

remarkably great creatures

remarkably great creatures have fascinated humanity for centuries, captivating our curiosity and inspiring countless stories, scientific discoveries, and cultural traditions. In this comprehensive article, we explore the world of remarkably great creatures, analyzing their extraordinary adaptations, ecological significance, and the ways they continue to shape our understanding of the natural world. From the largest mammals to the smallest yet most resilient organisms, these creatures demonstrate the remarkable diversity of life on Earth. We will delve into their unique physical features, complex behaviors, evolutionary breakthroughs, and the critical roles they play in ecosystems. Whether you are interested in marine giants, ancient reptiles, or astonishing insects, this guide offers a thorough look at what makes these beings truly exceptional. Read on to discover the secrets behind remarkably great creatures and why they continue to inspire awe in both scientists and nature enthusiasts alike.

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Exploring the Definition of Remarkably Great Creatures

Remarkably great creatures encompass a wide array of life forms that stand out due to their impressive characteristics, adaptations, or historical significance. These extraordinary animals may be considered "great" for their size, intelligence, resilience, or ecological importance. The term is not limited to gigantic species like elephants and whales, but also includes creatures with unique survival strategies, such as tardigrades, which can withstand extreme environments. The concept of greatness in creatures goes beyond mere physical scale; it also covers behavioral complexity, evolutionary breakthroughs, and their critical roles in maintaining biodiversity.

Criteria for Remarkable Greatness

Scientists and nature enthusiasts often use several criteria to classify remarkably great creatures. These criteria include physical size, rarity,

adaptability, intelligence, and ecological impact. For example, the blue whale is celebrated for its massive size, while the honeybee's vital role in pollination demonstrates ecological greatness. Understanding the multifaceted nature of greatness helps us appreciate the incredible diversity found within the animal kingdom.

- Physical scale and appearance
- Exceptional intelligence or problem-solving skills
- Survival abilities in harsh environments
- Unique evolutionary traits
- Significant impact on ecosystems

Physical Adaptations and Unique Features

Remarkably great creatures often possess extraordinary physical adaptations that enable them to thrive in their environments. These adaptations can include specialized body structures, advanced sensory systems, and distinctive physiological capabilities. Such traits not only help them survive but also contribute to their reputation as remarkable beings in the natural world.

Gigantic Size and Strength

Some of the most iconic remarkably great creatures are recognized for their sheer size and strength. The African elephant, for instance, is renowned for its massive body, powerful tusks, and social intelligence. Similarly, the blue whale holds the title of the largest animal ever known, dwarfing all others both in weight and length. These giants play essential roles in their habitats, influencing everything from vegetation patterns to marine food chains.

Specialized Survival Traits

Other creatures are celebrated for their unique survival strategies. The Arctic fox has adapted to freezing temperatures with its thick fur and keen hunting skills. The chameleon can change its skin color for camouflage and communication, while the tardigrade can survive in the vacuum of space. These remarkable adaptations illustrate the limitless possibilities of evolution and the resilience of life.

Behavioral Marvels Among Remarkably Great

Creatures

Behavioral complexity is another hallmark of remarkably great creatures. Many species display advanced social structures, problem-solving abilities, and unique communication systems. These behaviors not only ensure survival but also set these animals apart as exceptional examples of intelligence and adaptability.

Social Structures and Communication

Elephants and dolphins are notable for their sophisticated social structures and communication skills. Elephants use vocalizations, body language, and even seismic signals to convey information across large distances. Dolphins employ a variety of clicks and whistles to coordinate hunting and socialize within pods. These intricate behaviors demonstrate the depth of animal intelligence and the importance of social bonds.

Tool Use and Problem-Solving

Some remarkably great creatures exhibit the ability to use tools and solve complex problems. Chimpanzees, for example, fashion sticks to extract insects from tree bark, while crows have demonstrated the ability to solve puzzles and navigate urban environments. These behaviors reflect advanced cognitive abilities and highlight the evolutionary advantages of intelligence.

Ecological Importance and Roles in Ecosystems

Remarkably great creatures often play vital roles within their ecosystems, acting as keystone species, apex predators, or essential pollinators. Their presence and activities can significantly influence the health, stability, and diversity of their habitats.

Keystone Species

Keystone species are those whose impact on their ecosystem is disproportionately large relative to their abundance. Wolves, for instance, help regulate prey populations and maintain the balance of plant and animal communities in their territories. The loss of a keystone species can result in profound changes to the ecosystem, demonstrating their remarkable greatness.

Pollinators and Environmental Engineers

Honeybees, bats, and butterflies serve as critical pollinators, supporting the reproduction of countless plant species. Beavers, known as ecosystem engineers, modify environments by building dams, creating wetlands, and

influencing water flow. These examples illustrate how remarkably great creatures contribute to ecosystem health and resilience.

Evolutionary Success Stories

The history of life on Earth is marked by evolutionary success stories that showcase the adaptability and resilience of remarkably great creatures. These stories provide insight into the processes that have shaped the diversity and complexity of the animal kingdom.

Ancient Survivors

Some creatures have persisted for millions of years, surviving mass extinctions and dramatic climate shifts. Crocodiles and horseshoe crabs are living fossils, retaining many features of their ancient ancestors. Their ability to adapt to changing environments over time makes them outstanding examples of evolutionary greatness.

Rapid Adaptation and Speciation

Other species have exhibited rapid adaptation and speciation, responding quickly to environmental pressures. Darwin's finches, with their varied beak shapes, demonstrate how natural selection drives evolutionary change. These evolutionary stories underscore the dynamic nature of life and the remarkable capacity for adaptation.

Human Connections to Remarkably Great Creatures

Human societies have long been influenced by remarkably great creatures, weaving them into myths, art, and science. These animals inspire awe, provide ecosystem services, and play roles in medicine, agriculture, and conservation. Our relationship with these creatures is complex and multifaceted.

Cultural Significance

Remarkably great creatures appear in legends and symbolism across cultures. The lion is a symbol of courage and strength, while the whale represents wisdom and mystery. Such symbolism highlights the enduring impact these animals have on human culture and imagination.

Scientific and Medical Contributions

Many remarkably great creatures have contributed to scientific progress and medical research. Horseshoe crab blood is vital for detecting bacterial

contamination in medical equipment. Studying the intelligence of octopuses and dolphins has advanced our understanding of animal cognition and neuroscience.

Conservation Challenges and Successes

Despite their greatness, many remarkable creatures face significant threats from habitat loss, climate change, and human activities. Conservation efforts are essential to protect these animals and the ecosystems they support.

Threats and Challenges

Habitat destruction, pollution, and illegal wildlife trade endanger countless remarkably great species. Many large mammals, such as rhinos and tigers, are critically endangered due to poaching and habitat fragmentation. Addressing these challenges requires international cooperation and innovative solutions.

1. Habitat restoration and protection
2. Anti-poaching efforts and law enforcement
3. Community-based conservation initiatives
4. Scientific research and monitoring
5. Education and public awareness campaigns

Success Stories in Conservation

There have been notable successes in the conservation of remarkably great creatures. The recovery of the American bison and the resurgence of humpback whales are examples of effective conservation strategies. These achievements demonstrate that with dedication and resources, it is possible to protect and restore populations of remarkable beings.

Questions and Answers about Remarkably Great Creatures

Q: What are some examples of remarkably great creatures?

A: Examples include the blue whale, African elephant, honeybee, chameleon, tardigrade, dolphin, and crocodile. These animals are known for their impressive size, unique adaptations, intelligence, and ecological importance.

Q: Why are some creatures considered remarkably great?

A: Creatures are considered remarkably great due to their extraordinary physical features, behavioral complexity, evolutionary history, or significant roles in ecosystems. Their uniqueness makes them stand out in the animal kingdom.

Q: How do remarkably great creatures impact ecosystems?

A: They often serve as keystone species, apex predators, or essential pollinators, helping to maintain balance, promote biodiversity, and support healthy environments.

Q: What adaptations help remarkably great creatures survive?

A: Adaptations such as camouflage, specialized hunting techniques, complex social behaviors, and resilience to extreme environments help these creatures thrive in diverse habitats.

Q: What challenges do remarkably great creatures face?

A: Many face threats like habitat loss, climate change, pollution, and illegal wildlife trade, which can endanger their populations and disrupt ecosystems.

Q: How do humans benefit from remarkably great creatures?

A: Humans benefit through ecosystem services, scientific discoveries, medical advances, and cultural inspiration provided by these animals.

Q: What is a keystone species?

A: A keystone species is an animal whose presence and activities have a disproportionate impact on the ecosystem, helping to maintain its structure and stability.

Q: Are there conservation successes for remarkably great creatures?

A: Yes, successful efforts include the recovery of species like the American bison and humpback whale, demonstrating that conservation initiatives can make a difference.

Q: How do scientists study remarkably great creatures?

A: Scientists use field observations, laboratory research, technological monitoring, and genetic analysis to study their behaviors, adaptations, and ecological roles.

Q: Why is it important to protect remarkably great creatures?

A: Protecting these animals is essential for preserving biodiversity, sustaining healthy ecosystems, and ensuring the continued benefits they provide to humanity and the planet.

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Remarkably Great Creatures: Exploring the Wonders of the Animal Kingdom

Introduction:

Have you ever stopped to marvel at the sheer diversity and ingenuity of life on Earth? From the microscopic wonders of the tardigrade to the colossal majesty of the blue whale, our planet teems with creatures so remarkable, so perfectly adapted, that they inspire awe and wonder. This post delves into the world of "remarkably great creatures," exploring some of the most fascinating animals and the incredible adaptations that allow them to thrive. We'll uncover hidden talents, unique survival strategies, and the breathtaking beauty found within the animal kingdom, leaving you with a newfound appreciation for the natural world. Prepare to be amazed!

H2: Masters of Camouflage: The Chameleon and Beyond

Camouflage is a remarkable adaptation, allowing creatures to blend seamlessly into their

environment. The chameleon, of course, is a prime example, able to shift its skin color to match its surroundings. But remarkably great creatures exhibit camouflage in countless ways. Consider the stick insect, nearly indistinguishable from twigs, or the octopus, a master of mimicry that can change its texture and color to impersonate other sea creatures. These aren't just clever tricks; they are vital survival mechanisms, protecting these animals from predators and allowing them to ambush prey.

H3: The Science Behind Camouflage

The ability to change color often involves specialized pigment cells called chromatophores. These cells expand and contract, altering the appearance of the skin. Other camouflage strategies rely on intricate patterns and textures that break up the animal's outline, making it harder to detect against its background. The evolution of such sophisticated mechanisms highlights the power of natural selection.

H4: Beyond Visual Camouflage

Some creatures employ auditory or olfactory camouflage, masking their sounds or smells to avoid detection. The sheer variety of camouflage strategies across the animal kingdom underscores its importance as a key survival trait.

H2: Echolocation: Navigating the World in Darkness

The world of darkness is not devoid of life; it's simply a world experienced differently. Bats, dolphins, and even some shrews rely on echolocation – emitting sounds and interpreting the returning echoes – to navigate and hunt in the absence of light. This remarkable ability allows them to "see" their surroundings with incredible precision, detecting even the smallest prey.

H3: The Complexity of Echolocation

The sounds produced by echolocating animals are often beyond the range of human hearing. These high-frequency calls bounce off objects, providing information about their distance, size, and even texture. The animal's brain processes this complex information in real-time, creating a detailed sonic map of its environment. This sophisticated biological sonar system is a testament to the power of evolution.

H2: Symbiotic Relationships: A Dance of Mutual Benefit

Many remarkably great creatures engage in symbiotic relationships, where two different species interact in a way that benefits both. Consider the cleaner fish that remove parasites from larger fish, or the oxpecker that feeds on ticks on the backs of rhinos. These mutually beneficial partnerships highlight the intricate interconnectedness of ecosystems.

H3: The Evolution of Symbiosis

Symbiotic relationships often evolve over long periods, with each species adapting to the other. The benefits can range from protection and food to improved reproduction and disease resistance. These relationships are vital for the health and stability of many ecosystems.

H2: Remarkable Migrations: Journeys of Epic Proportions

Certain animals undertake incredible migrations, covering vast distances in search of food, breeding grounds, or better climates. Monarch butterflies, for example, travel thousands of miles across continents, while humpback whales embark on epic journeys across oceans. These feats of endurance are testaments to the incredible navigational abilities and resilience of these creatures.

H3: The Mysteries of Migration

Scientists are still unraveling the mysteries of animal migration, exploring how animals navigate, using celestial cues, magnetic fields, and even olfactory signals. The remarkable journeys undertaken by migrating animals are a constant source of wonder and research.

Conclusion:

The animal kingdom is a treasure trove of remarkable adaptations and behaviors. From masters of camouflage to echolocating navigators and creatures engaged in complex symbiotic relationships,

the diversity of life on Earth is truly astounding. Understanding these "remarkably great creatures" not only enriches our understanding of the natural world but also highlights the importance of conservation efforts to protect these incredible animals and their habitats. Let us continue to explore, learn, and appreciate the wonders that surround us.

FAQs:

1. What is the most remarkably adapted creature? There's no single answer, as "remarkable" is subjective and depends on the criteria used. However, creatures like tardigrades (water bears), known for their extreme resilience, or anglerfish, with their bioluminescent lures, are strong contenders.
2. How do animals learn to migrate? Migration is often an instinctual behavior passed down through generations. However, some learning and social influence can also play a role.
3. Are all symbiotic relationships beneficial to both species? Not always. Some symbiotic relationships are parasitic, where one species benefits at the expense of the other.
4. How is echolocation different from sonar? Echolocation is a naturally occurring biological process, while sonar is a technology developed by humans. Both utilize sound waves to "see" the environment, but the mechanisms are different.
5. What can we learn from studying remarkably great creatures? Studying these animals helps us understand evolutionary processes, ecosystem dynamics, and potential solutions to human engineering challenges (biomimicry). It also underscores the importance of biodiversity and conservation.

remarkably great creatures: Remarkable Creatures Tracy Chevalier, 2009-08-24 'It is a stunning story, compassionately reimagined' Guardian Tracy Chevalier's stunning novel of how one woman's gift transcends class and gender to lead to some of the most important discoveries of the nineteenth century. A revealing portrait of the intricate and resilient nature of female friendship.

remarkably great creatures: Remarkable Creatures Sean B. Carroll, 2014-10-16 National Book Award Finalist: A biologist's "thoroughly enjoyable" account of the expeditions that unearthed the history of life on our planet (Publishers Weekly). Not so long ago, most of our world was an unexplored wilderness. Our sense of its age was vague and vastly off the mark, and much of the knowledge of our own species' history was a set of fantastic myths and fairy tales. But scientists were about to embark on an amazing new era of understanding. From the New York Times-bestselling author of *The Big Picture*, this book leads us on a rousing voyage that recounts the most important discoveries in two centuries of natural history: from Darwin's trip around the world to Charles Walcott's discovery of pre-Cambrian life in the Grand Canyon; from Louis and Mary Leakey's investigation of our deepest past in East Africa to the trailblazers in modern laboratories who have located a time clock in our DNA. Filled with the same sense of adventure that spurred on these extraordinary men and women, *Remarkable Creatures* is a "stirring introduction to the wonder of evolutionary biology" (Kirkus Reviews). "Charming and enlightening." —San Francisco Chronicle "As fast-paced as a detective story." —Nature

remarkably great creatures: Mayan Blue Michelle Garza, Melissa Lason, 2022-02-22 Xibalba,

home of torture and sacrifice, is the kingdom of the lord of death. He stalked the night in the guise of a putrefied corpse, with the head of an owl and adorned with a necklace of disembodied eyes that hung from nerve cords. He commanded legions of shapeshifting creatures, spectral shamans, and corpses hungry for the flesh of the living. The Mayans feared him and his realm of horror. He sat atop his pyramid temple surrounded by his demon kings and demanded sacrifices of blood and beating hearts as tribute to him and his ghostly world. These legends, along with those that lived in fear of them, have been dead and gone for centuries. Yet now, a doorway has been opened in Georgia. A group of college students seek their missing professor, a man who has secretly uncovered the answer to one of history's greatest mysteries. However, what they find is more than the evidence of a hidden civilization. It's also a gateway to a world of living nightmares.

remarkably great creatures: *His Name Was Walter* Emily Rodda, 2018-08-01 From Australia's favourite storyteller comes a story that shows us the extraordinary power of true love and solves a decades-old mystery. Once upon a time, in a dark city far away, there lived a boy called Walter, who had nothing but his name to call his own ... The handwritten book, with its strangely vivid illustrations, has been hidden in the old house for a long, long time. Tonight, four kids and their teacher will find it. Tonight, at last, the haunting story of Walter and the mysterious, tragic girl called Sparrow will be read - right to the very end ... From one of Australia's most renowned children's authors comes an extraordinary story within a story - a mystery, a prophecy, a long-buried secret. And five people who will remember this night for the rest of their lives. PRAISE 'Another magnificent book from Emily Rodda' - Readings 'guaranteed to capture the imaginations of 8+ mystery lovers' - Better Reading AWARDS Winner - 2019 Prime Minister's Literary Awards (Children's Literature) Winner - 2019 Australian Book Design Awards (Children's Fiction Book) Winner - 2019 CBCA Book of the Year Awards (Younger Readers) Shortlisted - 2019 Davitt Awards (Children's) Shortlisted - 2019 QLD Literary Awards (Griffith University Children's Book Award) Shortlisted - 2018 Aurealis Awards (Best Young Adult Novel)

remarkably great creatures: *The Remarkable Inventions of Walter Mortinson* Quinn Sosna-Spear, 2019-04-02 In this sweeping and inventive debut novel that's perfect for fans of Roald Dahl, Neil Gaiman, and Tim Burton, a prodigal inventor flees his home to find his destiny. In the humdrum town of Moormouth, Walter Mortinson's unusual inventions cause nothing but trouble. After one of his contraptions throws the town into chaos, Walter's mother demands he cut the nonsense and join the family mortuary business. Far off on Flaster Isle, famed inventor Horace Flasterborn plans to take Walter under his wing, just as he did Walter's genius father decades ago. When a letter arrives by unusual means offering Walter an apprenticeship, it isn't long before Walter decides to flee Moormouth to meet his destiny. Walter runs away in the family hearse along with Cordelia, the moody girl next door with one eye and plenty of secrets. Together they journey through a strange landscape of fish-people, giantess miners, and hypnotized honeybees in an adventure that will not only reveal the truth about Walter's past, but direct his future.

remarkably great creatures: *Beautiful Creatures (Book 1)* Kami Garcia, Margaret Stohl, 2010-02-04 Is falling in love the beginning . . . Or the end? In Ethan Wate's hometown there lies the darkest of secrets. There is a girl. Slowly, she pulled the hood from her head. Green eyes, black hair. Lena Duchannes. There is a curse. On the Sixteenth Moon, the Sixteenth Year, the Book will take what it's been promised. And no one can stop it. In the end, there is a grave. Lena and Ethan become bound together by a deep, powerful love. But Lena is cursed and on her sixteenth birthday, her fate will be decided. Ethan never even saw it coming. * Don't miss the Warner Brothers and Alcon Entertainment blockbuster movie of *Beautiful Creatures* directed by Richard LaGravenese (P.S. I Love You) and featuring an all star cast including Emma Thompson, Jeremy Irons, Viola Davies and hot young Hollywood talent Alice Englert, Alden Ehrenreich and Emmy Rossum. Praise for *Beautiful Creatures*: 'This novel has been generating Twilight-level buzz.' - Teen Vogue About the authors: @kamigarcia is a superstitious American southerner who can make biscuits by hand and pies from scratch! She attended George Washington University and is a teacher and reading specialist. She lives in Los Angeles, California with her family. @mstohl has written and designed many successful

video games, which is why her two beagles are named Zelda and Kirby. She has degrees from Yale and Stanford Universities in the US and has also studied in the prestigious creative writing department at UEA, Norwich. She lives in Santa Monica, California with her family.

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remarkably great creatures: Ka Whawhai Tonu Matou Ranginui Walker, 2004-01-01

remarkably great creatures: Lily and the Octopus Steven Rowley, 2016-06-01 'Intelligently written, finely observed and surprisingly moving, this is a book you'll find hard to put down' Graeme Simsion, author of The Rosie Project Companions come in all shapes and sizes. Companionship lasts forever. Lily and the Octopus is a novel about finding that special someone to share your life with. For Ted Flask, that someone is Lily, and she happens to be a dog. This novel reminds us how to love fiercely, how difficult it can be to let go and how the fight for those we love is the greatest fight of all. Reminiscent of The Life of Pi and The Art of Racing in the Rain, with spins into magic realism and beautifully evoked universal truths of love, loyalty and loss, a hilariously sardonic and not altogether reliable narrator, and one unforgettable hound whose simple wisdom will break your heart and put it back together again, Lily and the Octopus captures the search for meaning in death and introduces a dazzling new voice in fiction.

remarkably great creatures: Owen and Mzee: The True Story of a Remarkable Friendship

Isabella Hatkoff, Craig Hatkoff, 2016-03-29 The amazing true story of the orphaned baby hippo and 130-year-old giant turtle whose remarkable friendship touched millions around the world. The inspiring true story of two great friends, a baby hippo named Owen and a 130-yr-old giant tortoise named Mzee (Mm-ZAY). When Owen was stranded after the Dec 2004 tsunami, villagers in Kenya worked tirelessly to rescue him. Then, to everyone's amazement, the orphan hippo and the elderly tortoise adopted each other. Now they are inseparable, swimming, eating, and playing together. Adorable photos e-mailed from friend to friend quickly made them worldwide celebrities. Here is a joyous reminder that in times of trouble, friendship is stronger than the differences that too often pull us apart.

remarkably great creatures: We Were Wolves Jason Cockcroft, 2022-07-07 Boy lives in a caravan on his own in the woods. His dad, John, is in prison and promises to get out soon. All the boy needs to do is survive alone for a little while longer. But dark forces are circling - like the dangerous man in the Range Rover, who is looking for his stolen money. And then there are the ancient forces that have lain asleep in the woods for an age...

remarkably great creatures: The Fortunes of Jaded Women Carolyn Huynh, 2023-08 For fans of Jonathan Tropper, Amy Tan, and Kevin Kwan, this "sharp, smart, and gloriously extra" (Nancy Jooyoun Kim, author of The Last Story of Mina Lee) novel follows a family of estranged Vietnamese women—cursed to never know love or happiness—as they reunite when a psychic makes a startling prediction. Everyone in Orange County's Little Saigon knew that the Duong sisters were cursed. It started with their ancestor, Oanh, who dared to leave her marriage for true love—so a fearsome Vietnamese witch cursed Oanh and her descendants so that they would never find love or happiness, and the Duong women would only give birth to daughters. Oanh's current descendant Mai Nguyen knows this curse well. She's divorced, and after an explosive disagreement a decade ago, estranged from her younger sisters, Minh Pham (the middle and the mediator) and Khuyen Lam (the youngest who swears she just runs humble coffee shops and nail salons, not Little Saigon's underground). Though Mai's three adult daughters, Priscilla, Thuy, and Thao, are successful in their careers (one of them is John Cho's dermatologist!), the same can't be said for their love lives. Mai is convinced they might drive her to an early grave. Desperate for guidance, she consults Auntie Hua, her trusted psychic in Hawaii, who delivers an unexpected prediction: this year, her family will witness a marriage, a funeral, and the birth of a son. This prophecy will reunite estranged mothers, daughters, aunts, and cousins—for better or for worse. A multi-narrative novel brimming with levity and candor,

"The Fortunes of Jaded Women pulls off the magic trick of being a heartfelt, multi-generational epic as well as a fast-paced, hilarious romp. It is your good fortune to have this novel in your hands" (Camille Perri, author of *When Katie Met Cassidy*).

remarkably great creatures: *The Soul of All Living Creatures* Vint Virga, D.V.M., 2013-07-09 As profiled in the New York Times Magazine... Based on the author's twenty-five years of experience as a veterinarian and veterinary behaviorist, *The Soul of All Living Creatures* delves into the inner lives of animals – from whales, wolves, and leopards to mice, dogs, and cats – and explores the relationships we forge with them. As an emergency room clinician four years out of veterinary school, Dr. Vint Virga had a life-changing experience: he witnessed the power of simple human contact and compassion to affect the recovery of a dog struggling to survive after being hit by a car. Observing firsthand the remarkably strong connection between humans and animals inspired him to explore the world from the viewpoint of animals and taught him to respect the kinship that connects us. With *The Soul of All Living Creatures*, Virga draws from his decades in veterinary practice to reveal how, by striving to perceive the world as animals do, we can enrich our own appreciation of life, enhance our character, nurture our relationships, improve our communication with others, reorder our values, and deepen our grasp of spirituality. Virga discerningly illuminates basic traits shared by both humans and animals and makes animal behavior meaningful, relevant, and easy to understand. Insightful and eloquent, *The Soul of All Living Creatures* offers an intimate journey into the lives of our fellow creatures and a thought-provoking promise of what we can learn from spending time with them.

remarkably great creatures: Principles of Creature Design Terryl Whitlatch, 2015 Designing a captivating creature simply for it to exist against a white background and going no further is a purely academic exercise. Designing a creature that can survive in a world, interact with its own and other species, and go on to make an impact, is designing with intent. This is the end goal of creature design and what you will witness in this latest book from industry expert Terryl Whitlatch. With decades of experience in the entertainment industry, developing creatures for *Star Wars: Episode 1 -- The Phantom Menace* and *Beowulf*, among other films, Whitlatch offers an abundance of valuable advice throughout the *Principles of Creature Design*. For Whitlatch, there's not limit to what can be imagined with an open mind, though the journey may not always be an easy one. It's what she calls Chasing the unicorn. We will surely enjoy joining her on her journey, filled with creatures so vivid, whimsical, and elaborate that we will wish -- or wonder -- if they are real.--Back cover.

remarkably great creatures: *Remarkable* Lizzie K. Foley, 2012-04-12 A lot of outlandish entertainment. —The New York Times Everyone in Remarkable is remarkable. Everyone except Jane, that is. While the rest of the town is busy being talented, gifted, or just plain extraordinary, she's never been anything but ordinary. Then Jane finds herself in school with the mischievous Grimlet twins, and her life suddenly gets a whole lot more interesting. And when a strange pirate captain appears in town, setting off a series of adventures that put the whole town in danger, it's up to Jane to save the day. Along the way, she might just find that she can be pretty remarkable after all. * A rich, unforgettable story that's quite simply - amazing. —Kirkus Reviews, starred review * Filled with clever word play, wholly unique situations, outlandish characters...Foley's novel is a remarkable, middle-grade gem. —Booklist, starred review

remarkably great creatures: *Field Guide to the Frogs of Queensland* Eric Vanderduys, 2012-11-15 Frogs are remarkably variable creatures. Many species adopt different colours or patterns by day or night. In some cases, males are different from females, and many species can change their appearance remarkably when breeding. *Field Guide to the Frogs of Queensland* provides a comprehensive photographic guide to the 132 species of frogs in Queensland, Australia's most species-rich state. It enables identification of all Queensland species and clearly points out pitfalls that may lead to misidentification. Species profiles list common and scientific names, information on size, call and preferred habitat, as well as points of interest for each species. The conservation status of all threatened species is listed and there are special sections devoted to

disappearing frogs and the Cane Toad. Generously illustrated with one or more photographs for each species, the book also includes distribution maps, line illustrations which demonstrate key features, and keys to each family, genus and species.

remarkably great creatures: *Lonely Girl* Lynne Vincent McCarthy, 2018-06-26 LONGLISTED FOR THE NED KELLY BEST FIRST FICTION AWARD 2019 This voice is something else, it belongs to her as surely as the things in this room do. It's one thing Ana has always known about herself. She can be cruel. In the shadow of a mountain in small-town Tasmania, a woman named Ana is watching the clock, marking the days until she ends her life. The strange, reclusive daughter of the local pariah, that's how the people will remember her, when they remember her at all. No one will mourn her, she reasons, not really. Not even her faithful dog River. The only thing she's waiting for is the opportunity. But then, on the very day she planned to end it all, the police find the body of local woman Rebecca Marsden. And for Ana, that changes everything. Because Ana was the last person to see Rebecca alive. Because Ana thinks she knows who killed her. And because Ana has decided to keep him for herself... PRAISE FOR LONELY GIRL *Lonely Girl* is dark, disturbing and utterly compelling. Lynne Vincent McCarthy has created a unique protagonist in Ana, and an atmospheric story that will keep you reading long into the night. I can't wait to read more. Emma Viskic, author of the Caleb Zelic series

remarkably great creatures: *A Boy and a Ball* Phil Cummings, 2020-06 The cloudless sky suddenly roared like thunder. Shadows, swift and frightening, descended. The boys brother grabbed him by the arm. Run, quickly, But my ball. Leave it. From the Prime Ministers Literary Award-shortlisted creators of *Feathers*, comes this compassionate tale of a familys search for a safe place to call home.

remarkably great creatures: *Pig the Blob* BLABEY Aaron, 2022

remarkably great creatures: *If Nobody Speaks of Remarkable Things* Jon McGregor, 2003-05-05 On a street in a unnamed town in the north of England, perfectly ordinary people are doing totally ordinary things... but then a terrible event shatters the quiet of the early summer evening and no one who witnesses it will be quite the same again.

remarkably great creatures: *Poached* Rachel Love Nuwer, 2018-10-01 An intrepid investigation of the criminal world of wildlife trafficking — the poachers, the traders, and the customers — and of those fighting against it. Journalist Rachel Love Nuwer plunges the reader into the underground of global wildlife trafficking, a topic she has been investigating for nearly a decade. Our insatiable demand for animals — for jewellery, pets, medicine, meat, trophies, and fur — is driving a worldwide poaching epidemic, threatening the continued existence of countless species. Illegal wildlife trade now ranks among the largest contraband industries in the world, yet compared to drug, arms, or human trafficking, the wildlife crisis has received scant attention and support, leaving it up to passionate individuals fighting on the ground to try to ensure that elephants, tigers, rhinos, and more are still around for future generations. *Poached* takes readers to the front lines of the trade: to killing fields in Africa, traditional-medicine black markets in China, and wild-meat restaurants in Vietnam. Through exhaustive first-hand reporting that took her to ten countries, Nuwer explores the forces currently driving demand for animals and their parts; the toll that demand is extracting on species across the planet; and the conservationists, rangers, and activists who are working to stop the impending extinctions — people who believe this is a battle that can be won, that our animals are not beyond salvation.

remarkably great creatures: *Beautiful Ruins* Jess Walter, 2012 In 1962, on a rocky patch of sun-drenched Italian coastline, a young innkeeper looks out over the incandescent waters of the sea and spies a woman, a vision in white, approaching him on a boat. He learns that she is an American starlet who is said to be dying. And the story begins again in the present when half a world away, an elderly Italian man shows up on a movie studio's back lot searching for the mysterious woman he last saw at his hotel decades earlier. What unfolds is a dazzling, yet deeply human, roller coaster of a novel, spanning fifty years and nearly as many lives including the starstruck Italian innkeeper and his long-lost love; the producer who once brought them together and his idealistic young assistant;

the army veteran turned fledgling novelist and the rakish Richard Burton himself, whose appetites set the whole story in motion. Gloriously inventive and constantly surprising, *Beautiful Ruins* is a story of flawed yet fascinating people, navigating the rocky shores of their lives while clinging to their improbable dreams.

remarkably great creatures: *The Inner Life of Animals* Peter Wohlleben, 2017-10-19 Can horses feel shame? Do deer grieve? Why do roosters deceive hens? We tend to assume that we are the only living things able to experience feelings but have you ever wondered what's going on in an animal's head? From the leafy forest floor to the inside of a bee hive, *The Inner Life of Animals* opens up the animal kingdom like never before. We hear the stories of a grateful humpback whale, of a hedgehog who has nightmares, and of a magpie who commits adultery; we meet bees that plan for the future, pigs who learn their own names and crows that go tobogganing for fun. And at last we find out why wasps exist.

remarkably great creatures: *Light Years from Home* Mike Chen, 2022-01-25 From the New York Times bestselling author of *Star Wars: Brotherhood* A Best Of pick and Most Anticipated Sci Fi and Fantasy novel, as selected by Goodreads • Buzzfeed • BookRiot • The Portalist • IO9 • BookBub • SheReads • BiblioLifestyle • Den of Geek • GeekDad "A rich backstory... a highly satisfying ending... All the stars for Chen's warmhearted space-travel story." -Kirkus, starred review Every family has issues. Most can't blame them on extraterrestrials. Evie Shao and her sister, Kass, aren't on speaking terms. Fifteen years ago on a family camping trip, their father and brother vanished. Their dad turned up days later, dehydrated and confused—and convinced he'd been abducted by aliens. Their brother, Jakob, remained missing. The women dealt with it very differently. Kass, suspecting her college-dropout twin simply ran off, became the rock of the family. Evie traded academics to pursue alien conspiracy theories, always looking for Jakob. When Evie's UFO network uncovers a new event, she goes to investigate. And discovers Jakob is back. He's different—older, stranger, and talking of an intergalactic war—but the tensions between the siblings haven't changed at all. If the family is going to come together to help Jakob, then Kass and Evie are going to have to fix their issues, and fast. Because the FBI is after Jakob, and if their brother is telling the truth, possibly an entire space armada, too. The perfect combination of action, imagination and heart, *Light Years from Home* is a touching drama about a challenge as difficult as saving the galaxy: making peace with your family...and yourself. With heart and insight...Chen crosses the stakes and imagination of a space opera with the emotional depth and intricacy of a family drama. —Erika Swyler, bestselling author of *Light from Other Stars*

remarkably great creatures: *Imperfect Creatures* Lucinda Cole, 2016-02-26 Lucinda Cole's *Imperfect Creatures* offers the first full-length study of the shifting, unstable, but foundational status of "vermin" as creatures and category in the early modern literary, scientific, and political imagination. In the space between theology and an emergent empiricism, Cole's argument engages a wide historical swath of canonical early modern literary texts—William Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, Christopher Marlowe's *The Jew of Malta*, Abraham Cowley's *The Plagues of Egypt*, Thomas Shadwell's *The Virtuoso*, the Earl of Rochester's "A Ramble in St. James's Park," and Daniel Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe* and *Journal of the Plague Year*—alongside other nonliterary primary sources and under-examined archival materials from the period, including treatises on animal trials, grain shortages, rabies, and comparative neuroanatomy. As Cole illustrates, human health and demographic problems—notably those of feeding populations periodically stricken by hunger, disease, and famine—were tied to larger questions about food supplies, property laws, national identity, and the theological imperatives that underwrote humankind's claim to dominion over the animal kingdom. In this context, Cole's study indicates, so-called "vermin" occupied liminal spaces between subject and object, nature and animal, animal and the devil, the devil and disease—even reason and madness. This verminous discourse formed a foundational category used to carve out humankind's relationship to an unpredictable, irrational natural world, but it evolved into a form for thinking about not merely animals but anything that threatened the health of the body politic—humans, animals, and even thoughts.

remarkably great creatures: *Ivan* Katherine Applegate, 2014 The true story of Ivan, known as the Shopping Mall Gorilla, who lived alone in a small cage for almost 30 years before being relocated to the gorilla habitat at ZooAtlanta.

remarkably great creatures: The Book of Imaginary Beings Jorge Luis Borges, 2002 As we all know, there is a kind of lazy pleasure in useless and out-of-the-way erudition-The compilation and translation of this volume have given us a great deal of such pleasure; we hope the reader will share some of the fun we felt when ransacking the

remarkably great creatures: *Starbird* Sharon King-Chai, 2020-09-08 WINNER OF THE 2021 KATE GREENAWAY SHADOWERS' CHOICE AWARDStarbird is an exquisitely beautiful original fable about freedom and love and the wisdom of the younger generation, able to see more clearly than the adults around them.Starbird's songs weave the richest dreams and delight all who hear him, but when the Moon King traps him in a cage as gift for his daughter, the colour and life in his voice begin to drip away. What follows is a story with the feel of a timeless myth, with the message that captivity dims even the brightest star.This unique book shimmers with shiny silver foil throughout pages filled with stunning illustrations of plants and animals as the magical Starbird seeks to escape the clutches of the Moon King. A heartfelt, lyrical story, and an exquisite gift for any child or adult.

remarkably great creatures: How to be a Good Creature Sy Montgomery, 2018 National Book Award finalist Sy Montgomery reflects on the personalities and quirks of 13 animals--her friends--who have profoundly affected her in this stunning, poetic, and life-affirming memoir featuring illustrations by Rebecca Green.

remarkably great creatures: Wild Animals Stained Glass Pattern Book Connie Clough Eaton, 1996-10-24 Rich collection of 60 full-page designs, featuring the cougar, giraffe, koala, elephant, lion, deer, otter, eagle, duck, hummingbird, parrot, many other creatures.

remarkably great creatures: *Stringers* Chris Panatier, 2022-04-12 A genius is abducted by an alien bounty-hunter for the location of a powerful inter-dimensional object. Trouble is, he can't remember a thing. Ben isn't exactly a genius, but he has an immense breadth of knowledge. Whether it's natural science (specifically the intricacies of bug sex), or vintage timepieces, he can spout facts and information with the best of experts. He just can't explain why he knows any of it. Another thing he knows is the location of the Chime. What it is or why it's important, he can't say. But this knowledge is about to get him in a whole heap of trouble, as a trash-talking, flesh construct bounty hunter is on his tail and looking to sell him to the highest bidder. And being able to describe the mating habits of Brazilian bark lice won't be enough to get him out of it. File Under: Science Fiction [Bloom of God | Patton you on the back | Eels Aplenty | Some Aliens Just Suck]

remarkably great creatures: Whale Joe Roman, 2006-05 As well as marine historians and anyone studying cultural history and the natural sciences. Book jacket.

remarkably great creatures: The Book of Eels Patrik Svensson, 2020-05-26 A Finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize National Bestseller Winner of the National Outdoor Book Award Longlisted for the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Nonfiction A New York Times Notable Book One of TIME's 100 Must Read Books of the Year One of The Washington Post's 50 Notable Nonfiction Books of the Year One of Smithsonian Magazine's 10 Best Science Books of the Year One of Publishers Weekly's Best Nonfiction Books of the Year A New York Times Editor's Choice Part H Is for Hawk, part The Soul of an Octopus, The Book of Eels is both a meditation on the world's most elusive fish—the eel—and a reflection on the human condition Remarkably little is known about the European eel, *Anguilla anguilla*. So little, in fact, that scientists and philosophers have, for centuries, been obsessed with what has become known as the “eel question”: Where do eels come from? What are they? Are they fish or some other kind of creature altogether? Even today, in an age of advanced science, no one has ever seen eels mating or giving birth, and we still don't understand what drives them, after living for decades in freshwater, to swim great distances back to the ocean at the end of their lives. They remain a mystery. Drawing on a breadth of research about eels in literature, history, and modern marine biology, as well as his own experience fishing for eels with his father,

Patrik Svensson crafts a mesmerizing portrait of an unusual, utterly misunderstood, and completely captivating animal. In *The Book of Eels*, we meet renowned historical thinkers, from Aristotle to Sigmund Freud to Rachel Carson, for whom the eel was a singular obsession. And we meet the scientists who spearheaded the search for the eel's point of origin, including Danish marine biologist Johannes Schmidt, who led research efforts in the early twentieth century, catching thousands upon thousands of eels, in the hopes of proving their birthing grounds in the Sargasso Sea. Blending memoir and nature writing at its best, Svensson's journey to understand the eel becomes an exploration of the human condition that delves into overarching issues about our roots and destiny, both as humans and as animals, and, ultimately, how to handle the biggest question of all: death. The result is a gripping and slippery narrative that will surprise and enchant.

remarkably great creatures: *Creatures* Crissy Van Meter, 2020-01-07 "[A] kaleidoscopic narrative . . . Tenacious, wildly original, and full of insight." —San Francisco Chronicle "An alluring, atmospheric debut." —People A Belletrist Book Club Pick A Most Anticipated Book of the Year Entertainment Weekly • The Millions • Bustle On the eve of Evangeline's wedding on Winter Island, the groom may be lost at sea, a dead whale is trapped in the harbor, and Evie's mostly absent mother has shown up out of the blue. From there, in this mesmerizing, provocative debut, the narrative flows back and forth through time as Evie reckons with her complicated upbringing—a weed-dealing, charming but neglectful father, a wild-child best friend—in this lush land off the coast of Southern California. With wit, love, and bracing flashes of anger, *Creatures* probes the complexities of family and abandonment, guilt and forgiveness, betrayal and grief—and exerts a pull as strong as the tides.

remarkably great creatures: *Makeda* McKenney Marlon, 2021-09-06 A beautiful Ethiopian princess must use courage, strength, and leadership to conquer a dangerous enemy set on destroying the wealthy Kingdom of Sheba. Princess Makeda was born into a loving royal family but when her father, King Agabos, unexpectedly dies, the lives of Makeda and her mother, Queen Ismenie, are turned upside-down. Grief-stricken, yet angry for vengeance, Makeda must use her intelligence and resiliency to navigate a toxic, male-dominated hierarchy. With the odds stacked against her and her back against the wall, Makeda embarks on the deadliest mission of her life to restore honor and safety to the Kingdom of Sheba. This African Fantasy Epic is beautifully written and illustrated for both grade school children as well as fans of afrocentric anime, comics, and graphic novels. If you like historical fiction with a powerful black female hero, then you will love this ancient tale of courage and redemption. Buy *Makeda the Queen of Sheba* today to experience her incredible journey from young princess to legendary African queen.

remarkably great creatures: *Nothing Happens in Carmincross* Benedict Kiely, 2008-01 1973. Mervyn Kavanagh travels home to the small Irish town of Carmincross for the wedding of his favourite niece. As he nears the town, Mervyn is haunted by dark thoughts of bombs, rubber bullets, political murder and terrorism. Somewhere, it seems, the past and present are bound to collide.

remarkably great creatures: *Five Creatures* Emily Jenkins, 2005-03-10 Three humans and two cats Five creatures live in our house. Three humans, and two cats. Three short, and two tall. Four grownups, and one child (that's me!). In this book of lighthearted comparisons, simple text and warm pictures work together to depict various scenes in a happy household where each member is distinct but also has something in common with one or more of the others. The fun comes from sorting out the similarities and the differences. *Five Creatures* is a 2001 Boston Globe - Horn Book Award Honor Book for Picture Books.

remarkably great creatures: *A Most Remarkable Creature* Jonathan Meiburg, 2021-04-22 An enthralling voyage of discovery to meet a rare and mysterious bird of prey that puzzled Darwin, fascinates modern-day falconers, and carries secrets of our planet's deep past in its family history. In 1833, Charles Darwin was astonished by a 'mischievous' animal he met in the Falklands: rare, crow-like falcons known today as striated caracaras. These clever, fearless birds of prey stole hats and valuables from the crew of the Beagle, and they seemed unusually interested in humans. Darwin couldn't understand why they were confined to a set of remote islands; but he set this mystery aside,

and never returned to it. Almost two centuries later, Jonathan Meiburg takes up the chase. He travels through South America in search of striated caracaras and their close relatives, from the fog-bound coasts of Tierra del Fuego to the tropical forests of the Guiana Shield, and reveals the wild and surprising story of their origins, their keen and flexible minds, and their possible futures. 'Fascinating' Margaret Atwood, West End Phoenix 'Hugely entertaining and enlightening' Jennifer Ackerman, author of *The Genius of Birds*

remarkably great creatures: *The Quokka's Guide to Happiness* Alex Cearn, 2021-07-01 Meet the Quokka. Miniature marsupial, tourist attraction and the happiest animal on the planet. Unique to Rottnest Island and small areas of the West Australian coast, these cute little critters have featured in more selfies than the Kardashians - no pouting necessary, just an adorable smile! Featuring stunning photography from award-winning Alex Cearn, and uplifting quotes, *The Quokka's Guide to Happiness* is a gorgeous compilation sure to bring a cheeky little grin to anyone's face.

remarkably great creatures: *Of Parrots and People* Mira Tweti, 2008 Discusses scientific findings on the intelligence, personality, and rich lives of parrots that challenges flawed assumptions about nonprimates. Topics include animal welfare, what parrots are worth on the black market, and their uncanny ability to bond with humans.

remarkably great creatures: *The Book Club Cookbook* Judy Gelman, Vicki Levy Krupp, 2004 A combination of cookbook and discussion ideas for popular book club selections features an assortment of recipes for masterful culinary creations that tie in with a variety of literary masterpieces, including Honey Cakes to go with *The Secret Life of Bees* or Shrimp Flautas for Richard Russo's *Empire Falls*. Original. 35,000 first printing.

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