm sure all the bird nests around here are lined with it.

Raina Krasner, WCV:

Oh, good idea! Helping those little birds build their nests.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Same here, Jay! I think the birds in our area must have very, very dense warm nests with all this dog hair ...



Congowings:

Excellent idea Jay!

Comment From rejoyce

Come on, Congo --- we want to see that!!

Comment From Pat, NJ

I've got a long haired cat, will have to throw some of it out there for the birds too.

Comment From Jay

I just read though that you shouldn't put it out if you've just put on Frontline or something. Never would have thought of that.



Congowings:

Hahaha, Amanda. I need all the hair I can keep. ;-)

Comment From Mary E in NC

I enjoyed the story about the killdeers! We had a nest in a field near the school where I worked and I got to see the mother bird do her diversion thing!



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

I loved that story too, Mary. Talk about the birders being big-time advocates. Delaying construction and everything!



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Looked that!



Congowings:

Looked that?



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Looked that!



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Oh, typos.



Raina Krasner, WCV:

*Loved.



Congowings:

lol Raina!!

Comment From GN

Looked loved?



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

It gets crazy in here after 8:00 pm.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

So, I see several of you guys mentioning themes from past book club books, which I thought was great! I was reminded of our "Silence of the Songbirds" book too.

Comment From Lydia, PA ♥ ♡•x•? ♥

Also liked to hear again about the campaign to turn off the lights in the skyscrapers which are death traps for migratory birds. It is what we read about in "Silence if the Song birds"

Comment From Lynda in AZ

I also found it interesting that the author mentioned an article in the NYC Audubon Society mentioning the problem of migration and skyscrapers. (which was brought up in another book)

Comment From Lynda in AZ

Plus, I was pretty incensed with the people feeding bread to the ducks! (I had to take some deep breaths and realize that they just didn't know any better)

**Amanda Nicholson, WCV:**

I think the biodiversity in Central Park certainly highlights the importance of nice healthy "stopover" spots for migrating species!

**Congowings:**

I agree, Amanda. So important to keep areas like that for the migrating birds. We can't take those areas away from them.

Comment From Jay

A disturbing # of people around here feed bread to ducks. I've also seen a few Canada Geese w/"Angel wing" which I think comes from too much bread in their diet.

**Amanda Nicholson, WCV:**

Yeah, I was a bit alarmed at the bread comment too ... we all know better. Perhaps they didn't back in the 90's!

Comment From rejoyce

I know, I flinched every time I read about the bread!

Comment From Jakermom (*)>

I post on FB all the time about the "no Bread" thing for ducks. It's amazing the friends that read that and apologize for years of bread feeding.

**Raina Krasner, WCV:**

She mentioned it so casually, too.

**Amanda Nicholson, WCV:**

I thought it was interesting how she first started with this group too -- wanting to learn more about window strikes and bird deaths ... those migrants that just can't tell where they are in a big city like that.

Comment From Lynda in AZ

When I wrote up the grant, I put in to purchase plants that are hearty in the desert but would also attract butterflies and hummingbirds (to help them on their migration or stop over if they chose to stay here for the winter.

**Congowings:**

I do think the past 10 years have been positive when it comes to educating people about the pitfalls on things that our parents thought were okay.

**Amanda Nicholson, WCV:**

True. We're always learning so much ... and who knows what we'll know 20 years from now (that we don't know today!)

Comment From Jakermo♥ (*)>

[Can you believe I am lurking]

Comment From GN

Wildness persists.

**Raina Krasner, WCV:**

Until wild has metabolic bone disease and can't fly.

Comment From Becky in SoCal

Why only lurking, Jakermo?

**Amanda Nicholson, WCV:**

Uh oh ... didn't read? :P

**Amanda Nicholson, WCV:**

So, one other thing that you guys brought up -- was the banding, and the raptor rehabilitation!

**Congowings:**

I know there has been debate on banding, but I am wondering after reading that book if anyone changed their mind (those that might not agree with banding). I think it was wonderful knowing about the first two banded females that Pale Male bonded with.



Congowings:

Hello



Raina Krasner, WCV:

yes! they were so sure it was "mom", or "chocolate" or someone new.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Hi, Congo.

Comment From Becky in SoCal

I really think banding is a wonderful idea. I just don't understand the objection.



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

Yes, they were so into getting those band numbers



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Without the bands, they wouldn't know for sure.

Comment From Peggy from Pungo (VA Beach)

The efforts of people in the group trying to read the band numbers on the female reminded me of locals trying to read the numbers on a bald eagle female.



Raina Krasner, WCV:

yes, definitely.

Comment From Kali - TX

i loved the information on banding!



Congowings:

That's true. And I do think it is important to know more about the birds - where they come from and where they end up.

Comment From Jay

If banding interferes w/reproductive success it's bad. If not I believe it's neutral.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

The frustration of a bird moving at the last minutes ... ha ... you could feel the angst of not being able to read those numbers!



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

And it was interesting to learn the stories of the birds wear those bands



Raina Krasner, WCV:

From what I understand, and as Pale Male demonstrates, it seems to have little impact on breeding, at least for hawks.

Comment From Jay

Frustration w/not being able to read bird band numbers. The ultimate First World Problem.



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Ha. True.



Congowings:

I really like that Maggie's story will be able to be told - for years to come.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Well that's the best story of all ... :)

Comment From rejoyce

Yes :)

Comment From Peggy from Pungo (VA Beach)

Last year I sent in the band numbers of a snow goose. It was pointed out to me by Reese Lukei who had spotted the same goose a year or two before. Amazing how the same goose was seen out of thousands.

Comment From Kali - TX

i didn't know that bands had locking so that birds can't remove them.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Yep! They are tricky to get on ... and off!!



Congowings:

lol Amanda. Well, I can think of some other stories too. ;-)

Comment From Becky in SoCal

And the current mate (daughter) of the male from Norfolk Botanical Gardens. Without banding, we would not know the connection.

Comment From Kali - TX

len soucy, the rehabber at the raptor trust died last year. i think ed knew him.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Yes, Len was a very well known person in the wildlife rehab world. It was crazy reading his name and the interviews Winn had with him!



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Yes! Bird lives really are kind of like soap operas.



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

True drama

Comment From Jay

She's a great interviewer.

Comment From Kali - TX

maybe dr dave can give us a banding lesson sometime on hospital cam?



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Well, I mean it's tricky just to get things lined up and then some muscle power to squeeze the pliers ... I don't know that it's hugely complicated. Although only those master banders, or those under a master bander, can band!



Raina Krasner, WCV:

I think I took a video once, of him banding an eagle.



Raina Krasner, WCV:

It involves lots of measuring and note taking, beyond just squeezing on that band. Which, by the way, seems physically very challenging.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Oh goodness.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Dr. Dave is so strong. Groan.



Congowings:

Dr. Dave? Oh yes!

Comment From Jay

Don't they band much smaller birds too? That must be quite difficult.



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Yes! Tiny little bands.

Comment From Becky in SoCal

I recently attend a barn owl banding and was really surprised at the strength it took for them close the band.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

And for the last theme that I see cropping up here:

Comment From SharonShneyer, Philadelphia

But what about the trash element, that along with cigarette butts poses a problem too. I make it my business to pick up the butts with the grasphers in the bird santucary out back (half and acre)

Comment From Kali - TX

it was upsetting to me that the regular "feeders" found all the bird feeders destroyed - by human hands

Comment From SharonShneyer, Philadelphia

But something must be done about the rodenticide poisoning. It kill more than just wildlife too, dogs as well etc.. per a NY Times article. And thank you Susan for the photos.

**Amanda Nicholson, WCV:**

It makes me think that while this dedicated community is rallying around birds -- of all species -- and nature ... there is still work to be done!

**Raina Krasner, WCV:**

Always.

Comment From bobbim777

as we learn, we have to continue to grow and educate others

Comment From rejoyce

And it teaches that we should never give up.

Comment From GN

Well, I am continuing to grow.

**Raina Krasner, WCV:**

You are.

Comment From Anne

This is wonderful. My favorite Bird of Prey is the Red Tailed Hawk. You all do such an awesome job. So compassionate and dedicated. Thank you.

Comment From BarbG

surprising how often I quote something I learned from our books

**Raina Krasner, WCV:**

Good to hear!

**Raina Krasner, WCV:**

Well, I think it's time for us to think about how we felt about this book overall ... and give it a rating!



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Well, you guys are an awesome community of people, bonded by your love of wildlife, and by fun events - like book club! :)



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

Yes time to give the book some stars



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Absolutely :)

Comment From Jay

I sent a copy of this book to my mom! She just lives in Bridgewater, maybe she'll come up and visit you guys.



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Cool!

Comment From Becky in SoCal

What is the max star rating?

Comment From SEK in CO

5 stars

Comment From Becky in SoCal

What is the max star rating?



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Goodreads is on a 5 star scale.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Ah, good question -- one to five stars, no halves. We're doing this on Good reads terms!

Comment From Becky in SoCal

I would give it a 5.

Comment From rejoyce

5

Comment From SharonShneyer, Philadelphia

Five *****, there are parts I want to read over again. Glad I got the hardback edition.

Comment From Mary E in NC

5 stars!

Comment From Peggy from Pungo (VA Beach)

I enjoyed it very much. I'd give it 5 stars.



Raina Krasner, WCV:

I like that this book showcased a lot of different elements. Humans, wildlife, natural history, politics, environmentalism ... a little drama and celebrity flair! I really enjoyed it and I think I'd give it 4/5.

Comment From Jay

I gave it five stars. It's hard to keep the pace going that well writing non-fiction. She did an excellent job. Five stars.

Comment From TerryMI

5 stars



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

Sounds like this was a huge hit!

Comment From GN

4.5 - I'm on GN terms.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Figures.



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Well then.

Comment From BarbG

5 stars

Comment From Lynda in AZ

I would give it 4 stars. I really enjoyed it, but at times, Winn's 'side bars' seemed to disconcert me and appeared in the wrong place. The information overall was great, however.

Comment From CK in Pa

I give Ted-Tails in Love a 5!

Comment From CK in Pa

I give Ted-Tails in Love a 5!

Comment From Jakermo♥ (*)>

Well, on another note, my favorite Bird of Prey is Buddy. [lol] 5 stars is good.

Comment From Kali - TX

2 stars (sorry)

Comment From bobbim777

2 stars also

**Amanda Nicholson, WCV:**

Okay, Bobbi and Kali, bring the average down ... :P

**Raina Krasner, WCV:**

Well ... aside from the last ratings, I think this was pretty overwhelmingly a 5 star book.

Comment From Lynda in AZ

Kali, what was your issue with the book?

Comment From Lydia, PA ♥ ٩•٩•? ♥

4 stARS

Comment From Jay

Every book is not for everybody. But that was obviously a big success.

**Chapin Hardy, WCV:**

It was a good read pardon the pun

Comment From bobbim777

well you want us to be honest. :)



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

And a 4.5 ... so go with a 4 for official purposes?



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Sure!

Comment From Elaine Va VB

5

Comment From Jay

I applaud GN for setting his or her own terms. Always good to march to your own drummer.



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

Perfect



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

You are right -- the point of book club is to stretch yourself! Keep an open mind and try things out -- we don't always have to love each one!

Comment From Anne, VA

Gee, wish I had read this book. Now that I know about this, will do !

Comment From Anne

just saw this on facebook and did not know about this book club. will enjoy participating in the next one.



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Well, that's ok!



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Welcome!



Raina Krasner, WCV:

You can definitely join us for the next one!



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

And yes, do check out our former books -- they are still good reads!



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

http://wildlifecenter.org/news_events/news/wildlife-book-club

Comment From Anne, VA

Amanda, like your comment :)

Comment From Kathy in NM ♥

Regardless of the different animals our previous books have been about, the underlying theme of needing to preserve nature for our benefit and theirs keeps coming to the forefront. This book continued that with a more human element and helped me to be even more aware of their needs in a city setting, so 5 stars.

Comment From Anne, VA

thank you.....will dothanks for the link



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

You are always welcome even if you didn't read the book

Comment From Pat, NJ

Thank you for a great discussion tonight. Can't wait to finish the book.

Comment From Peggy from Pungo (VA Beach)

So what's the next book?

Comment From rejoyce

Sooooooooo What's our next book?



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

So, Raina ... you said NEXT ONE ...



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Yes, the NEXT one ... is going to be pretty cool, I think.

Comment From Anne, VA

yes, what is the next one :)

Comment From Becky in SoCal

I'm ready to read.....



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

It's gonna be deep



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Ooooooh ...

Comment From Becky in SoCal

Deep, as in ocean?



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Oh, BECKY!



Raina Krasner, WCV:

She's quick!

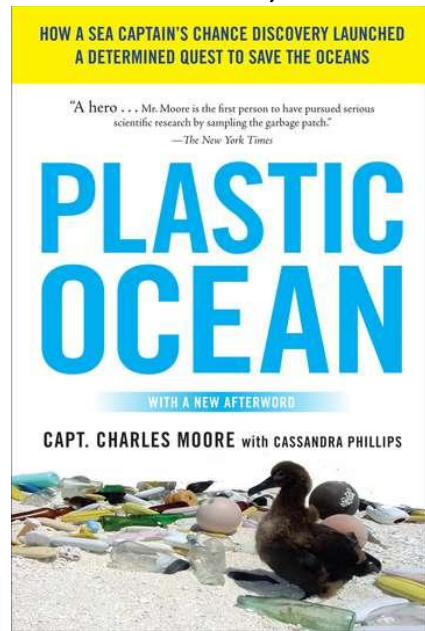


Chapin Hardy, WCV:

Very



Raina Krasner, WCV



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Plastic Ocean by Captain Charles Moore.

Comment From BarbG

looks very interesting

Comment From Jakermo♥ (*)>

Oh no! This may be very sad!!



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

I'm looking forward to this!! I think it will also bum me out, but ... bring it! We are a community that can affect change!



Raina Krasner, WCV:

I think it will be ... enlightening.

Comment From Lynda in AZ

\$11.84 on Kindle!!!

Comment From rejoyce

Ooooooooooooo I'm familiar with this guy and his work!



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

It's going to be a big eye opener

Comment From Anne, VA

forward to reading then joining discussion

Comment From Jay

Fascinating. Looking forward to it.

Comment From Anne, VA

just bookmarked in favorites the link....

Comment From Becky in SoCal

Can't wait to read it.

Comment From Becky in SoCal

Can't wait to read it.

Comment From Pat, NJ

OMG, that sounds like a real tear jeerker.

Comment From Kathy in NM ♥

Oh, this is something that really concerns me. Bet it'll be tough to read - but necessary.

Comment From Becky in SoCal

Do we have a date for next book club?



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Might be! But remember that we always have the power to affect change, and some of these books are strong reminders of that.

Comment From Jakermo♥ (*)>

Yep, they have this problem in the Gulf of Mexico!! I'll read it and see what I can do.



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Well, this has been a lovely book club meeting. You all have such thoughtful things to say during our meetings!



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

Date Raina!



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Well thanks, everyone! That was another fun book club. I look forward to the next meeting! Oh wait, when is it?

Comment From Anne, VA

When do you all meet again?



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Of course! Our next meeting will be Tuesday June 2 ... 7 PM (eastern)

Comment From Lydia, PA ♥ ٩•٩•? ♥

Need to order now

Comment From Peggy from Pungo (VA Beach)

Thanks, Amanda, Raina, Chapin, Congo and chatters.

Comment From BarbG

I love the book clubs and the books we read and talk about

Comment From GN

Looked that!



Congowings:

Amanda, Raina, and Chapin - thank you so much for the book club sessions. You have chosen some great books. I had read this one before, but thanks to you all I re-read it and enjoyed it even more this time. Maybe because of the 'human factor'. Enjoyed seeing everyone tonight. Hope you all have a good evening!!

Comment From Jakermo♥ (*)>

June 2nd, oh my gosh.

Comment From Becky in SoCal

I'll be here. Just order my book on Amazon Smile!

Comment From rejoyce

Will be there!!

Comment From Jay

Thank you guys so much for putting it on and moderating it. I am learning a TON! Last week - true story - photographed my first ruby-crowned kinglet! From the last book! Winter World!

Comment From Lynda in AZ

I enjoy this book discussions (husband is in charge of dinner)

**Amanda Nicholson, WCV:**

Oh man, you have a good deal there ...

Comment From Anne, VA

awesome, as I am off work Every Tuesday...can hardly wait...this is wonderful

Comment From Mary E in NC

Thank you moderators for being here - it's always interesting!

Comment From Lynda in AZ

Great discussion, everyone! Have a wonderful evening!

Comment From SharonShneyer, Philadelphia

Sounds great, the previous 2 books would have been hard for me to take, though I did enjoy reading the comments from the book club. Silence of The Song Birds, is something I think I would enjoy though.

Comment From Kali - TX

i've watched videos of how plastics and trash affect ocean birds and wildlife. it's truly heart breaking

Comment From Anne, VA

Yes, appropriate read in view of the issues still happening in the Gulf, sadly

Comment From Jakermo♥ (*)>

And we order from AmazonSmiles

Comment From Becky in SoCal

And living in SoCal we definitely have this problem here.

Comment From rejoyce

Thanks everyone!

Comment From Lynda in AZ

I think it's going to be deep in more than one way - the summary compares it to Silent Spring . . .

Comment From Jakermo♥ (*)>

Thanks to you Mod girls. Great Job.

Comment From CarolinaGirl

Well drat. My meeting lasted overtime!! Looks like scrolling back for me! Look forward to reading Plastic Ocean.....even if it is upsetting.

Comment From Jay

Thank you! Just downloaded the book from Amazon! I'll be reading it before bed tonight!



Raina Krasner, WCV:

Great!

Comment From Lydia, PA ♥ ٩•٩•? ♥

GN IS A SHOW OFF

Comment From Becky in SoCal

Thank you for being here. We love you and all that you do for wildlife.

Comment From Kathy in NM ♥

Enjoyed getting together for book club - Thank you! Looking forward to June 2nd...



Raina Krasner, WCV:

he totally is.

Comment From Jay

I work with a young guy w/Asperger's Syndrome. He loves his Wildlife Center t-shirt - wears it regularly.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

That's awesome!



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

Yay!

Comment From CK in Pa

Thanks Amanda, Raina, Chapin, Congo & CN for a great discussion. Sharing a good book with like-minded people is great.

Comment From SAH

It seems like this was a pretty good book! Maybe I should read it!! :)

Comment From SEK in CO

thanks!



Raina Krasner, WCV:

You should!

Comment From Anne, VA

Amazon Smile....great idea thanks

Comment From Jakermom (*)>

I've been wearing my "I care for Critters". It's so Springy.

Comment From Kali - TX

thank you, raina, amanda and chapin.. and all the other participants this evening!

Comment From Anne, VA

Until next time, everyone be well and happy. thank you for letting me join in...

Comment From Jakermom (*)>

AND Congo, Kali!



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Well, until next time. Night, all! Thanks for tuning in!

Comment From Anne, VA

Namaste.

Comment From rejoyce

Good night everyone!



Chapin Hardy, WCV:

Night everyone. Thanks for joining us



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

OH -- and hope to see you guys at the Wildlife Center Classroom Series tomorrow at 1:00 pm!

Comment From susan from nj

Thanks, everyone! Very good session.

Comment From Jakermom (*)>

Sweet Eagle Dreams

Comment From Lynda in AZ

I received a surprise book in the mail today called The Burgess Bird Book for Children. It's is stories that teach lessons about wildlife as interviews with the different birds. Looks interesting.

Comment From Pat, NJ

Thank you ladies for another great discussion tonight, and taking the time away from your families to be with us.

Comment From Jakermo♥ (*)>

OH my gosh!!! This book looks GREAT!!

Comment From Kathryn in Mi

What is the topic for tomorrows Class?



Amanda Nicholson, WCV



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

It'll be toadally awesome.



Amanda Nicholson, WCV:

Night!