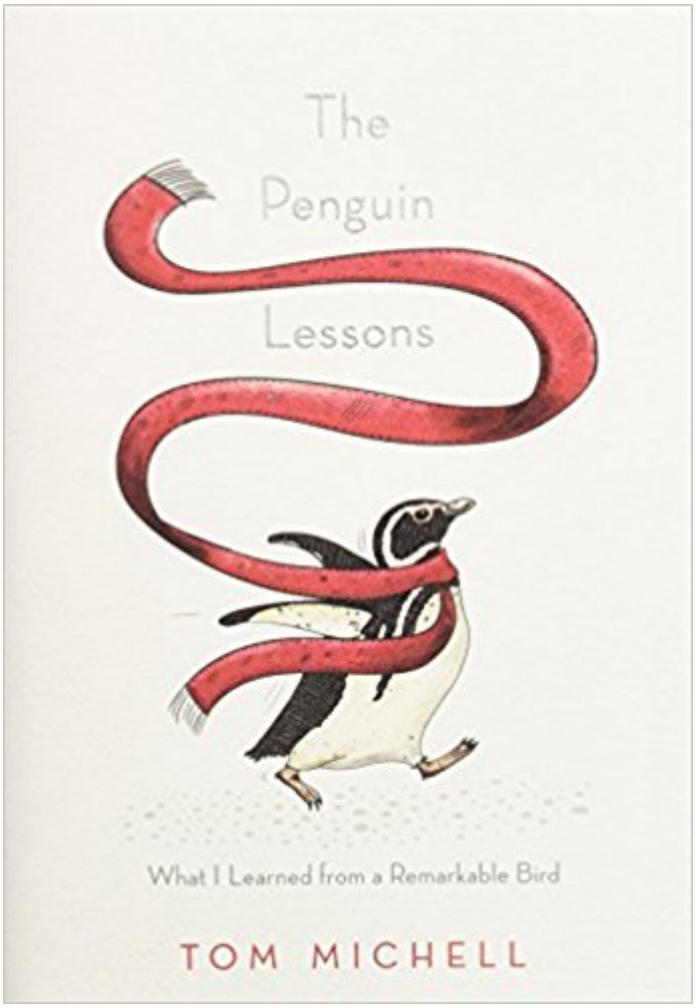
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The Penguin Lessons: What I Learned From A Remarkable Bird



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Synopsis

A unique and moving real-life story of the extraordinary bond between a young teacher and a penguin, this book will delight readers who loved Marley & Me, Dewey the Library Cat, The Good Good Pig, and any book by Jon Katz. Ã Â In 1975, twenty-three-year-old Englishman Tom Michell follows his wanderlust to Argentina, where he becomes assistant master at a prestigious boarding school. But MichellÃ¢â ¬â„¢s adventures really begin when, on a weekend in Uruguay, he rescues a penguin covered in oil from an ocean spill, cleans the bird up, and attempts to return him to the sea. The penguin refuses to leave his rescuerÃ¢â ¬â„¢s side. Ã¢â ¬Å“That was the moment at which he became my penguin, and whatever the future held, weÃ¢â ¬â„¢d face it together,Ã¢â ¬Â• says Michell in this charming memoir. Ã Â Michell names the penguin Juan Salvador (Ã¢â ¬Å“John SavedÃ¢â ¬Â•), but Juan Salvador, as it turns out, is the one who saves Michell. Ã Â After Michell smuggles the bird back to Argentina and into his campus apartment, word spreads about the young EnglishmanÃ¢â ¬â„¢s unusual roommate. Juan Salvador is suddenly the center of attentionÃ¢â ¬â •as mascot of the rugby team, confidant to the dorm housekeeper, co-host of MichellÃ¢â ¬â„¢s parties, and an unprecedented swimming coach to a shy boy. Even through the collapse of the PerÃƒÂ nist government and amid the countryÃ¢â ¬â„¢s economic and political strife, Juan Salvador brings joy to everyone around himÃ¢â ¬â •especially Michell, who considers the affectionate animal a compadre and kindred spirit. Ã Â Witty and heartwarming, The Penguin Lessons is a classic in the making, a story that is both absurd and wonderful, exactly like Juan Salvador.Praise for The Penguin Lessons Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“I loved this book, and you will, too! ItÃ¢â ¬â„¢s as charming, heartwarming, and surprising as a penguin on a roof terrace. WhatÃ¢â ¬â„¢s more, The Penguin Lessons teaches an important truth: that a single act of compassion can be repaid a thousand-fold.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Sy Montgomery, author of The Good Good Pig and the National Book Award finalist The Soul of an Octopus Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“[Tom MichellÃ¢â ¬â„¢s] tone suits the material perfectly. . . . You believe every word. . . . No fool, this penguin. No fools, these publishers, who have unleashed such a delightful and charming book just in time for Christmas.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Daily Mail (U.K.) Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“Heart-warming is a wholly inadequate phrase to describe this captivating story that is pure delight from beginning to end.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •The Bookseller (U.K.)

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Customer Reviews

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Tom Michell lives in Cornwall, England. At the tender age of sixty-four, he wrote The Penguin Lessons. This is his first book.

A thoroughly enjoyable and heartwarming account of the chance encounter and relationship between man and penguin.The author’s descriptions of the rescued penguin, Juan Salvador, including his body movements, eating habits and delight in human contact makes for an amusing and educational read.The many scenarios in the book had me both laughing out loud and misty eyed.The author offers the suggestion that man needs to further encourage the study of animal intelligence and behavior.A truly enjoyable book suitable for all ages!

If you are an animal lover, a must read. Heartwarming true story, once again proving the strong bond we as humans have withour fellow inhabitants on the place we call Earth. I think as humans

we somehow feel superior and in control of who we pick as our"pets", "I want a chocolate lab, or a gray cockatoo" and yet I find that they more often pick you, at least that has been my experience,and this is a case in point. It also poignantly points out the damage humans inflict everyday on our precarious relationship with ourenvironment. It would have been a 5 star for me, but to be fair the writing rambles a bit at times, that said, it is his first book andcertainly told from the heart.

I bought this book based on all the positive reviews I saw on , and, if that is possible, it completely exceeded my expectations. This book will make you learn about a particular era in Argentinean politics, will make you travel through South America, will make you appreciate friendship, will make you laugh, will make you cry, and most of all, will make you FEEL. The writing style flows beautifully, and your imagination will transport you easily to the places and situations described by the author. The ending is very moving, and months after having finished this book, it has still stayed with me. By far one of the best reads of 2016 and a future re-read for me.

This is a deeply touching, beautifully composed story about a little bird that had enormous impact on those around him. I still feel a visceral tug as I recount the story. Tom Michell’s eloquent and exquisite portrayal evokes crystal clear images of each experience. It is one of the few books that I will read again. In this world of so little compassion and trust, one little penguin teaches that both of those elements can be easily found and in turn, given freely to all! Thank you, Tom Michell, for allowing the depths of your emotions and soul to shine forth to guide and teach very rare lessons.

It is a wonderful book about a relationship a young man develops with a penguin he rescues from oil spill in Argentina. The book covers lessons in life, history about Argentina and the Peron dictatorship, wonderful stories about the poor people and how they still found happiness in simple things, and about how a penguin teaches humans about love and life. I bought it for a teacher friend. She is loving it. There is an episode about a little boy and the teacher and the penguin. Not wanting to spoil the story, I’ll just say, it touches the heart.I am sharing it with my friends.

This was a wedding gift to my "adopted" granddaughter. We have had a connection to penguins for several years - long story! I haven’t asked her about it yet because she has been busy with post-wedding things! This was a very sweet story re pets, their affect on our lives, & life’s journey! Thank you! (I read an excerpt in Reader’s Digest several months ago & knew I had to buy this book

for Lindsey!)

This book is one of the best that I have read in a long time. It captured my interest immediately and held it to the end. I enjoyed it so much that I re- read many parts of the story, just for the sheer pleasure of it. The author's descriptions were so vivid that I felt as if I were actually there, witnessing the events, people, and scenery firsthand. Altogether a wonderful true story!

I read a lot and I really hard on books. Books that others really love - I am often luke-warm. But I absolutely LOVED this book. Oh, and how excited I was to go on YouTube afterwards... won't spoil it for the rest of you....

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