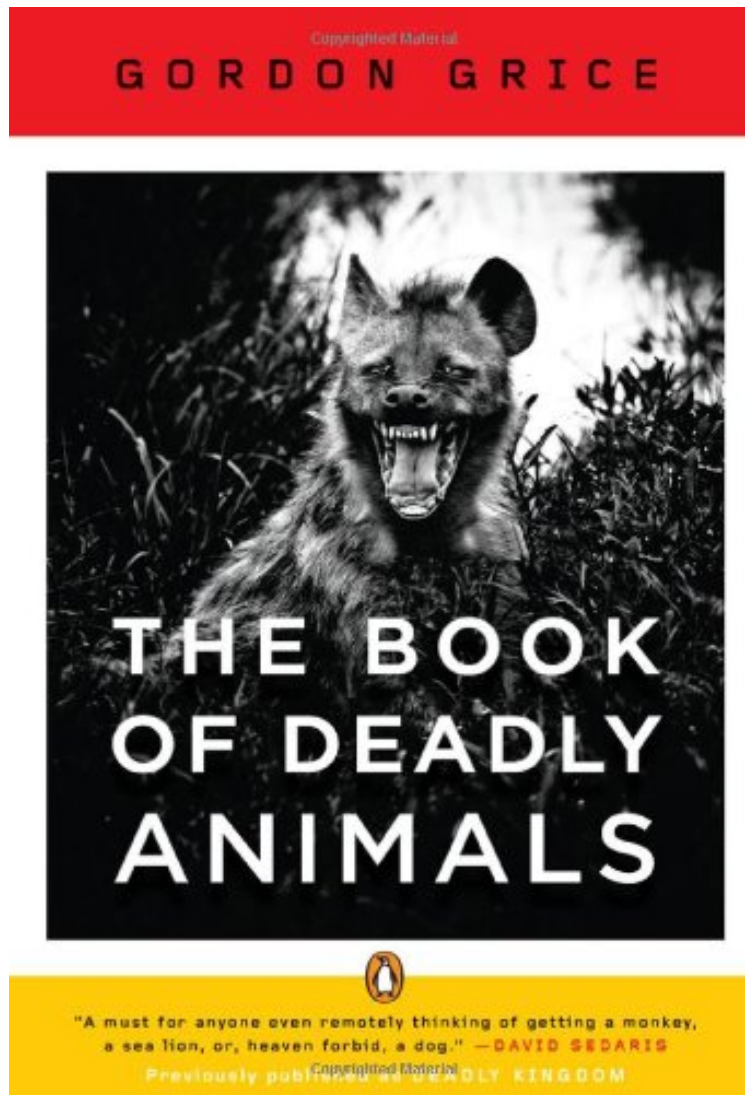


[Free pdf] The Book of Deadly Animals

The Book of Deadly Animals

Gordon Grice

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Gordon Grice : The Book of Deadly Animals before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Book of Deadly Animals:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Okay, Okay... I'm Freaking Out Now By Franklin the Mouse Towards the beginning of his book, Mr. Grice has a great line, "To consider animal behavior without history is to misunderstand it." The author then goes about describing how humans misread many potentially dangerous animals by anthropomorphizing their actions. He correctly argues that much of this is rooted in an arrogant religious mindset that

human beings are at the top of the scale of value, so that any information that moves us lower must be explained as abnormal. This silly attitude isn't science but simply wishful thinking on the part of people. As he says, "In the real world, the significance of things is situational, not determined by some preordained ranking." Human actions, such as encroachment into other animals' habitats, factor largely in the hunting habits and conflicts which arise between us and other animals. This book explains what happens when we cross paths with creatures who are very capable of doing us harm or serving us up as the main meal on that day's culinary delights. Many of Mr. Grice's stories of deadly animals getting the better of people sure tested my faith in the intelligence of mankind. There's no way around it, some of the victims were laughably stupid. The author has a wonderful, playful ability to explain dangerous wildlife in layman's terms. He covers all the bases. Land, air, water, you name it, there's something out there to do you in. Mr. Grice explains the habits of canines, cats, bears, hyenas (darned right scary fellahs), sharks, fish, whales, numerous other denizens of the deep, snakes, crocodiles, lizards, birds, monkeys, apes, chimps, bats, rodents, elephants, farm animals, and the one section that had me squirming through the entire seventy pages pertained to spiders, boatloads of different insects and worms. It's obvious the guy loves observing animals and knows his stuff. "The Book of Deadly Animals" is a highly informative, entertaining and amusing read. The only problem I have with the thing is that after reading the book I may never leave my house again. I want my mommy.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.
Extremely Entertaining Anecdotes
By Alex Madden
This book is not a novel and really has no flow to it, but instead is broken up into sections about different kinds of animals ranging from sharks to insects to wild cats. Each section has specific examples and a lot of new facts about each animal. Being an animal lover myself, it was great learning all this new stuff about animals and discovering just how impressive nature truly is. Perfect bathroom reading.
6 of 7 people found the following review helpful.
Took a Chance...
By Isostar
I read an excerpt on Gizmodo the other day and was instantly enthralled with the subject. Who isn't at least somewhat interested in reading about deadly animals? Without previewing any more, I took a chance and ordered the paperback on a whim. The book arrived fast (gotta love prime), and I've already read the first two chapters: Dogs and Bears. They're both well written, informative, and offer a thoughtful perspective on the animal groups themselves, as well as our perceived and actual interactions with them. I know this book will be a quick read as I already find it difficult to put down.
To sum it all up: well written, well researched, and very entertaining. Thank you.

Whether at a zoo, on a camping trip, or under our bedsheets, we are surrounded by animals. While most are perfectly harmless, it's the magnificent exceptions that populate *The Book of Deadly Animals*. Award-winning writer Gordon Grice takes readers on a tour of the animal kingdom from grizzly bears to great white sharks, big cats to crocodiles. Every page overflows with astonishing facts about Earth's great predators and unforgettable stories of their encounters with humans, all delivered in Grice's signature dark comic style. Illustrated with awe-inspiring photographs of beasts and bugs, this wondrous work will horrify, delight, and amaze.

Did he say repugnatorial gland? What a wealth of information Gordon Grice is, and what a fine, beguiling writer. This book is a must for anyone even remotely thinking of getting a monkey, a sea lion, or, heaven forbid, a dog. David Sedaris
When it comes to the most deadly animals on the planet it is best to be prepared! Forewarned is forearmed!
Bear Grylls, host of *Man vs. Wild*
I read with my dog in my lap and my heart in my throat. It's a wonderful, slightly terrifying, utterly captivating encounter with the animal world not quite like anything I've ever read before. Elizabeth Gilbert
A fresh, strange, and wonderful new voice in American nature writing. Michael Pollan
Gordon Grice writes about animals with a wit that relies on tone of voice, his ironically exact diction and an instinct for analogy he has a scholar's precision and a fourth-grader's enthusiasm. Michael Sims, *The Washington Post*
To weave the facts so artistically together as Mr. Grice has done takes considerable talent and a keenly felt interest. Meredith Greene, *San Francisco Book Review*
Grice tempers his book with grim humor, a genuine enthusiasm for the subject, and fascinating trivia (Herman Melville's *Moby Dick* was based on an actual whale named Mocha Dick that terrorized the South Pacific). A gifted writer, Grice's relentlessly detailed descriptions of the effects of spider and snake bites, as well as the outcome of tangling with pencil catfish or alligators, may make this rough going for the easily squeamish, but those with a fascination for wildlife will find this an informative and dramatic study. Publishers Weekly
Taps nicely into our enduring, awed fascination with nature's predators and the popularity of TV shows such as *The Crocodile Hunter*. . . .
Grice has been dubbed the Stephen King of nature writers.' The Bookseller
About the Author
Gordon Grice has written for *The New Yorker*, *Harper's Magazine*, *Discover*, and *Granta*. His first book, *The Red Hourglass: Lives of the Predators*, won a Whiting Writers' Award and was named one of the Best Books of the Year by the *Los Angeles Times* and the *New York Public Library*. He lives in Wisconsin.