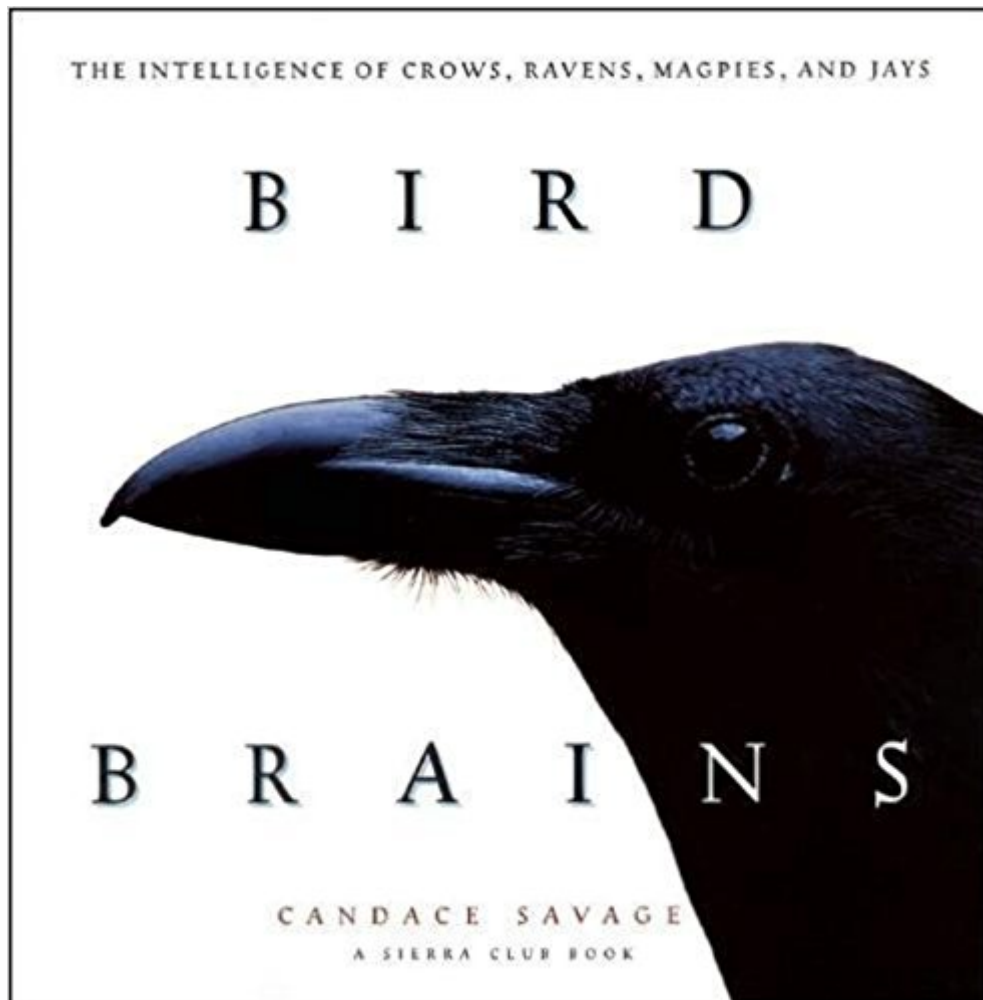




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Bird Brains: The Intelligence Of Crows, Ravens, Magpies, And Jays



Synopsis

Birds have long been viewed as the archetypal featherbrains—beautiful but dumb. But according to naturalist Candace Savage, “bird brain” as a pejorative expression, should be rendered obsolete by new research on the family of corvids: crows and their close relations. The ancients who regarded these remarkable birds as oracles, bringers of wisdom, or agents of vengeance were on the right track, for corvids appear to have powers of abstraction, memory, and creativity that put them on a par with many mammals, even higher primates. *Bird Brains* presents these bright, brassy, and surprisingly colorful birds in a remarkable collection of full-color, close-up photographs by some two dozen of the world’s best wildlife photographers. Savage’s lively, authoritative text describes the life and behavior of sixteen representative corvid species that inhabit North America and Europe. Drawing on recent research, she describes birds that recognize each other as individuals, call one another by name, remember and relocate thousands of hidden food caches, engage in true teamwork and purposeful play, and generally exhibit an extraordinary degree of sophistication.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Here is an excellent gathering of intelligence, expert opinion and bird observations, with color photos creating a lavish backdrop."--"The Bookwatch

Now in paperback! Examines the lives and behaviors of the highly intelligent members of the crow

family, corvids, and includes 61 dramatic images from the world's top nature photographers.

corvids can count, converse, cajole, consider, envision, recall, taunt, scheme...and fly! they do not all perform at the same level; neither do homo saps. ¶ this book offers splendid images and an engaging text. I tried taking in both as I turned the pages; in retrospect I think I might have let the images and captions work their magic first...then come back for the text ¶ • which, btw, is insightful. ¶ the vast majority of readers of this splendid book will be charmed by the images and informed by the text. some reviewers here claim the text was too basic for them; ahh such erudite unsimpletons!

I first read this as a library book over two decades ago, and fondly recalled the fabulous photographs and well-written text. Thus I recently decided to hunt up a copy for my bookshelf. The content is every bit as excellent as I remember. Corvid fanciers take note: the photographs could grace Nat Geo or an expensive coffee-table book. This used book is in very good condition, even better than the vendor's estimate. That's good business practice -- kudos to them.

Beautifully illustrated with photographs, this book is a must have for the fans of Jays and Crows, otherwise known as Corvids. It is the most comprehensive pictorial record of all the members of this order, and written with intelligent and delightful ease peppered with humor. I have used it as a main source for material for Clever Corvids nature walks for years in Boulder Canyon, Colorado.

Beautiful book. Corvids have been around me all my life, regardless of where I lived. I was always fascinated by them and their intelligence. Now I know why.

Beautiful photographs and informative text. Could probably use a bit of updating, but a great addition to our bookshelves.

Who would have thought Crows were as smart as they areMy Boy Scout troop has used the lessons of the book to view and out fox these fowls

Was a Christmas gift for a fellow crow fan. He really liked it.

Such a good informative book! It arrived on time and in perfect condition. No troubles.

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