



All the Animals Where I Live

Philip C. Stead

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Phil Stead takes us on a tour of all of the animals near his home.

The author used to live in the busy city where there were buses and trains, and people waiting for buses and trains.

Now he lives in the country and takes us on a tour of his home, pointing out all the animals that share his space. There are stuffed bears and quilted chickens. His dog Wednesday watches cranes, frogs, and dragonflies live their lives. Coyotes and chipmunks come and go, and the world around where he lives is full of life, until winter comes, and there is nothing but snow.

All the Animals Where I Live Details

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Author : Philip C. Stead

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From Reader Review All the Animals Where I Live for online ebook

Jordan Henrichs says

If I could separate my Goodreads rating, I would, because the artwork is lovely. Typical Stead. Worth more than 5 stars. The text however, left me scratching my head a bit. Is this about animals? Or Grandma Jane? Or the seasons? I don't really know. What I do know is that this is definitely the type of book that only someone with Stead's clout could pull off.

Carrie Gelson says

Some lovely pages. Is this a book kids will relate to? Not so sure. Feel like it is a memory walk that adults will connect to more than children.

Peacegal says

Wonderful, meditative celebration of backyard wildlife, presented in a childlike voice. The sketchbook-style illustrations are a joy to look at. Any child who needs a reminder of the wonder that awaits them away from the screen, or adult who just wants to reminisce and be reminded, will enjoy this one.

Laura Harrison says

First off, I love Philip Stead. He is maybe number four on my list of favorite current picture book illustrator's. Only topped by Brendan Wenzel, Lane Smith and Kevin Henkes. There is good news and there is bad news in my review. The bad news is there really isn't a story. Not even a hint of one. The good news is that the illustrations are phenomenal. The best that I have ever seen in one of his books. For that reason I am giving four stars.

Daphne says

This book feels like the author is murmuring in your ear, trying to help you go to sleep, weaving together nonsensical yet sensical details of his life, involving his childhood teddy bear, his yard in the country, and his dog Wednesday's interesting dog days in a world much like Grandma Jane's. I like the rambling, loosely woven feel of this book - it reminds me of Grandma Jane's chicken quilt, where lasting memories are created by small, incidental things. There is power in remembering small things with love.

Amanda says

Awesome art. Love the print of found leaves and branches. Like how the story includes Wednesday but doesn't become her story, per se. Really the art is what draws me in...

Morgan says

Imagine being Philip C. Stead and having so much clout that you can just illustrate your stream of consciousness as you look around your northern Michigan country home and editors will beg to publish it. (Not for nothing - this was a good'n).

Laura says

All the Animals Where I Live by Philip C. Stead is a gem of a picture book. The more I read it, the more I love it! I feel like everyone will see and feel something different each and every time they open it.

Mr. Stead shares his new country home surroundings and memories with readers animal by animal and season by season. From his dog (Wednesday), cats, and chicken quilts to wild turkeys, bears and deer. They are all in here and more! So many animals come to life in gentle, pale shades and lines. The barely there greens and yellows sit side by side with darker greens and browns to somehow highlight the wide open spaces. Soft pages filled with light leaf prints and drawings of teddy bears, animals—big and small, and the land that surrounds them come together to tell the story of passing time and the changes all around us. I loved flipping through this book. It felt warm and...this might sound strange, but it felt like I learned something important. Something big and life affirming is hinted at and whispered in the pictures and words.

The words charmed me as well. The beautiful, honest, matter of fact tone and language hit home for me.

“At night it is quiet.

But only until you listen.

There are a lot of little things playing their music in the moonlight.”

Come meet the toads, hummingbirds, cranes, squirrels, turtles, chipmunks, coyotes, and the big, wise owl. The final line and page brought such peace to my heart. Beautiful!

Highly recommended.

Hannah says

ALL THE ANIMALS WHERE I LIVE is a meditative, meandering picture book journey that exalts in the smallest details. Stead's welcoming voice and innovative illustrations are as delightful and gentle as ever.

DaNae says

There is a stillness about the Stead's work that I have always loved, but more and more I'm finding their

work self-indulgent and straying from the job of engaging young readers. In it elements this is a beautiful book, but not at all riveting. More of a stream of conscience exercise with lovely drawings and soft colors.

paula says

God DAMN that's good.

Beverly says

I loved the sketchy looking illustrations in ink, marker, and various printing techniques, with the color washes behind the sketches. Stead seems to be musing about the seasons and the various animals and pets that he enjoys being around, now that he lives in the country.

Debrarian says

Musings and noticings, through the eyes of the author enjoying seeing through his dog's eyes, about the animals they encounter in annual life in northern Michigan.

Tiniest of quibbles:

An eagle drops a turtle, who begins "his" long walk home... It just bugs me when everyone defaults to the male pronoun when discussing random animals. Why can't the turtle be a she? Why not simply it, to preserve the mystery and the equal likelihood?

And: the dog chases the deer. It's a game they play. Maybe. Or maybe it's a game to the dog. I've watched this pattern on a ranch where the deer habitually enter the garden and the dog casually shoos them off. I'd say the deer are not that impressed, but on the other hand, they really do need that food and the females and young are nervous. Not really a game to them.

I only quibble because I was so drawn in to the story that I was sad when these parts bumped me out.

Holly says

I want to live near Philip Stead and see all the animals, especially Wednesday! Stead is one of my favorite author/illustrators, and this one is my favorite so far. I love how he frames all the descriptions of Wednesday and the other animals with his memories of his Grandma Jane--the stuffed bear she gave him which he still draws "when I don't know what to draw," and the room in her house that smelled of maple syrup, and the homemade chicken blanket he slept under when he spent the night at her house. Pretty close to a perfect book for me!

Kim says

The artwork was gorgeous. However the storyline did not flow.
