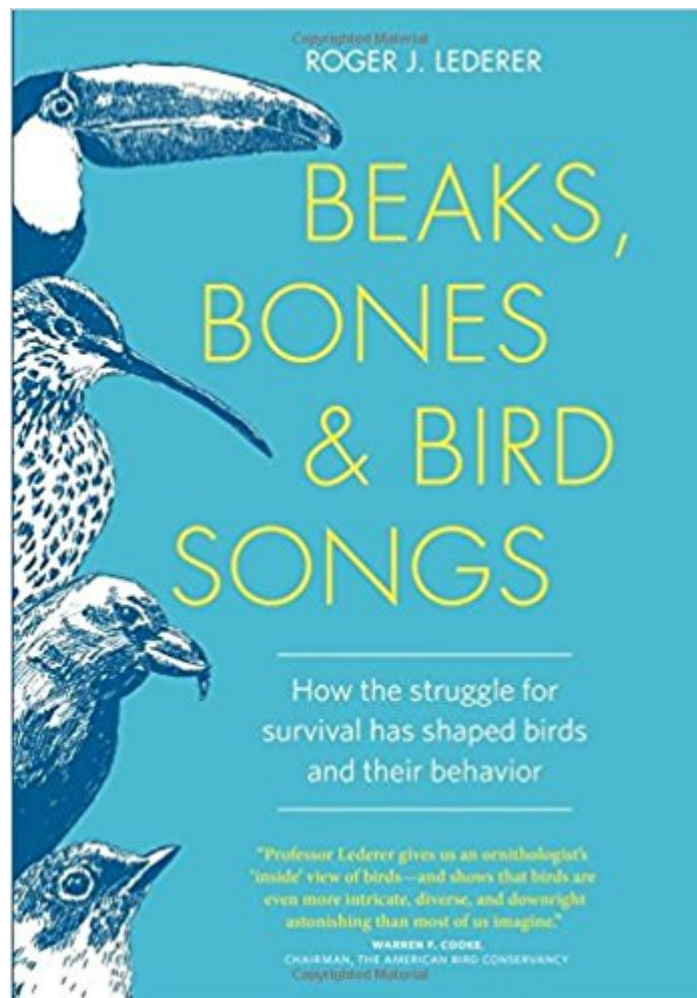




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# Beaks, Bones And Bird Songs: How The Struggle For Survival Has Shaped Birds And Their Behavior



## Synopsis

“Reveals the strange and wondrous adaptations birds rely on to get by.”  
•National Audubon Society When we see a bird flying from branch to branch happily chirping, it is easy to imagine they lead a simple life of freedom, flight, and feathers. What we don’t see is the arduous, life-threatening challenges they face at every moment. *Beaks, Bones, and Bird Songs* guides the reader through the myriad, and often almost miraculous, things that birds do every day to merely stay alive. Like the goldfinch, which manages extreme weather changes by doubling the density of its plumage in winter. Or urban birds, which navigate traffic through a keen understanding of posted speed limits. In engaging and accessible prose, Roger Lederer shares how and why birds use their sensory abilities to see ultraviolet, find food without seeing it, fly thousands of miles without stopping, change their songs in noisy cities, navigate by smell, and much more.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“This is a wonderful book about birds for birders who would like to understand them better.”  
•Dennis Paulson, author of *Shorebirds of North America* “A joyride through the secret lives of birds. Drawing on centuries of bird research and observation, Roger Lederer brings readers an engaging exploration of bird survival strategies and their evolutionary origins.”  
•James R. Karr, professor emeritus, University of Washington  
“It might not seem so, but it’s tough to be a bird,”  
•Roger J. Lederer

writes. . . . Lederer convincingly makes the case in his accessible and detail-rich survey of bird behavior. His examples are vivid and plentiful. . . . Lederer, an emeritus professor of biology, has an easy way with zoological concepts and the patient air of a born teacher. •

• Washington Post • “An exceptional overview of the life, adaptations, and impressive skill sets of wild birds. . . . Highly recommended for all interested in natural history and the impact of

humans on the natural world. • Library Journal Beaks, Bones, and Bird Songs an • “admirable undertaking. . . rich source of information. • Choice Magazine

• “A trove of information for true bird nerds. • Bird Watcher’s Digest

• “Birds have conquered every environment on Earth • including our

hearts. This book reminds us that our fates are intertwined with theirs. • Gary Langham, chief scientist of the National Audubon Society • “Professor Lederer gives us

an ornithologist’s inside view of birds • and shows that birds are even more intricate, diverse, and downright astonishing than most of us imagine. •

• Warren F. Cooke, chairman of The American Bird Conservancy •

• “Gracefully mingles [Lederer’s] own experiences around the world with what is known about birds (and what still remains a mystery). • Chico Enterprise-Record

It’s tough to be a bird. • They may seem to not have a care in the world, but birds face arduous challenges every moment of every day. Using only senses and instincts, they have to find food, migrate, withstand the weather, and avoid predators • all while competing with each other and countless other species for survival. Today, after evolving for more than 200 million years, birds are challenged by a new set of obstacles brought about by humans. • How do they make their way in the face of these trials? Navigating by smell and changing their songs in noisy cities are just a few of the remarkable ways birds cope with a changing planet. Marvel at their resilience, as ornithologist Roger Lederer shares an insider’s appreciation for the most uncommonly common creatures on Earth. •

Probably the most informative bird book I have read. So much interesting and fascinating information about all facets of bird biology, ecology, life. I think almost every other page or so had me saying "Wow, I never knew that." For example, did you know that baby mallards while still in the egg talk to their parents and ask them to turn the eggs so the temperature is more comfortable? Truly fascinating and recommended to anyone who birds or has an interest and love of our avian companions on this planet. Recommended!

The best books make you want to learn more, and Beaks, Bones, and Bird Songs is a great example. I highly recommend if you are a fan of birds specifically or the natural world and natural solutions more generally. I for one will never look at even the most humble birds in the same way.

Great product at a great price! Quick delivery! A+++++

So informative - I find myself going back to find the answers I am looking for!! A lot to know, but what a resource. Gives an understanding of the many adaptations birds go through to survive - amazing! This book is a treasure.

This wonderful book requires no prior knowledge of the subject. It is truly fascinating and it is very well written.

Wonderful, little-known facts about birds and how they have adapted to their environment. A great read!

This book was a joy to read. Wonderful writing, a true must read for bird and nature lovers.

Great book

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