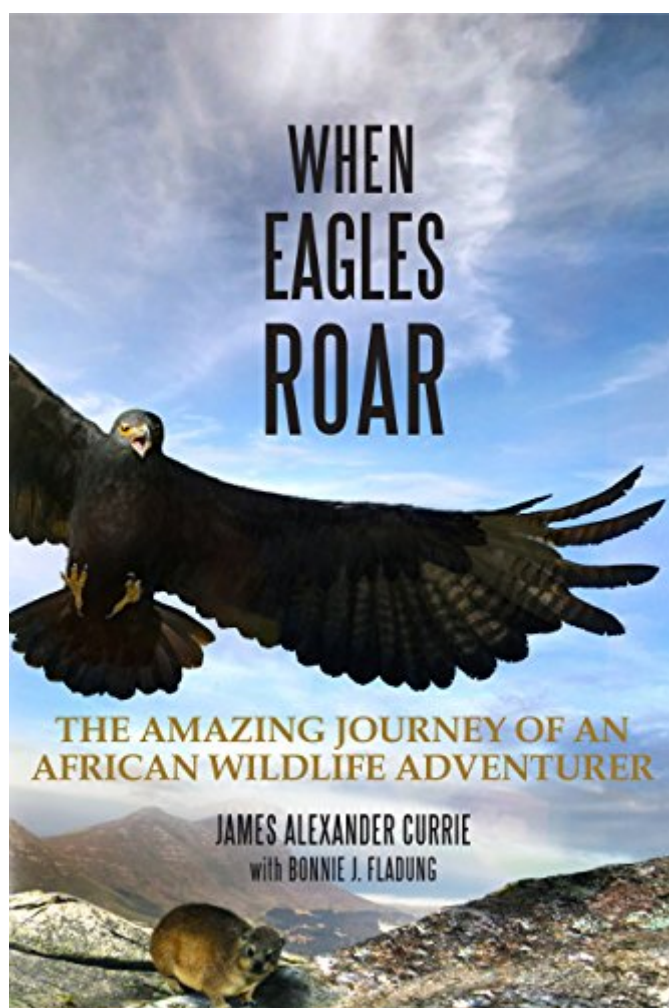


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When Eagles Roar: The Amazing Journey Of An African Wildlife Adventurer



Synopsis

Follow the daring safari of James Currie as his love of birds, fascination with wildlife and craving for adventure lead him into humorous and life threatening situations. James captures the essence of what it means to be African today, facing everything from the Big Five to the vestiges of apartheid to the AIDS epidemic. He provides authoritative information on African wildlife and illustrates hair-raising encounters with lions, buffalo, leopards, elephants, rhinoceros and snakes through exciting and humorous stories. The book follows James's journey from city boy to conservationist and shows what it takes to become an African game ranger. From his first graphic encounter with the brutality of nature on Table Mountain in South Africa to his disappearance as a boy on safari in Malawi to the rigorous training he underwent to become a game ranger at Phinda Private Game Reserve, this book will delight and educate anyone fascinated with nature, wildlife, travel and adventure. James provides wonderful insights into African conservation and a fascinating glimpse into the importance of cross-cultural relationships in Africa's wildlife tourism environment. He details his own inner journey overcoming physical challenges and finding the balance between following passions and what's important in life.

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Customer Reviews

If ever there was a book that would keep you on the edge of your seat, this is it. I've read my share of fiction suspense novels, but they cannot compare to the real life adventures told in "When Eagles Roar". Most of the time, I found myself fiercely gripping this book, eyes as big as saucers, my heart pounding, as I feared what would happen next. The author's incredible storytelling ability pulls you into the action right alongside him. You'll imagine yourself facing an unimaginable danger, snapping your head around looking for cover, all the while trying to remember the mantra: "Don't run. Look at me and I'll tell you what to do". You'll have moments to catch your breath, but keep your tissues handy; there are stories in this book that will bring tears to your eyes and make your heart ache. Along the way, you'll find that you've gained tremendous insight into nature. No guide book compares to the author's ability to explain the thought processes and actions of a variety of animals, from insects to elephants. While his depth of knowledge is outstanding, it's his ability to relay that information in the form of a complete story that is truly riveting and will captivate you throughout this book. All this from a gentleman that I only knew was an outstanding birder and star of Nikon's Birding Adventures television show. I have watched every episode of that show more than once, following Mr. Currie through my TV screen to exotic locations to see the rarest of birds, learning from him as he tells intriguing stories about each bird. Now that I know his knowledge extends far beyond birds, I'm hoping for a TV series or movie based on this book that includes all of his adventures! The only caveat about this book is that there are occasional moments when adult language is used. Of course if you're about to be eaten by a lion, killed by a puff adder or trampled by an elephant, you might utter an expletive or two!

This book is a very entertaining account of one man's relationship with nature, and family and friends that fit into this relationship. He is a great story teller and some of his incredible adventures with wildlife are the product of just being in the wilds of Africa (and elsewhere) for much of his life. Others were a product of his own recklessness and youthful enthusiasm. He is obviously very knowledgeable and enthusiastic about wildlife (especially in Africa) and this enthusiasm and quest for knowledge is contagious. Except for one relatively slow (but informative) part in the middle of the

book, I didn't want to put the book down. I was very disappointed when I was done reading the book. I spent a month on a photo safari in East Africa with two native guides, but I was humbled by Mr. Currie's knowledge of wildlife and also horrified by his occasional lack of judgment in the field. But it sure made for some edge-of-your-seat situations! I learned about many of the animals I had seen in Africa and I grew along with Mr. Curry, who now appears to look back at some of the things he did with disapproval. I'm envious of his lifestyle and very appreciative that he has taken the time to share his life with the readers of his book. I also enjoyed his appreciation for the indigenous peoples and their cultures.

I completely enjoyed this book. I've been on safari to Africa many times and I'm always searching for books about African wildlife and safaris in general. It's amazing how the authors captured the essence of the safari experience. I felt I was right there in the midst of every adventure, from being lost in the bush to facing the Big Five. I particularly liked the whole story of his game ranger training. It made me feel I missed my calling! Though I enjoyed reading about all his encounters with the wildlife, I found the sections of the book that describe his involvement with conservation particularly interesting. The book really showed what a big undertaking it was to create a reserve from old ranch land. Not just the challenges of reintroducing game, but also the issues surrounding the local communities and balancing their needs, as well as insights into the conservation issues Africa faces today and the impact of AIDS on the wildlife community. I highly recommend this book, it is very well written - the pace keeps you turning the pages to find out what happens next. You will not be disappointed!

Few novels have captivated me as much as James Currie's new book, "When Eagles Roar." From the first chapter to the last, I was drawn into his experiences as if I was standing next to him on the animal-rich plains of Southern Africa. James' adventures and energy are boundless, and his stories gripping. He loves life fiercely, and embraces it with passion and insight. He weaves expert knowledge of flora and fauna into stories of personal interactions with lions, elephants, impalas, eagles and larks, to name just a few. James is as connected to the human community as to the animals. He develops strong bonds with his fellow rangers, and weeps alongside them when friends are lost to one of myriad tragedies endured by South Africans. From his childhood in the African bush to the launch of "Birding Adventures TV" program in the U.S., James' story is colorful and compelling. I recommend everyone read his book to learn more about this great personality and fascinating world of African safaris.

James is a marvelous story teller. Along with his co-author Bonnie, they do a superb job of proving an entertaining and educational book on African wildlife. James life is truly an extraordinary one with many incredible adventures. If you have been on an African safari or thinking about going, this is definitely a book you should read. Not only will educate you on some of the animals you will see and their behavior, but give you a glimpse into these incredible guides life.

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