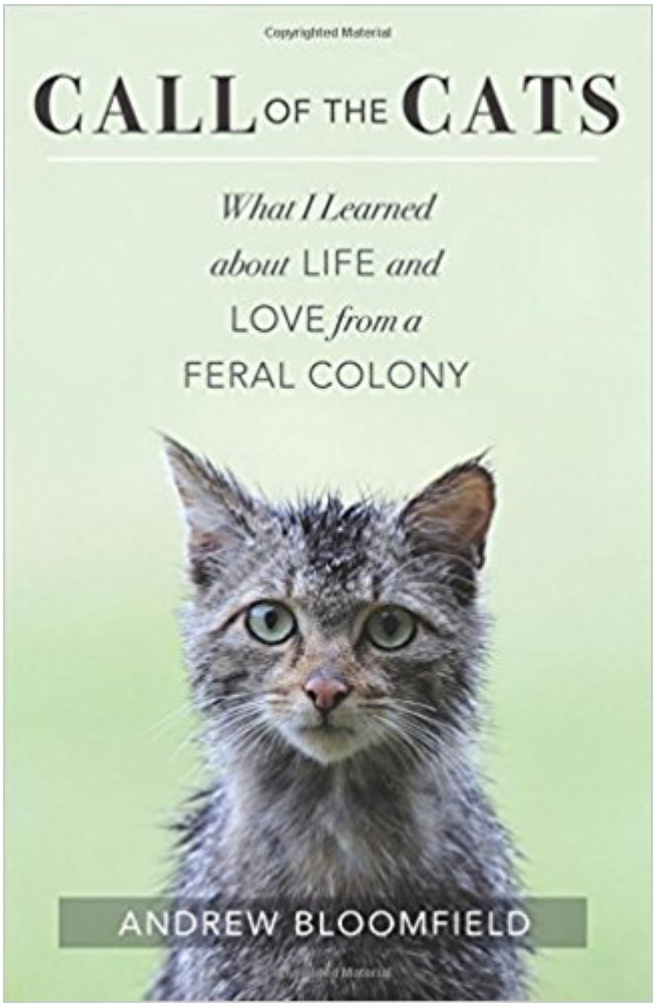
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Call Of The Cats: What I Learned About Life And Love From A Feral Colony



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Synopsis

When aspiring screenwriter Andrew Bloomfield moved into a bungalow in Southern California he soon discovered that he shared the property with a large colony of feral cats — untamed, uninterested in human touch, not purring pets in waiting. But after a midnight attack by predators that decimated yet another litter of kittens, Bloomfield decided to intervene. He began to name and nurse, feed and house, rescue and neuter. Drawing on his time living in Asia among spiritual teachers, he takes us on the contemplative, humorous, and poignant journey of saving these cats, only to find it was they who saved him by revealing a world of meaning beyond his unrealized Hollywood dreams.

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Customer Reviews

Ã¢â ¬Å“With humor and wit, Call of the Cats illustrates the perils and rewards of rescuing animals that live at the margins of human society. If you have ever cared for an animal, this book will resonate with you.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â ¢ Marty Becker, DVM, AmericaÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Veterinarian and author of Your Cat: The OwnerÃ¢â ¬â„¢s ManualÃ¢â ¬Å“Andrew BloomfieldÃ¢â ¬â„¢s heartfelt memoir is not just about his unconditional love for the feral-cat colony that he came to know and adopt. ItÃ¢â ¬â„¢s also a much larger portrait of how we can live with, and gently support, animals, who are all at our mercy.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â ¢ Patrick McDonnell, creator of MUTTS and illustrator of Guardians of BeingÃ¢â ¬Å“Great writing is great storytelling, and Andrew Bloomfield is a great storyteller. This book is, in a word, stunning!...Buy it for every cat lover you know, as well as every Ã¢â ¬Ëœnot yetÃ¢â ¬â„¢ cat lover. If this book doesnÃ¢â ¬â„¢t win them over, I donÃ¢â ¬â„¢t

know what will.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â ¢ Amelia Kinkade, author of Straight from the HorseÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Mouth Ã¢â ¬Å“Call of the Cats is like Born Free in an urban backyard, full of remarkable detail about the wild life around us and the extraordinary emotional attachments that can exist between human beings and the untamed animals that occasionally share our lives.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â ¢ Bruce Joel Rubin, Academy AwardÃ¢â ¬â œwinning screenwriter of GhostÃ¢â ¬Å“While claiming not to be a Ã¢â ¬Ëœcat person,Ã¢â ¬â„¢ Bloomfield nevertheless is a deeply compassionate man in his interventions on behalf of the feral felines....This isnÃ¢â ¬â„¢t a superficial work, and the author provides many pages of references, as well as resource websites for organizations that deal with feral animals. All in all, a very engaging and highly recommended book.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â ¢ Library Journal

Andrew lived the better part of two years in Nepal where he followed a 17th century pilgrim's guidebook to research spiritual sites around the lower Himalayas. He has worked as assistant manager and book buyer for East West Books in Manhattan, and for Snow Lion Publications in Ithaca, NY. He wrote Learning Practical TibetanÃ Â (with MP3s) for Snow Lion. In Seattle, he opened his own bookstore, Infinity Books, in Pioneer Square, where he hosted many public events, including appearances by renowned Tibetan lamas, Hindu saints, and Zen masters. He moved to Los Angeles and wrote How to Practice Vedic Astrology (with CD-ROM) for HarperCollins, subsequently published by Inner Traditions.

A fascinating and engaging book. The writer is a deeply spiritual man and the book interweaves many stories of his travels and studies with an amazing account of true selfless service. Enjoyable from start to finish.

A wonderfully written story I can relate to in many ways. A story that shows sometimes there is no strategic planning for life. You never know what experience or event will change everything. Wether you’re a cat nut like me or not this is a gripping story I know you will enjoy as I did. All the best and toughest parts of being human are experienced caretaking this ferrel colony of cats. The key word is care. Andrew is exquisite in bringing to light our innate caring nature. Laugh, cry and goosebumps was my journey throughout "Call of the Cats". This is a wonderful story that you will sink your teeth into from the very first pages and won’t want to let go at the end.I hope there is more to come from Mr. Bloomfield.

So many interesting facts,so many ideas ,new and well known brought in a fluent and well structured story . We thoroughly love and stand in awe at the intricate ,loveable,individualistic character of our own -Zoya- . The hours sped past while being entertained .

A fantastic read, this book tells a spellbinding story of one man’s journey when his heart is penetrated by love and connection with an unlikely paramour- the feral cats that live in his backyard. I highly recommend it for anyone who has loved. Animal lovers will be doubly pleased.

I have to admit that I am not a cat person ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â • nor a dog person ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â • nor much a pet person. But I thoroughly enjoyed this memoire of an accidental cat person. The author’s Asian travels, personal history, eclectic interests, and ways of dealing with challenging situations add an important context for the story of how the author and the cats came to enrich each others’ lives. This was a fun read about a "slice of life" about which I had no prior awareness: Who knew that colonies of feral cats inhabited our cities?! And who knew that there are networks of people who care so very deeply?!

Feral cats became a major thread in the author’s life. He makes them and their very difficult lives real and compelling. It is fascinating how he moved from feeling neutral about cats to loving them and wanting to make their lives better.

I enjoyed a new perspective on the care of feral cat colonies. I cried in the sad parts, was a little frustrated that it took so long for the author to get with the whole TNR program; but I share the love of a colony of feral cats. My experiences have been somewhat different as predators are usually not protected in my area, and "barn cats" are frequently kept for rodent control. But, I do know the miracles, joys, and sorrows that come from letting these felines into your life.

Lovely, funny book about caring for feral cats. I care for a colony myself and I much appreciated the wit and compassion with which Bloomfield told his story. I strongly recommend this book to all cat lovers, especially my fellow feral cat caretakers!

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