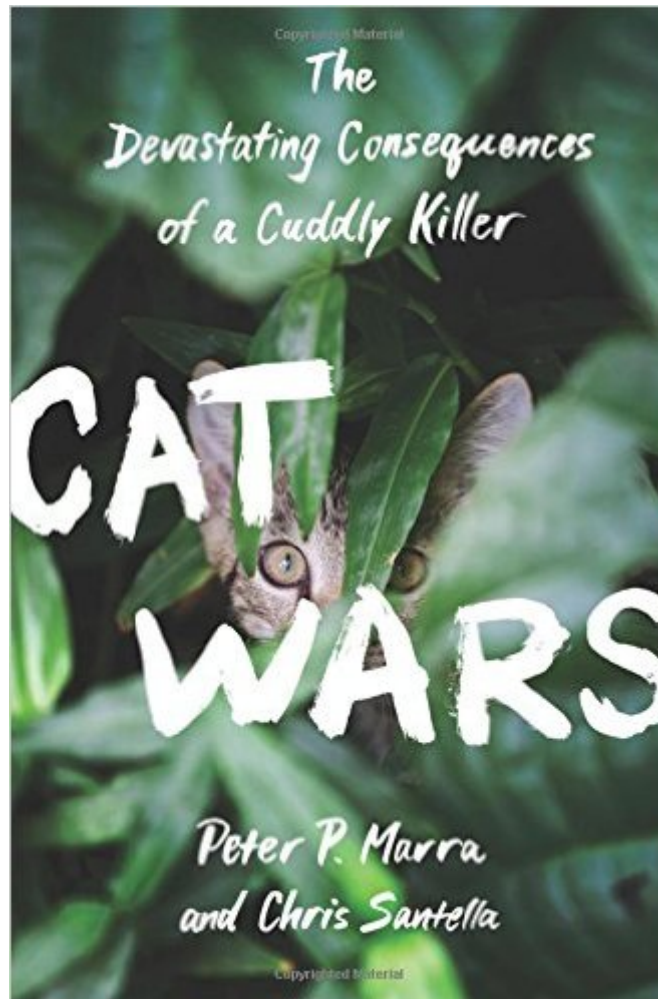


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Cat Wars: The Devastating Consequences Of A Cuddly Killer



Synopsis

In 1894, a lighthouse keeper named David Lyall arrived on Stephens Island off New Zealand with a cat named Tibbles. In just over a year, the Stephens Island Wren, a rare bird endemic to the island, was rendered extinct. Mounting scientific evidence confirms what many conservationists have suspected for some time--that in the United States alone, free-ranging cats are killing birds and other animals by the billions. Equally alarming are the little-known but potentially devastating public health consequences of rabies and parasitic *Toxoplasma* passing from cats to humans at rising rates. *Cat Wars* tells the story of the threats free-ranging cats pose to biodiversity and public health throughout the world, and sheds new light on the controversies surrounding the management of the explosion of these cat populations. This compelling book traces the historical and cultural ties between humans and cats from early domestication to the current boom in pet ownership, along the way accessibly explaining the science of extinction, population modeling, and feline diseases. It charts the developments that have led to our present impasse--from Stan Temple's breakthrough studies on cat predation in Wisconsin to cat-eradication programs underway in Australia today. It describes how a small but vocal minority of cat advocates has campaigned successfully for no action in much the same way that special interest groups have stymied attempts to curtail smoking and climate change. *Cat Wars* paints a revealing picture of a complex global problem--and proposes solutions that foresee a time when wildlife and humans are no longer vulnerable to the impacts of free-ranging cats.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Ignore the bad reviews ...they never read the book (rallying together ... notice no verified purchasers).Enjoy your cat but never let him/her out without a harness or by his/her side ...show you care about our wildlife (and your cat) !Cats very commonly have Pasteurella bacteria in their natural flora. This bacteria is harmless in cats it can be a death sentence for birds. Even just if a cat bats your bird or somehow gets saliva on your bird a dead bird could be in the future. If your (or wild) bird has been in contact with a cat, take him to a vet (please take a wild bird to a wildlife rehabber) immediately even if there are NO apparent wounds. The bird could still have been exposed to this bacteria on his feathers. If you think your pet bird came in contact with a cat's saliva, feces, or food take it to your vet right away. This means even though it seemed safe and sort of fun and wonderful to watch a relationships between your cat and your pet bird ...it is just not safe.It is so hard to keep our pet cats indoors once they get a taste of being outside and why keeping your pet indoors is best started young . When we allow cats to be outside the statistics of domestic ("non" native) cats killing wild birdsespecially most of all... the poor baby fledglings who must pop out of their nests to build their flight muscles for several days to a week while their parents continue to feed them on the ground has been a conservation staggering nightmare. Having domestic (or feral) cats (not natural) disrupting the predator balance and allowed to go outside to kill has had such a devastating impact on the wild bird population it is unbelievable .

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